

MACDONALD, *The Right Hon. Sir JOHN ALEXANDER, K.C.B., D.C.L.*
(Oxon), LL.D., Q.C., P.C. (Victoria, B.C.)

Eld s. of the late Hugh Macdonald, Esq., of Kingston, Ont., and formerly of Sutherlandshire, Scot. B. 11 Jan. 1815. Ed. at Royal Grammar School, Kingston, under Dr. Wilson, a Fellow of Oxford Univ. - M., 1st, Isabella, dau. of the late Alexander Clark, Esq., of Dalnavert, Inverness-shire, Scot., (she d. 1856); 2nd, 1867, Susan Agnes, dau. of the late Hon. T. J. Bernard, a mem. of Her Majesty's Privy Council of the Island of Jamaica. Studied law with the late Mr. George Mackenzie, and was called to the Bar, U.C., Hilary Term, 1836. Created a Q.C. 1846. A Benchet, *ex-officio*, of the Law Society of Ontario; and head of the extensive law firm of Macdonald, Macdonald & Marsh, Toronto. Is the grand representative in Can. of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Eng., and holds the rank of a Past Grand Senior Warden of the Freemasons of Can. Was a mem. of the Ex. Council of Can. from 11 May 1847 to 10 March 1848 (in the Administration of the late Hon. Mr. Morris); from 11 Sept. 1854 to 29 July 1858 (in the McNab-Morin, the Tache-Macdonald and the Macdonald-Cartier Administrations); from 6 Aug. same year, to 23 May 1862 (in the Cartier-Macdonald Administration); from 30 March 1864 until the Union (in the Tache-Macdonald and the Belleau-Macdonald Administrations); and was, during these several periods, Receiver General from 21 May to 7 Dec. 1847; Com. of Crown Lands from latter date to 10 March 1848; Attorney General for U.C. from 11 September 1854 to 29 July 1858, when as Prime Minister he and his Cabinet resigned, being defeated on the seat of Government question. Returned to office 6 August same year, as Postmaster General, a position he resigned the following day, on his re-appointment as Attorney General, U.C., which he continued to hold until the defeat of the Administration on the Militia Bill, May 1862, when he and his colleagues again retired from office. The late Sir George E. Cartier and he led the Opposition in the Assembly, until the defeat of the Sandfield Macdonald-Dorion Govt., when the Tache-Macdonald Govt. was formed, 30 Mar. 1864, and he returned to his old office of Attorney General, and was Govt. leader in the Assembly from that time until the Union of the B. A. Provinces, 1867. Held the office of Minister of Militia Affairs jointly with that of Attorney General, from Jan. to May 1862, and from Aug. 1865 until the Union. Was requested to take the place of Sir E.P. Tache as Prime Minister, on the death of that gentleman in 1863, but waived his claim in favour