

FOREWORD

AN active life in the field of engineering and surveying has left but little time to devote to a work of fiction. Much pleasure, however, has been derived by the author, during several years, in gathering material here and there in stray moments, and weaving it into a story concerning his birthplace and the U. E. Loyalists from whom he sprung.

All the characters—with one exception—are, of course, imaginary, as well as most of the incidents recorded concerning them. No story of Adolphustown could be written, covering the period in question, without reference to Sir John A. Macdonald, who as a lad attended the village school, and later in life frequently visited old friends in the locality.

"The Old Loyalist" is a type of his people not alone in the Bay of Quinte district, but from the Maritime Provinces to Canada's western boundary, wherever the Loyalists chanced to settle. The good men and true are not by any means *confined* to those of Loyalist descent, as has been proven on more than one occasion in the history of Canada during the past century. It will be readily observed that many of the unreal incidents of the story cluster round certain well-known historical events in the lives of the Loyalists, as, for instance, the continuance of slavery, in a modified form, after they reached Canada.