

## CHAPTER XXV.

### THE MACKENZIE ADMINISTRATION.

FOR four years Lord Lisgar had held the position of Governor-General. In 1872 he was succeeded by the Earl of Dufferin, one of the ablest and most popular Governors that ever represented royalty in Canada.

**The Pacific Railway Scandal, 1873.**—A new Parliament met in the following March. The chief matter that engaged its attention was a charge brought against Sir John A. Macdonald's Government in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway. While investigation was going on the Government resigned, and Mr. Alexander Mackenzie was called on to form a new Ministry, which in the election that followed gained full support from the people.

**British Columbia dissatisfied.**—Four years had passed since British Columbia had entered the Union, and little had been done towards the building of the promised railway. Murmurs of secession and threats were heard throughout the Province. Happily, through the good offices of the Earl of Dufferin, who visited British Columbia, confidence was restored, and shortly afterwards the Pacific Railway was commenced by the Government.

**Important Acts.**—Among the important measures of the



LORD DUFFERIN.