

PREFACE

IN selecting material for a small volume on Canadian Eloquence, it seemed preferable to give fairly complete examples of a few representative orators, rather than to attempt to cover the wider field in a fragmentary way. In the field of Canadian eloquence, Joseph Howe and Thomas D'Arcy McGee stand pre-eminent. The position of George Brown is less assured, and to the present generation his name is not associated with oratory. Yet in his day he ranked among the first speakers in Parliament; and both Howe and McGee were numbered among his contemporaries. As a public speaker, Sir John Macdonald was rather forceful than eloquent; yet there are obvious reasons why he must be included in