

P R E F A C E .

The system of Self-Government, introduced into Upper Canada, by the Municipal Act of 1849, while it materially extended the powers and privileges of the Municipalities; at the same time, multiplied their duties and responsibilities. It was felt that to search through the Statutes of the Province, for, and examine the several Acts, required to be known by those appointed to carry out these laws, involved an amount of labour, it was very desirable to abridge; desirous of facilitating the operation, therefore, of the Municipal system, thus introduced, the late Mr. SCOBIE compiled and published the First Edition of the *Municipal Manual*; and, so completely was it found to answer the end in view, that four Editions of that work, have been successively called for, since that time.

The present Edition is intended to supply the want, frequently expressed, of that work, (now entirely out of print.) In projecting a new Edition, it was thought desirable to revise the whole, and incorporate with the original Acts, the several amending Acts, so as to facilitate the understanding of the whole; and, at the same time, introduce such additional Acts, and parts of Acts, as properly came within the scope of such a publication. The extent to which these have amplified the work rendered it advisable to exclude from this Edition, all the Acts, having a reference to Common and Grammar Schools: but, it is the intention of the Editor, to supply this deficiency, by the publication of a separate *Manual*.

J. B.

TORONTO, January, 1855.