

vidually and in your official capacity, and we join cordially in the hope that your administration in Canada may be marked by peace, happiness and continued prosperity.

December 10, 1904.

EARL GREY'S REPLY.

His Excellency thanked the Provincial Government in his own name, and in that of Lady Grey, for their welcome. The warm and generous character of that welcome did not surprise him. The devotion of Canadians to His Majesty the King, whose representative on that occasion he had the honour to be, was well known. It was acknowledged throughout the world that in the regalia of devotion and loyalty brought by the sister states to the throne of England there was no fairer jewel than that representing the Dominion of Canada. Not only to maintain, but still further to increase the beauty of that jewel, till it shone the brightest ornament of the Imperial crown, was, he believed, the honourable ambition of every Canadian.

The interest felt by His Majesty in the well-being of Canada, in the development of her illimitable resources, and in the prosperity and character of her people, was equally well known.

He was fortunate in arriving in Canada at a time when it had been determined to make the fertile territories of the West more accessible by the construction of a second transcontinental railway.

The stream of immigration into Canada from the United Kingdom and the United States was steadily increasing. The fact that ninety-four per cent of Canada's population was British born, was in itself a great attraction to the British immigrant. Having already visited the Dominion thrice, he did not come amongst them as a stranger. He had always taken the deepest interest in the Dominion, and it would be his high privilege to co-operate in every way in his power with the Canadian people, in helping them in their endeavours to make themselves into a great and powerful nation.