

THE MORNING GUARDIAN

FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1901.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S VISIT

To-morrow our Island-Province will be honored with a first visit from Their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Minto. Their coming is in pursuance of the rule that at some time or times during his term of office the Governor General of Canada shall visit every Province of the Dominion. Their present tour in this direction brings the Viceregal party to our shores in the hottest month of the year and therefore just at the time when atmospheric conditions are more comfortable here than in any other Province of Canada. This is most satisfactory all around, but at whatever time Their Excellencies might have chosen to come our people would have accorded them the same hearty welcome which awaits their arrival to-morrow.

His Excellency the Right Honorable Gilbert John Elliott-Murray-Kynynmond, Earl of Minto and Viscount Melgund (United Kingdom 1813) Baron Minto (Great Britain 1797) is the son of the third Earl of Minto, and his wife, Emma E., daughter of General Sir Thomas Hislop. He was born in London, July 9, 1845, and received his education at Eton and Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated B. A. He entered the Scots Guards in 1867, and has been Captain of the Roxburgh Rifles, Captain in the Army Reserve and Colonel with the rank of Brigadier General commanding the South of Scotland Volunteer Brigade. He was for a short time in Paris during the Communist rising in 1871, and three years later acted as correspondent of the London Morning Post during the Carlist rising in Spain. During the Russo Turkish war Lord Melgund (as he was then known), was Assistant Military Secretary with the Turkish Army on the Danube, when he was present at the bombardment of Nikopolis and the crossings of the Danube.

In 1879 Lord Melgund served as a volunteer on the staff of Field Marshal Lord Roberts during the memorable Afghan campaign. In 1881 he accompanied Lord Roberts to South Africa as his Private Secretary. When the Egyptian war broke out in 1882 Lord Melgund was appointed a Captain in the Mounted Infantry, was wounded at the action of Magfar, and afterward commanded the Mounted Infantry at Cairo, for which he was mentioned in despatches and thanked in General Orders. In addition to his military services in India, South Africa and Egypt Lord Melgund was Military Secretary to Lord Lansdowne when he was Governor General of Canada, 1883-1886, and was Chief of Staff to Major-General Middleton during the Biel Rebellion in the Northwest. His Excellency wears the Afghan medal, the Egyptian medal, the Medjidie, the Khedive star and the Canadian Northwest medal and clasp.

Before succeeding to his present title Lord Melgund unsuccessfully contested the Hexham Division of Northumberland as a Liberal Unionist. He succeeded his father as Earl of Minto in 1891. He married July 23rd, 1883, Mary Caroline, daughter of General Hon. Charles Grey, and has two sons and three daughters: Ruby Eileen Nina Evelyn Sibell, born in 1884; Lady Ruby Florence Mary, born in 1886; Lady Violet Mary, born in 1887; Victor Gilbert Lariston Garnet, Viscount Melgund, born in 1891 and Gavin William Esmond, born in 1895. The family seats are Minto House, Hawick, Roxburgh and Melgund, Forfar. The London residence is 6 Audley Square, W. The family name is Elliott, the two other surnames being conventionally dropped. It may be added that Lord Minto was appointed Governor General of Canada, July 25th, 1898 and was sworn of office in November of the same year. Since his appointment Lord Minto has administered his high office most successfully as a constitutional Governor, and both he and Lady Minto have won popular favor in no stinted measure while resident at Ottawa.

The esteemed editor of the Examiner yesterday rose to discourse of the region near his old home, which he describes as "a partially cultivated country, abounding in alder bushes and mud and blueberry barren." This serves to recall that there are several varieties of the blueberry, the general botanical name of the species being *vacinium*. Among these is the low blueberry known as the *vacinium vacillans*. It is suspected that while all the varieties may stimulate the imagination and the poetic faculty, the low blueberry, as its botanic name *vacillans* would indicate, tends to create that vacillating or wobbling disposition of which the Examiner affords so sad an example. Nevertheless a full diet may produce better results than that hungry longing through which our contemporary is now pressing while writing for the crop oripel.

Count Leo Nikolavich Tolstoi is reported to be rapidly sinking. He is an old man now, but more widely known to the world in his old age than he was in his prime of manhood. Born in 1828, he received an university education and entered the army. He served in the Caucasus against Schamyl, the Circassian chief. In 1853 he commanded a battery and fought with it in the Crimean War, at the battle of Tchernaya and the storming of Sebastopol. He carried the tidings of the city's fall as a special courier to St. Petersburg. At the end of the campaign he retired from the army, and lived on his estates, devoting himself to study and improving the condition of the Russian peasantry. It is as a novelist, social reformer and mystic that he is most widely known. A dozen books from his pen have been translated into many languages and read throughout the civilized world. Among these are, War and Peace, Anne Karenina, Sevastopol, The Cossack, Two Pilgrims, My Religion, My Confession, A Commentary on the Gospel, Life, The Kreuzer Sonata, and War. He began publication in 1835 and has written voluminously since.

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