

present, furnished the most satisfactory tribute to the integrity and energy with which he personally had endeavoured, so far as in him lay, to protect and further their interests.

The pathetic letter he addressed from his death-bed to the Official Receiver, explaining his ignorance of the Stock Exchange operations of the managing director, and his promise, should he recover, to give all information in his power—all these are fresh in the public recollection and do not need recapitulation. If, however, the painful story bring home to future investors the futility and unfairness of expecting the personal virtues of a distinguished directorate to atone for the intrinsic speculativeness, or it may be the positive unsoundness, of a commercial concern, the late chairman, were he alive, would probably be the first to feel that he had not suffered and lost in vain.

His last important public oration was his Rectorial address to the University of Edinburgh in the latter part of 1901. But though his quiet residence at Clandeboye was not marked by any very notable events, he was still to the fore and active whenever local functions in Belfast and elsewhere demanded his presence and assistance. On the day before I visited him at Clandeboye, he had made three public speeches at Belfast.

But the cares and anxiety that encompassed the disastrous "Globe" crash had sapped his strength, and in the early part of 1902 he suffered from such extreme prostration that he was com-