

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

It may be regarded as a fortunate circumstance at this juncture that the Governor-General of Canada is a grandson of the great English Minister by whom our Revolutionary War was happily ended, on terms so fair and reasonable as forever to entitle the memory of Shelburne to the highest honor in both countries. His Excellency is familiar with the historic sketch by his brother, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, of the conduct of the peace negotiations by that statesman, the story of whose connection therewith has been of signal service in correcting the errors into which American historians had been misled, in regard to the secret devices of France and Spain to deprive us of the boundaries and the fisheries; to the secret mission of Rayneval to England to secure Shelburne's adhesion to their scheme; and to the great service rendered to the Republic by Benjamin Vaughan in hastening to Bowood at the request of Jay to counteract the designs of Rayneval, and to assist in engaging for the American Commissioners the confidence of Shelburne and a fair share of American rights.

Lord Lansdowne knows that at that time no peace was possible without the full recognition of our right to the fisheries. His Excellency without doubt values aright the inestimable service rendered by Shelburne to England, America, and the world, at the expense of a brief unpopularity. He will doubtless be the last person in Canada to wish to disturb the international friendship to which his illustrious ancestor so pre-eminently contributed, and which, as regards the fisheries, would probably never have been disturbed had the third article been allowed to stand as Shelburne approved it; and perhaps the surest guarantee for our mutual good-will will be found in a return to the terms of the treaty so conspicuously identified with his fame.