258 BRITANNIA HISTORY READER-INTRODUCTORY

John A. Macdonald

John Alexander Macdonald was the son of Hugh Macdonald, of Glasgow, Scotland. He was a bright looking lad of five years, with sparkling eyes and curly hair, when his parents brought him to Canada.

They settled at Kingston where John went to school. It was his father's wish to make him a lawyer. His school days lasted until he was sixteen years old, when he went to a law office for six years more. It was no task for him to stay at his books, for he loved study.

When little over twenty-one he had finished his law course and was in an office of his own. Anxious to make his business a success, he kept close to work. He treated his cases in so clever a manner as to win the highest praise. He studied people as well as books. His nature was bright and cheery and he was ever ready with a joke or a story.

His success in law brought his name often before the public and it was not long before he was asked to run for member of Parliament.