


Earl Grey

N the tenth of December, in the year nineteen hundred and four a most distinguished gentleman arrived in Canada to assume the important position of Governor General of the Dominion. This distinguished gentleman was His Excellency, the Right Honourable Sir Albert Henry George, Earl Grey.

On his arrival in Canada Earl Grey was no stranger because his many visits to Canada previous to this date had made him familiar with both the country and the people. Then the people knew that he came of a ruling race, many of whom have been distinguished in the councils and history of the Empire, and some of them in their official positions were intimately associated with shaping the destiny of our country. Again they knew of His Excellency's labours in the cause of social reform in the homeland and the success which he achieved during his administration in South Africa. With such a record of family descent, tried capacity, known integrity, and personal qualifications, the people of Canada were confident that he would fulfil their sanguine expectations.

The time of Earl Grey's arrival was an auspicious one. Prosperity reigned within our borders, and our people were happy and contented. Racial and religious prejudices had become things of the past, and the energies and aspirations of our people were being directed in the path of moral, social and intellectual progress, the development of our great natural resources, and the settlement of the great territories in the Northwest, whose borders had yet been barely touched.

In Earl Grey's reply to the address of the citizens of Ottawa on December thirteenth, nineteen hundred and four he assured the Canadian people that no effort on his part would be wanting in assisting them to realize anticipations which were not less rational than inspiring.

Now if we consider the very small amount of power which Earl Grey had in Canada, none of us will be disappointed when we see how Canada prospered under his rule of seven years. Moreover the Governor General is a man occupying a position of neutrality between opposing political parties.

If we could see into the inner councils of government we should be surprised at the influence a prudent and conscientious