

ure and domesticity in the midst of political strife, they are always the same—simple, unassuming, kind and hospitable. They are always endeavoring to enable their guest to appear at his best, and with generous self-effacement seeking only to minister to his welfare. Their hospitality is not confined to any



COLDSTREAM, LORD ABERDEEN'S RANCH NEAR  
VERNON, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

sect, party, class or condition. The visitors' book at Haddo bears many names, from that of Her Majesty the Queen down to some of the poorest of her subjects. Nor have any rested within its walls without experiencing the charm which comes from perfect culture combined with high religious principle, which is felt all the more because it is never aggressively asserted. Among the later guests who assembled at Haddo House immediately before the departure of the Aberdeens for Canada was Col. John Hay, who left as his autograph in the visitors' book a couple of verses which may be appropriately quoted here:

"Ask me not here amid these storied halls,  
Vowed to traditions of high strenuous duty,  
Where faces of dead statesmen deck the walls  
With righteous glory's ever living beauty—

Ask me not here to turn a careless rhyme,  
It ill would suit the solemn place and hour  
When Haddo's Lord bears to a distant clime  
The Gordon conscience backed by Britain's power."

Dollis Hill, near London, is the great gathering ground for religious and philanthropic movements. The first time I visited it was to listen to Mr. Gladstone address an out-of-door assemblage in protest against the coercion of Ireland, but religious denominations and various charitable associations find there their natural rallying ground. In their absence from England it is difficult to see who will fill their place. Lady Aberdeen is an enthusiastic photographer, and her book, "Through Canada with a Kodak," bears abundant testimony to the fact that she has the eye of an artist as well as the pen of a quick and observant writer. As a speaker she is very effective, her voice is full of music and singularly free from the shrillness which sometimes mars the oratory of women. Every morning at Rideau Hall the household assemblies for morning prayers, which are conducted by Lord Aberdeen, or in his absence by his wife. They are very simple. A hymn is sung, a chapter in the Bible is read and then Lord Aberdeen reads prayers, and the household then join in the Lord's prayer. This, however, is by no means the only occasion on which the heads of the house and the domestics meet on a footing of equality. Every week they have a meeting of their household club, which is social and educational. Members of the household and visitors take part in a medley of music, speechmaking and discussion. There are besides classes held in connection with the club and lantern lectures given. On the whole, the experiment is one full of hope and promise and worthy of imitation.

There is a fine spirit of brotherliness running through the whole establishment at Rideau Hall and the genial glow of that household life will be felt far and wide in the New World. What the future may hold it is impossible to say, but it is not a very hazardous prediction to say that at the end of five years even those who most grieved that Lord and Lady Aberdeen did not return in 1892 to the Green Isle they love so much, and which so heartily returns that love, will rejoice that this did not come to pass at that time. It is impossible for me to express more strongly my conviction as to the good results which are likely to follow from this Governor-Generalship.

