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PROF. S. M. WATSON, Dept. 59, Battle Creek, Mich.

Rideau Hall

(Continued from page 4.)

between Dublin Castle and Rideau Hall, she readily accepted the situation, and gave to her court an easy graciousness, which at once won for her the esteem and affection of her guests. She identified herself with Canadian life and character. She danced with a pretty grace. She loved to have young people about her. She gave a great deal of her time to winter sports, and in the out-door amusements of the people her interest never flagged.

After Lady Lansdowne, the Lady Constance Villiers, eldest daughter of the fourth Earl of Clarendon, and wife of Colonel, first Lord Stanley of Preston, afterward Earl of Derby, took up her residence at Rideau Hall. She was an ideal hostess. The mother of eight sons and two daughters, her life was one of gentle domesticity. Her ambition was to make everyone about her happy. She gave splendid balls and great dinners, but her chief delight was a little informal dance to which were asked friends who belonged to her inner circle. A woman of large heart and generous impulse, she easily made friends, and to her Lord Stanley was greatly indebted for the success of his social regime in Canada.

But Lady Stanley was more than a genial hostess. She was a woman of mind, and of deep sympathies, and in a large way she helped in every good and noble object. The foundation of the institute for trained nurses is owing to her efforts, and it bears her name. It was Lady Stanley also who established in Ottawa the Maternity Hospital.

Canada was fortunate in having as its chief lady for the next five years the amiable Countess of Aberdeen, younger daughter of the first Lord Tweedmouth. As the wife of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Lady Aberdeen made a signal impression. She was no less successful in Canada. She possessed a commanding presence and force of character which elevated her to the front rank of women of intellect and learning. She spoke well and convincingly, and as a testimony to her scholarship, the University of Queen's College, Kingston, Ontario, conferred upon her the honorary degree of LL.D. In her robes and mortar-board a fine portrait of her exists. Lady Aberdeen's entertainments were frequent and lavish. The grandest function of which she was the head was the notable Historical Fancy-Dress Ball, which was held at Rideau Hall in February, 1896. Lady Aberdeen founded the National Council of Women of Canada, and the Victorian Order of Nurses. In 1893-99 she was the President of the International Council of Women. Her usefulness to society and to the promotion of every good work leading to the amelioration of her fellow-beings is known all around the world. The sweet simplicity of her nature won the hearts of all. She published an interesting volume of pleasant description, entitled "Through Canada With a Kodak," most of the photographs which were taken by herself. Lady Aberdeen has also written some charming verses.

As the Viscountess Melgund, Lady Minto came to Canada as a young and handsome bride, her husband having accepted the important post of military secretary to Lord Lansdowne. She easily made friends, and added a charm to Government House, which was renewed when she returned to Rideau Hall as its mistress.

The Countess of Minto is a born hostess. She has a good memory for faces and names, a gift which she has reduced to a fine art. Her recreation is skating in which accomplishment she admirably exhibits the true poetry of motion. Lady

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