



MR. CLARKE'S WALKOVER.

(Which, however, Ald. E. A. Macdonald says he won't allow, nohow!)

THE CANADIAN MONARCHY.

FROM ADVANCE SHEETS OF A FORTHCOMING PRIMER ON CANADIAN HISTORY.

CANADA having now attained her majority as a full-grown nation, the only thing wanting to complete her independence was an agreement among her various factions upon the form of government to be adopted. The Tories wished a monarchy, the Grits a republic; the French Catholics had, as usual, the casting vote. Their priests at length decided upon joining the monarchists, judging that a king with no power behind his throne would be more amenable to discipline than a president with a veto. Sealed tenders were accordingly issued for a king to govern the country in a constitutional manner.

The choice fell upon a scion of British royalty, who ascended the throne with all due formality on the first of April, 1893. The joy of Col. Denison at this consummation of his hopes was almost painful to witness. He took holidays for weeks at a time in order to throw himself at the feet of his Majesty, until his loyalty became such a bore that the flunkies at Rideau Palace were instructed to tell the Colonel that the King was not at home.

For a while all went smoothly. People were delighted to have their Parliament opened, prorogued and dis-

solved by a King all their own. Sightseers flocked to the capital in vast numbers, and the fakir and pickpocket drove thriving trades among the crowds collected about the palace.

But soon trouble began. The King called for more funds. He said he could not govern the country with a single pack of hounds and a one-horse stud. He demanded that his salary should be doubled. Sir John A. made a touching appeal to Parliament (largely plagiarised from a famous speech by Gladstone on a similar occasion) and, with heart-rending sobs, called upon that body to consider the helpless condition of royalty, but to no avail. His defeat and subsequent retirement into private life were the results of his eloquence, and he died soon after broken-hearted, with Cardinal Wolseley's soliloquy upon his lips.

The Grits coming into power, the question of the royal finances was again taken up. Mr. Rykert offered to replenish the King's purse by negotiating for a timber limit for his Majesty. This proposal was met by a howl of derision from Sir R. Cartwright. Col. Denison was also opposed to the plan. He said he would shed blood before he would consent that the King should degrade himself by becoming a lumber merchant, or doing anything else of a merely useful nature.