

its destinies have already aroused your interest, and they are objects worthy of your attention.

May it please Your Excellencies,—

We trust that your stay and that of your amiable family in Canada will be pleasant, and that, in some measure, the affectionate regard of the Canadian people will compensate you for your absence from your beloved friends and brilliant society that, in the path of public duty, you left in the Mother Country in order to come and live in our midst.

Lady Grey, whose admirable virtues as wife and mother and as the gentle doer of kindly, womanly deeds, are known to us, will be for our society an ornament and a precious example.

January 24, 1905.

EARL GREY'S REPLY.

I thank you most sincerely for the expressions of welcome with which you have received Lady Grey and myself, and for your appreciative references to those members of my family whose privilege it has been to hold aloft the sacred flag of freedom and duty, for God, the People and the King. I thank you also for your kindly assurance that the sun of your good-will will warm and illumine the days of my residence among you. That promise, coming, as I believe it does, from your heart, has already found a straight and easy way to the very centre of my own.

It will be my proud and happy privilege to convey to the King your assurance that the conditions under which you live are favourable to the rapid development of your great resources, and to the quickening of noble aspirations and of inspiring ideals.

His Majesty will once more learn with the utmost satisfaction that the descendants of the heroic founders of New France vie in zealous loyalty with their fellow-countrymen of Anglo-Saxon origin; that the people of Canada are united; and that your country is happy, prosperous, hopeful and contented.

Gentlemen, I come from an Island where, for centuries, a strain of French descent has been regarded as the most precious