

I am grateful to Lady Minto for having opened a way for us to the hearts of the people of Ottawa, by the place she won in your affections. We shall consider ourselves most fortunate and happy if we are able to pass on to our successors the traditions which we have inherited from my sister and my brother-in-law, Lord Minto, both of whom enjoyed every hour of the six years so happily spent amongst you.

But pleasant as is the knowledge that your hearts are favourably disposed towards us, I am well aware that the primary cause of your welcome lies in the fact that I have the great honour of coming among you as the representative of His Majesty.

The way in which you have received us is a proof of your knowledge that our King takes the deepest and most lively interest in the well-being of Canada, and in everything that is calculated to promote the happiness, greatness and prosperity of her people. His Majesty remembers with the greatest pleasure his visit to Canada in 1860, when he laid the foundation stone of your stately parliament buildings, which are the pride of every citizen and the admiration of every visitor. And His Majesty has recently learned from the Prince of Wales, and with the keenest satisfaction, the story of the remarkable developments that have taken place and are still in progress in every portion of your wide Dominion.

It will be my privilege to forward to His Majesty your assurances that you are prosperous and contented, and that the prosperity you enjoy is the result not only of your own energies, but of the free and liberal conditions under which you live.

It will also be my happy duty to inform His Majesty that racial and religious prejudices no longer hamper the advance of the nation, and that the energies and aspirations of your people are being directed along the path of moral, social and intellectual progress.

You say in your address that all signs point to a time of national expansion and to a great and brilliant future. I thank