

# King Edward's World Viceroy Vice Regents

THE EARL OF CASELBOURNE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO SOUTH AFRICA



MORE THAN FORTY WHO RULE FOR HIM OVER POSSESSIONS FROM ISLAND DOTS TO CANADA AND INDIA



LADY ABERDEEN, THE FIRST LADY OF IRELAND



THE EARL OF ABERDEEN IN THE IRISH VICEROYAL REGALIA



EARL GRAY OF CANADA



SIR ELGIN GORST, BRITAIN'S VICEROY IN EGYPT



THE EARL OF MINTO, VICEROY TO INDIA



LORD AND LADY DUDLEY, LATELY ASSIGNED TO AUSTRALIA

BY JOHN S. HARWOOD.

**S**EARCH the British Empire through and you will find no more interesting men than some of the forty-odd who today are serving King Edward VII. as vice regents in every one of the seven seas and on every one of the continents.

There is the Earl of Aberdeen, now occupying the vice regal palace in Dublin, and for the third time a vice regent. There is the Earl of Dudley, just sent out to Australia, who has worked his way up to a governor-generalship from the betting ring and the gaming table. There is the Earl of Selborne, High Commissioner to South Africa, who kicked out the old fossils and put the British navy on a fighting basis. There is easy-going and sport-loving Earl Minto, successor to Lord Curzon in India. There is Plunket, of New Zealand, at one time a private secretary in the Government service. There is Sir William MacGregor, whose specialty is ruling over the Isles of the sea; and among all others there is Sir Eldon Gorst, successor to Cromer in Egypt, and after him the best posted man on Egyptian affairs in the world today.

Most of the forty-odd are called, officially, colonial governors. The titles of some others have been mentioned. Yet, in power and deed, if not in name, all this vice regents are "big" a woman as he is a man. Throughout the United Kingdom she is recognized as a leading philanthropic expert, and her philanthropies are as wide as her influence, which extends pretty much over the Isles. But though she is one of England's largest givers to charity, she does not scatter largesse indiscriminately, as so many wealthy Englishmen do; rather by her charities she endeavors to help people to help themselves. With this object in view she has striven enthusiastically to build up the Irish lace industry, which has improved wonderfully the conditions of the peasants in certain parts of the Emerald Isle. Visitors to the Irish village at the Chicago World's Fair may recall the circumstances that the Countess, in her endeavor to boom the Irish trades, lived for quite a while in one of the village's diminutive houses.

The marriage of the Earl and the Countess was the result of a love-at-first sight meeting, which resulted from the unintentional trespasses of the young Earl on the estate of the young lady's father. In his ardor of the moment one day Aberdeen, all unknowingly, crossed the boundary line between the preserve of his host and that of the latter's neighbor, and first thing he knew he was standing face to face with a stranger, who promptly asked what he was doing there. The unconscious intruder informed his questioner that he was out shooting as the guest of his host. The Earl, in turn, was informed

that he was talking to Lord Tweedmouth and was at that moment standing in the doorway of a certain apartment. He apologized profusely and made known his name to Tweedmouth, who invited the young man to luncheon, and thereupon lost his youngest daughter some months later, for Aberdeen was not content a day after meeting the charming Lady Isabel Majoribanks until he had made her his bride. The Earl is ten years the senior of his wife, who was just turned twenty when they were married.

Aberdeen's opportunity to get into the forefront of public life came about in almost an interesting way as his first meeting with the young lady who was destined to be his life partner. Like a great many boys, as a boy he was fascinated by the sight of a locomotive. His love for the iron horse carried with him into young manhood, when he seized every possible chance to ride in the cab and study the giant machine under him. As a result, when he came to take his seat in the House of Lords, he was as competent to run a locomotive as any engineer in Great Britain. Then, one day, a colleague moved that a committee be appointed to investigate the causes of railway accidents in the United Kingdom. Aberdeen's mechanical side came to the fore immediately. He rose to his feet, and in his maiden speech that followed displayed such accurate knowledge of railway matters, and especially of the locomotive, that he was made a member of the commission. A few weeks later the chairmanship of the commission was handed to him and the entire investigation was made under his immediate supervision.

From that day to this Aberdeen has been prominent politically, and though he never has been Prime Minister, as was his grandfather, he has held numerous important posts. Three times he has been a vice regent—in Ireland 22 years ago, in Canada during the five years ending in 1898, and now again in Ireland. Very few Englishmen have

ever been called thrice to be vice regent. The Earl of Minto is serving his second vice regency in India, he having been Aberdeen's successor in Canada.

While he was in Canada, Aberdeen and his wife maintained a private chapel, to the dissatisfaction of a certain element, who held that the Governor-General and his wife, since they were public officials, should worship publicly. In Ireland they are extremely popular. When they left that island at the end of their first term in the vice regal lodge, practically the entire populace united in giving them an ovation that has been described as "the most remarkable expression of public feeling and tribute of honor since the days of O'Connell." The Countess, during the six months of their stay, had won the hearts of all by her democratic ways, her sympathy for and helpfulness to the poor, and her interest in and attempts to build up home industries. Today she is giving a great deal of her time to work along these lines, and is even more popular now with the masses than at the time of her first residence in Dublin. The Earl owes much of his Irish popularity to his wife's good works.

Like most noble fathers, Aberdeen has seen to it that each of his four sons and his daughter has received an intensely practical education, as well as the orthodox fanciful one. Each boy is a skilled practical farmer, while the daughter, now married, is qualified to act as chief for a big establishment should occasion for her to do so ever become necessary. To match this hobby of her husband the Countess makes it one of her special duties to look after the intellectual welfare of her servants. She is particularly delighted when she finds one with latent musical ability, and she invariably endeavors to develop his talent at more or less expense to herself, and sometimes

it must be confessed, to the considerable annoyance of the servant.

**Curzon's Sport-Loving Successor.**

The immediate successor of Aberdeen in the Government house in Ottawa, the Earl of Minto, is occupying the vice regal lodge in Simla, going to India as King Edward's representative the same year that Aberdeen was dispatched to Ireland for the second time, 1905. He and Aberdeen are two of the many Scotsmen in the high places who are helping to run the British Empire. Whenever his fellow members of the nobility talk about Minto some one is sure to tell of his love for hunting and illustrate the statement with the story that the Earl took his B. A. at Trinity with his academic gown hiding his riding costume, and that as soon as the graduation exercises were over he mounted his horse and rode ten miles to take part in the University Steeplechase. Of course he won—legitimate result of such devotion.

This happened when he was plain Lord Melgund. At that time, too, he made a likely reputation for himself as a soldier of fortune. He has fought in battle in four continents. In Asia he took part in the Afghan war, in Europe he helped the Turks when they were contending with the Russians. He was a volunteer captain in the Egyptian campaign of 1882, and as chief of staff he aided greatly in putting down the Riel rebellion in the Canadian Northwest in 1885. His war experiences would fill several boys' books with thrills from cover to cover.

The spirit of wanderlust that developed in the Earl's make-up when he was fighting here and there over the wide world, he could not hold entirely in check when he came into his first vice regal honors. During the first six years he was in Canada he and the Countess used to take canoe excursions

into the wilds, camping in the open wherever night found them and living off the land. The Earl's desire for travel once took them into the Klondike, where the Countess won the plaudits of the miners by riding through the Rockies on the pilot of the locomotive, and otherwise giving evidence of a half-fellow-well-met disposition.

As Governor-General, the Mintos gave our northern neighbors several new things to talk about. The children were not kept in the background, as the youngsters of other Governors-General had been. Instead, they always were in evidence at all except the most formal official social functions. The Earl insisted on this; he is a fond parent, and nothing delights him more than to leave care of state behind and spend hours with his offspring. Again, and to the intense annoyance of Canadian tradesmen, the Countess watched the household expenses with sharp eyes, and not infrequently returned to certain dealers orders that she did not deem properly filled. The Earl, you see, owns too large an income for one of noble position. Therefore, his good wife has made

it one of her duties to see that what does come into the family purse is not spent needlessly. Leaving out of consideration the coterie that supplied the material wants of the Mintos, they were rather popular among the Canadians.

The Earl himself is good-natured and easy going, just the sort of man to get along well with Lord Kitchener at the head of the armed force in India. He owes his present viceregal honors largely to this circumstance; before it had ceased England was mightily tired of the clashing that occurred between Curzon, Minto's immediate predecessor in India, and the hero of Khartoum. It is reported that in the viceregal lodge in Simla and in the Government house in Calcutta the Countess looks as carefully at the household bills as ever she did while her husband was representing his sovereign in Canada.

**Reformed Sport Among Viceroy's.**

The Earl of Dudley, but recently told off to be Governor-General of the Australian commonwealth, is a sure enough reformed sport. Also, he has the distinction of being the youngest of King Edward's most important vice regents. He, too, got his viceregal training in Ireland,

where he won his personal popularity by smoking and talking with the men folk of the countryside, while his wife bustled herself singing to the women folk and the children. This they did when they toured the island in an automobile. Incidentally, the Earl is the brother of the honorable John Ward, lately become the husband of Miss Jean Teild.

It was as a sport of the yellow-backed novel sort that the Earl first attracted the public eye focused on him. As soon as he left Elton he began to see what size hole he could make in his income of two millions, with the result that after he had demonstrated an amazing ability in this line, his mother saw to it that his spending money was reduced to a bare pittance of £20,000 every twelvemonth. But before the young man was thus cut off temporarily from most of his patrimony for disciplinary purposes, he earned throughout Europe the title of "The Plunger," and won and lost thousands on the ponies and at the gaming table. One night, when he was sitting in a very exciting game of cards with several other sporting noblemen, the party was called. Later on, Dudley learned that his mother had brought about the interruption just when the game was reaching its most interesting stage.

His mother's one hope was that when the Earl was married he would settle down, and she tried diligently to get him what she described as "safely married." The Earl, however, would have none of the highly estimable young gentlemen that his mother paraded before him. In fact, he would give no serious thought to marriage until, one day, he accompanied his mother to her millinery shop—and promptly fell in love with the young lady who waited on the Countess. She now is the Countess of Dudley; and no sooner did she become the Earl's bride than she sobered down and has been a real good boy ever since.

The Countess was a Miss Gurney. Her father was an English banker who failed and, after separating from his wife, headed for South America to restore his fortunes. To support herself the wife opened up a millinery shop for the fashionable trade, and had her two daughters for assistants. When the Earl spied one of these girls and instantly threw his heart at her feet there was a pretty how-de-do, the mother not being appeased in the slightest to her millinery shop—and Bedford adopted Miss Gurney and acted as her sponsor in society. In fact, right up to the day of the wedding she pleaded with her son not to marry the little milliner girl, and she showed her dislike of the match so thoroughly at the nuptials themselves that the court paper, in its account of the wedding, remarked that the "Earl's mother in post-gray looked like a beautiful thunderbolt."

Excepting the period when he was viceroy in India, the new Australian Governor-General has shown himself to be a very level-headed sort of chap; and his climb up the Government ladder to his present eminence speaks for itself. Of course, due credit for the climb should be given to the Countess; the Earl himself has admitted that he has been made by his wife in more ways than one. In Australia, exceedingly democratic island that it is, the audacity will be very well liked, in all probability; for wherever they have been they seem to have won the affections of all by their simple and democratic ways.

Lord Northcote, who got his baronetcy eight years ago in recognition of his labors in various governmental positions, and who is about to be relieved of his Australian post by the Earl of Dudley, worked his way up to a Vice-Regency from the post of clerk in the British Foreign Office. His second position would entitle him to membership in a club made up of the men who have risen high from private secretaryships; he served in this position to the late Lord Salisbury, when that famous statesman was at the head of the Turkish Embassy.

As Governor-General, Northcote and his

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