

We consider it a very happy augury that at a time when the Dominion of Canada is entering upon an era of great industrial and commercial expansion, His Majesty should have chosen as his representative in this country one whose admirable qualities and practical statesmanship enable him to sympathize with the people of Canada in the working out of the great problems which confront them in the development of the resources of the Dominion.

The imperial spirit so widely and so happily pervading the Empire must, we believe, ere long take some practical shape towards the strengthening of the bonds between the several parts, and we believe that your experience as Governor General of this Dominion, added to that which you already possess, will mark Your Excellency as one of those whose counsel will prove invaluable in devising means to that end, and we fervently trust that, under God, your term of office in this country may still further add to the harmony prevailing among all classes of our population, and that the conclusion of your administration will find us more than ever loyal and devoted adherents of the great Empire to which we belong.

We ask Your Excellency to assure His Majesty the King of our sincere attachment to British institutions and British connection, and of our readiness to stand by the Empire of which we are so proud to be a part; and we further pray that you will convey to His Majesty and to our well beloved Queen the respectful homage and devotion of the members of this Board, coupled with the earnest prayer that Their Majesties may enjoy a long and happy reign.

Signed on behalf of the Montreal Board of Trade.

GEO. E. DRUMMOND,
President.

GEO. HADRILL,
Secretary.

January 24, 1905.

EARL GREY'S REPLY.

The royal hospitality with which you have welcomed us, on the occasion of my first official visit to Montreal, accentuated as it has been by the kind and cordial expression of your good will, is most grateful to myself and to Lady Grey. I beg you will accept from us both our very sincere and hearty thanks.