

his eloquent words in praise of the "Ariosto of the North," won for him a fresh host of admirers. But beyond what was known of the new Governor-General in a literary way, he was looked upon by the mass of Canadians as an untried man, and information about him was eagerly sought after. Information, however, was scant, for though Lord Dufferin had filled, with a large measure of success, many important trusts in his native land, and had served his sovereign in foreign countries, his labours were of so unostentatious a character that they gained for him little publicity.

He was born in 1826, and succeeded to the Peerage in 1841. In 1862 he married Harriet Hamilton, daughter of the late Archibald Hamilton, Esq., of Killyleagh Castle, County Down, Ireland. He was educated at Eton and Christ-Church College, Oxford, and in 1846-47, after taking his degree, he devoted himself to the amelioration of Ireland, then enduring the horrors of famine. He was a Lord in Waiting on the Queen from 1849 to 1852, and again from 1854 to 1858, and subsequently served as Under Secretary of State for War, and in the same capacity at the India Office. In 1860 he went on his first important mission, and accomplished a work which earned for him at the time much renown, and for which he received the order of a Knight Commander of the Bath. He was sent to Syria as Commissioner of the Crown,* and entrusted with the settlement of the difficulties between the natives and Chris-

* A full account of the Syrian massacres and the part taken by Lord Dufferin will be found in "The Eastern Question: its Facts and Fallacies," by Malcolm MacColl, M.A.