

PREFACE.

THE object of this Work is to give references to the entire proceedings of the Legislative Assembly during the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Parliaments after the Union,—embracing ten Sessions in a period of eleven years; and as the Journals of the earlier Sessions are now very scarce, in consequence of the destruction of the Parliament Buildings at Montreal and Quebec by fire, with most of the books and records, the entries under the various heads have been made as full as the nature of the Work would admit of, so as in most cases to supply all the information required without applying to the volume of Journals referred to.

With regard to the plan or arrangement of the Index, it may be stated generally that it is based in a great measure upon that of the Indices to the Commons' Journals, and the Index to the Journals of the Assembly of Upper Canada prior to the Union (of which this Work may be said to be a continuation.) All documents laid before the House (except Reports of Committees) will be found under "*Accounts and Papers*;" "*Addresses*" will all be found under that head; and "*Committees*" are also arranged under a separate head; while all other entries are arranged and classified according to their respective subjects,—as "*Harbours*," "*Navigations*," "*Roads*," "*Surveys*," &c. At the same time, by a system of cross references, every entry under these various sub-heads may be found at once by referring, alphabetically, in the body of the Index, to the subject to which it relates.

Especial pains have been taken with the entries under "*Supply*," by comparing the sums stated in the original Resolutions with the Statutes as finally passed, so as to shew any alteration in the amount or application of each sum granted.

The Work has been prepared under the direction of the Honorable the Speaker of the Assembly, in pursuance of the following Resolution, adopted by the House on the 25th August, 1851:—"Resolved, That Mr. Speaker be authorized to direct the compilation of a General Index to the Journals of this House, from the Union to the close of the present Session, upon such a plan and at such terms as he may deem expedient; the same when completed to be printed for the use of the Members of this House."

ALFRED TODD.

Toronto, 29th December, 1855.