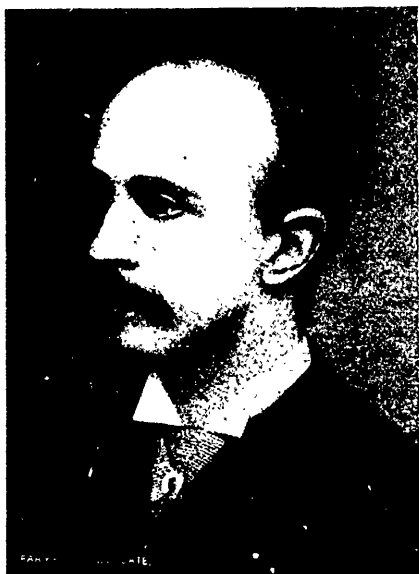


records as British pro-consuls in Canada and India, the two greatest dependencies of the Empire. The names of Lord Sydenham, Lord Durham, Lord Elgin, Lord Dufferin, Lord Lansdowne, and Lord Aberdeen will take high place in history. The less distinguished names are such more from lack of opportunity than lack of ability.

Earl Grey has a worthy place in this succession. He comes of good stock. His ancestor, the second Earl Grey, was the Premier of Great Britain in 1834, to whom was largely due the abolition of slavery, and the passage of the Reform Bill. The



EARL GREY.

present earl, who is now in the fifty-third year of his age, has a reputation for political sagacity and administrative skill of a very high order. He was educated at Harrow and at Cambridge, where he took a first-class in law and history. In 1880 he was elected in the House of Commons as Liberal member for Northumberland, and served till 1886. He went to South Africa and assisted his friend and ally, Cecil Rhodes, in organizing the vast territory which that great commoner added to the Empire. As Governor of Rhodesia during the war he had a difficult and delicate task to perform, in which his diplomatic ability was shown.

His record in social and philanthropic work is an even higher passport to our regard. To restrict that bane of the British people, the liquor traffic, he initiated the scheme of establishing houses to encourage the use of tea and coffee instead of strong drink, and over a hundred of these are reported in some degree as solving a difficult problem. Lord Minto has shown his taste for literature by the publication in 1899 of the "Memoir of Hubert Hervey."

His accomplished countess has taken a deep interest in her husband's social activities, and will prove a worthy successor as a charming and popular host of her husband's sister, Lady Minto, at Rideau Hall.

THE TRIUMPH OF PEACE.

The sublime patience under tremendous provocation, the statesman-like dignity of Great Britain which held in leash the dogs of war, which referred the Gordian Knot of the North Sea trouble to the disentanglement of the Court of Peace rather than to the keen edge of the sword, is one of the greatest triumphs of diplomacy of all the centuries. "Now is the time," said the jingo press, "to crush like an egg-shell the Russian fleet, to end for ever the rivalry of the Slav." With no desire to humble her ancient and unscrupulous and truculent foe, Britain yields not a point of honour, but a point of policy, and bids her iron-clads restrain the thunder of their guns. Even nations that have not shown her spirit are praising her restraint. "If the newspapers," says The Western Christian Advocate, "had shrieked for war as loudly as the American yellow journals did previous to our war with Spain, the Bear and the Lion would to-day be confronting each other with their claws unsheathed."

"Oh for an hour of Palmerston or Russell," said the jingoes. "The Russian fleet might even now be shattered or sunk." But the world has grown wiser since the profitless Crimean war was waged. Nobler is the stand of Balfour. "We ask nothing but justice," and he makes it easy for Russia to let justice be done. By this triumph of peace, instead of a heritage of hate being bequeathed to two great nations, the memory of goodwill will be cherished by both.