

## FREEDOM OF LONDON CONFERRED ON EARL GREY, JANUARY 23rd 1912

THE ancient and picturesque ceremonial associated with the conferment of the Honorary Freedom of the City of London was enacted in the Guildhall when the name of Earl Grey, lately the Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, was added to the civic roll of fame.

The granting of the Honorary Freedom of the City is a jealously guarded honour. A form of agenda was prepared; but the only business which appeared upon it was that of honouring the great Pro-consul and Administrator, in the presence of a very distinguished company invited for the occasion.

The Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the sheriffs and others arrived in state at the Guildhall at noon. Earl Grey and the Countess and others arrived a few minutes later. They were met by the city authorities. A procession was formed headed by the mace bearers carrying the ancient silver mace, and as they passed up the hall, the assembly rose to their feet and cheered with great enthusiasm. A session of the Court of Common Council was then constituted, the orders of the day were read and the business proceeded.

The name, fame and good intentions of the proposed recipient of the honour being duly vouched for, Earl Grey was presented by the Master and Wardens of one of the city companies. He took the oath of allegiance to the King and complied with other formalities and signed the roll of freemen.

The final ceremony was performed by the City Chamberlain (Sir Joseph Dimsdale) whose office it was to offer Earl Grey the right hand of fellowship, admit him as a freeman and present on behalf of the Court of Common Council the gold box containing the Freedom duly inscribed.

In making the presentation, Sir Joseph Dimsdale made an address in every respect suitable to the occasion and of some length, concluding in these words:—"We do not forget that the name of your great-grandfather and "grandfather are amongst those who form our roll of fame. Yours to-day is "added to that scroll which record the names of many who have assisted to