

the Royal Society, and that for twenty-two years, until his resignation of the post in 1903, he was a powerful influence in making for scientific progress in every direction, making the Society what I would like to see our Canadian Royal Society made, namely, a consultative body always prepared to aid the Government with advice and enquiries upon scientific matters. As Secretary of the Royal Society he brought about the establishment of the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature, a compilation in seven yearly volumes of all the publications throughout the world in natural science. In 1899, in recognition of his many services, he was created a K.C.B. It was, however, an evil day for Cambridge when in 1900 he accepted the invitation to represent London University in Parliament, for this necessitated that he no longer actively taught his subject, and that the younger generation of men no longer came under his influence; in fact, after three years he resigned the Professorship, so that when in 1906 he failed to be re-elected to Parliament he found himself in what might have been a painfully stranded condition were it not that the position of Chairman of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis gave him abundant interests during the few months which elapsed before his painfully sudden death in January, 1907.

To quote his old pupil and friend, Gaskell:* "There have been many greater scientific men than Foster. But it is hardly too much to say that no man ever devoted himself more wholeheartedly to science, and if science can be served by strengthening the influence and promoting the spread of the scientific spirit, few have done it better service."

* I am indeed indebted to Gaskell's obituary notice of Sir Michael Foster in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* for many of the biographical data given in these pages. For a study of Foster's influence upon American medical education reference may well be made to Dr. Sewall's address upon 'Henry Newell Martin.' *Johns Hopkins Hosp. Bulletin* 22: 1911, 327.