

that in all things he sought to promote the interests of the Hudson Bay Company as his first concern. But in time the genuineness of his patriotism became assured, and nowhere, in after years, was he more honoured and appreciated than in the City of Winnipeg and the great west generally.

His influence in the House of Commons also rose by degrees, and was not lessened when, in 1873, he, although by temperament a Conservative, refused to condone the proved offence of Sir John A. Macdonald, of trafficking in the electoral franchise, and voted against him, showing independence and pluck. He was too fairminded a man to be an out and out partizan, and this fact made it possible for him to continue in the office of High Commissioner for Canada in London, by successive Governments, although he received his appointment from the Conservatives. He represented Montreal West for two consecutive Parliaments; and only resigned his seat when appointed to the High Commissionership in 1896. How he bore himself in that responsible position is matter of recent universal laudation. His devotion to the interests of Canada which he was in London to promote language fails adequately to describe. But while faithful to his great trust, both his heart and his mind expanded in the position which he occupied, and his vision widened so that no portion of the great British Empire was a matter of indifference to him. He became an imperialist of the imperialists. His sovereign took note of the widening scope of his interests and influence and called him to her House of Lords on June 22nd, 1897. Here again truth is greater than fiction: the simple Scottish laddie was to be a peer of the realm; and Montreal was not overlooked when this highest possible honour came to him. He would have his fellow-citizens share in it and so he chose his title Baron Strathcona and Mount Royal. The motto, too, of his coat of arms was fitting: *Perseverance*. No subject ever rendered more conspicuous service to his sovereign than he did when he