

A SKETCH OF THE GROWTH

AND PRESENT IMPORTANCE

Of the Legal Profession,

IN UPPER CANADA.



It is said that the Laws of a country are a history of its people. It may with equal truth be affirmed, that the Laws of Upper Canada are a history of the Legal Profession. The written laws of a Country are interesting and instructive, as well to the general reader as to the scholar. Referring to the early Statute Laws of this Province, we have on almost every page the evidence of a people few in number and far apart, struggling in a wilderness, to make for themselves a happy and a prosperous home.

With few wants, and no luxuries, their laws were simple and very easily numbered. We have also, among the same reliable records, traces of manners, customs, and institutions long since passed, and well nigh forgotten. Though interesting, these and kindred subjects to the general reader, it is presumed that to the professional reader a history of his own Profession in Upper Canada, now so numerous and influential, will not be less inviting.

The increased population in Canada, including the Upper and Lower Sections of the Province, has been of late years the admiration of the Old World, and the theme of journalists wherever the English language is spoken; added to this, there has been a steady