

nexion with which the popular imagination has always inclined to exalt him above all others—probably because of the historic picture of the driving of the “last spike,” and by reason of the fact that since its successful completion he has bulked so largely in the public eye—let it be stated that he well knew what was due to others as well as to himself, and remembered to give credit where credit was due. In accepting a presentation in London in November, 1907, he used these words: “had it not been for the cordial co-operation of all my colleagues who undertook the contract, it would have been impossible to have carried it through. Happily we were all in perfect accord.” In the same generous spirit I have heard him more than once, when acknowledging compliments for his great contributions to educational interests, remind those to whom he was speaking that another Canadian had done even more than himself—Sir William Macdonald. I shall say nothing of his services to the Dominion and the Empire in connexion with the Pacific Cable, and faster Atlantic transportation. But there are two aspects of his contributions to education that ought here to be specified: they are sufficient in themselves to prove that his was no stereotyped or conventional form of benevolence. I refer first to scientific medical education, and secondly to the higher education of women. In both of these departments he was a pioneer, and showed a power of initiative from which this University and this community will long continue to derive practical benefit.

The last stage of Lord Strathcona's varied career was spent, as I have said, in London; and there must be few Canadians who can have failed to appreciate the great benefit we have derived from having him as the official representative there of the first of the “new nations within the Empire”. It gave the Dominion added prestige and dignity. I am not introducing any controversial topic when I say that, in the days when Mr. Chamberlain was Colonial Secretary, he heartily sympathized with that statesman's aspiration that our Empire should become more conscious of itself. Of course he kept scrupulously aloof from anything of the nature