

fit him, from different points of view, for the carrying out of such a programme, while the reputation of the Countess of Aberdeen as a philanthropic co-worker with her husband in many fields is assurance that she will add lustre to the high position of leader in the social world of Canada, which is now hers.

Born in 1847, John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, Earl of Aberdeen, is the seventh wearer of the title, and a grandson of "The travelled Thane, Athenian Aberdeen," who ruled Great Britain as Prime Minister during the momentous Crimean period, and whose accomplishments attracted even the admiration of Byron.

He succeeded to the honors and estates of the family in 1870, upon the death of his brother at sea.

Lord Aberdeen was educated at the University of St. Andrews, and University College, Oxford, whence he graduated as M.A. in 1871. Since attaining his majority and a recognized position, the Governor-General has been one of the most active promoters of philanthropic and charitable movements in Great Britain. As an illustration of the disposition which seems to have marked his entire career, it may be said that when in New York recently, on his way to Europe, he is reported to have sent to various Scottish societies cheques amounting to \$500, with a list of men to whom money was to be given if work could not be obtained for them. His wife, who is a daughter of the first Lord Tweedmouth, has become especially prominent along almost identical lines, and in connection with movements for the elevation and enfranchisement of women, the increase of their influence, and the development of their political knowledge and power. It is therefore easy to see how the work of the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen in their separate, yet similar, lines has been made to harmonize and be mutually helpful.

Up to the time when Lord Beacons-

field inaugurated the spirited foreign policy, which resulted in 1878 in the Treaty of Berlin, and "peace with honor," Lord Aberdeen had been a consistent Conservative, and had spoken and voted in the House of Lords for the policy of his party. But between 1876 and 1878, he joined the late Earl of Derby and the Earl of Carnarvon in vigorous protest, and in final withdrawal from the Tory ranks.

Unlike them, however, he never returned in any way to his old allegiance.

Lord Derby in after years became a Liberal Unionist, and Lord Carnarvon was at a later period Conservative Viceroy of Ireland. But Lord Aberdeen remained true to his new leader, and since 1886, when the split in the Liberal party took place, has been a pronounced Gladstonian Liberal. One of the reasons for this allegiance may have been the great personal friendship existing between himself and Mr. Gladstone. The Prime Minister and Mrs. Gladstone in recent years have spent many a day with Lord and Lady Aberdeen, and the visits have been frequently returned at Hawarden Castle.

In 1880, Lord Aberdeen was appointed to a minor position in the new Liberal Government, and was also made Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire. In the latter post, during a dozen years and more, he has given great satisfaction by an impartial and careful performance of the duties which appertain thereto. In 1881 he was called to the dignified position of High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which he held until 1886. It is more than probable that five years' experience of Holyrood and the head-quarters of Presbyterian society in Scotland, as well as a later experience of Dublin and London society, will enable their Excellencies to gauge the heights and depths of Ottawa social circles, and accommodate themselves to the social functions of Canadian Vice-royalty, in a very short time.