

of an excellent book written by Mr. J. Castell Hopkins in 1895. It contains nearly all that can be said about that great Canadian statesman, until his speeches and state papers can be collected, and the time shall have arrived when many documents, that must still be held under the seal of secrecy, may see the light. On the occasion of his state funeral at Halifax, His Grace Archbishop O'Brien preached the oration, giving an admirable summary of the dead chieftain's labors. It is a masterpiece of sacred eloquence, and, let us hope, that some day the distinguished prelate will permit that splendid effort to have its place in the pages of our REVIEW, for what could be more fitting, than that it should be in the mouth-piece of the University, of which Sir John Thompson was not only an honorary L. L. D., but in which, he was the first to fill the office of Dean of the Faculty of Law. It is not intended here to give a biographical sketch; time or space would not permit it, but the request to write a few lines on some distinguished graduate offers a suitable occasion whilst reminding your readers, that the 12th of December is the eighth anniversary of the death of Sir John Thompson at Windsor Castle, to make a few observations that may be of use to young Catholic students who must soon face the stern realities of life. Lord Aberdeen, who will long be remembered as one of the most popular Governors of the Dominion, was a warm friend of Sir John. In the preface to Mr. Hopkin's work, which he kindly consented to write, he spoke of him as follows: "Sir John was a great man. He made his mark. His influence has been for good, and its impress is of an abiding nature. His country has reason to be proud of him; it has reason to be thankful for him; and it may be confidently recorded, that his character and his abilities were such, as would have fitted him to occupy with success and distinction the very highest positions that can be attained by any statesman in the British Empire." And again: "In him were united gentleness and strength, marks of true manliness and nobility of character."

His gentleness, only those who had the privilege of coming into close contact with him, can form any idea of, but of his strength of character we have had so many evidences that it may be fairly estimated.