

[Earl of Minto, Viceroy of India, to Lord Grey, Governor General, Ottawa]

R67 G21 C44 L40 B62 22 JMK(h)

TO: VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, OTTAWA.

FROM: Minto.

PRIVATE: January 20th, 1900.

In answer to your telegram of 16th January I have sent following for communication to you through the Colonial Office Secretaries:

"Dear telegram of 16th January. Proposed abolition of passport system to control immigration to Canada.

We recognize possible difficulties of Canadian Government and appreciate the慎重 attitude with which it has approached this difficult question, but after very careful consideration suggest we are unable to agree to any proposal for closing to India restrictions such as are suggested in migration of free Indians or to suggest any further action on the part of India.

Any such measure would be opposed to our ancestral policy and is not permissible under Indian legislation and to of fact and any action in the direction of holding general powers of restriction to immigration will be the subject of serious criticism.

In present state of public feeling in India we consider that legislation of this kind perfectly inadvisable.

We must leave it to Canadian Government to take such measures as may be necessary to restrict immigration into its territories."

IDENTIFIER

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ARTIST

Earl of Minto, 1845-1914; Grey, Albert, 1851-1917