

the remotest corners of the House of Commons ; and, on what may be termed historic occasions, as in the Debate on the Jesuits' Estates Act, his tones acquire a strength and volume little less than surprising. Usually jaunty and off-hand in his delivery, Sir John is not seldom moved by genuine patriotic feeling when the theme is momentous : on such occasions, his voice trembles with emotion, his accents falter, and his entire bearing indicates intense earnestness. When a younger man he was a most effective and " taking " speaker in a political campaign.

No man in Canada is so well known as Sir John, not only by fame, but also individually and personally ; his characteristic and distinguished appearance, his versatile wit, his personal magnetism, his extraordinary faculty of evolving the best out of what appears to be the worst, are known and spoken of, familiarly as household words, from Halifax to Vancouver. Thoroughly charming and genial in society, the Premier is most gracefully and ably seconded by Lady Macdonald, who has been to Sir John all that Lady Beaconsfield was to the illustrious Disraeli. But Lady Macdonald far surpasses the Viscountess Beaconsfield in intellect and in literary ability, and her magazine articles have given her an enviable reputation of her own as a writer of remarkable clearness and strength. Sir John married this lady, who is his second wife, in the year of Confederation, thus doubly remarkable in his annals.

One feels, in concluding this brief sketch of him who is not only Canada's greatest statesman, but also one of the greatest in the British Empire, what a glorious duty will fall to the lot of Sir John Macdonald's future biographer ; for his labour of love it will be to give, in all the fulness of detail and description, the story of that noble life which here " is given in outline and no more."

JOHN FRANCIS WATERS.*

Ottawa, 5th June, 1890.

* This biography was published in the large edition of " MEN OF THE DAY," sometime before the death of Sir John A. Macdonald, which occurred on the 6th of June last (1891).