

the later period of his life often spent too much of his valuable time in reclamations of precedence in the announcement of generalizations which had been ascribed to others, basing his claim sometimes on printed words of his own which did not unmistakably define the same ideas. There is no question that in these cases he was sincere, and that from his point of view his claims were just, for he commenced his useful career as a scientific writer with more than the usual amount of that caution which is the indispensable quality of a true savant. Still, he was the unquestioned author of so much that was valuable that he might well have spared himself the controversy and annoyance of these struggles, some of which were very unpleasant to him.

He will be remembered chiefly by his valuable additions to our knowledge of the constitution of the crystalline rocks and his theories concerning their genesis and classification. His leading thought for thirty years was that minerals took the place in crystalline rocks of fossils in the elastic rocks as a means of determination of their history, relative age, &c., but he nowhere pretended (as sometimes has been unjustly said of him) that we were yet able to interpret aright all of the phenomena they presented.

He was an enthusiastic admirer of flowers and a skillful botanist and arborist, contributing much to bring to the attention of the public the necessity of caring for our wantonly wasted forests, and interesting himself greatly in the establishment in Canada and the United States of Arbor day.

He was also a keen critic and an omnivorous reader of the current French and English literature, being especially fond of poetry. His memory of the thoughts of those poets whom he most admired was extraordinary, and as a rest from the graver labors of a geological investigation he would sometimes repeat pages of graceful lines. While extremely cautious in expressing any opinions on religious subjects he did not conceal from those who enjoyed much of his society that he was an agnostic of his own peculiar kind, neither affirming nor denying any of the dogmas of any church, but finding much to respect in all of them.

Like most men of ability, Dr. Hunt admired women and recognized the need of their refining influence. He was too great a man to be above enjoying "small talk" when he found himself among those who produced no other kind, and if it was surprising