

He also was active, with the Canadian Government, in connection with Canadian participation in the South African War, when Canada sent a volunteer contingent of 6,500 officers and men to join the British forces.

The next Governor General, Earl Grey, (1904-1911), played an even more significant part in all matters concerning Canadian external relationships.

Earl Grey

The 4th Earl Grey was a brother-in-law of Lord Minto. His grandfather had been Prime Minister; his uncle had been Colonial Secretary in 1846, and was the first British Cabinet Minister to proclaim that the Colonies were to be governed for their own benefit and not for the Mother Country's; his father had been Private Secretary to Queen Victoria. He himself had visited several parts of the Empire, was Commissioner of Rhodesia, and had had connections with South Africa. He was appointed Governor General of Canada in 1904, and arrived at Halifax on December 10th of that year, where he took the oath of office.

Among his many diplomatic activities, he entertained as his guest at Rideau Hall, Rufus Choate, the United States Ambassador to Great Britain; and was the guest of the Pilgrims of New York. He made a most friendly gesture to the United States by writing to President Roosevelt formally presenting the portrait of Benjamin Franklin which had come into the possession of one of his ancestors during the Revolutionary War of 1773 - a gesture which was deeply appreciated by that country. (1)

(1) Grey of Howarth's Correspondence: Vol. 13. Folder 7.
Doc. 003492.