

INTRODUCTION.

IN submitting to the Public the following sheets, it seems proper to afford some explanations as to the design of the Work, and to assist in referring to the several titles it contains. Every person at all conversant with our Provincial Statutes must be aware, that on many subjects, there are such a number of statutes in print, some by way of amendment, and others in addition, or partial repeal, or for other purposes, that much time and close investigation and attention are required, to discover what the law really is, on those subjects. A great number of the statutes contained in the first volume of our laws, have been suffered to expire, or have either been expressly repealed, or virtually annulled by subsequent enactments. Many others have been so altered, that but few of their clauses remain in force. It may well be supposed, that these circumstances are not fully known even to several of those persons in public situations, whose duty it is to carry many of the laws into effect. A great number of those persons, are not in possession of a full sett of our statutes, and from this circumstance and several others, many of the statutes contained in the first and second volumes, and some passed in subsequent sessions, are often acted upon, which have either been repealed, in whole or in part, or have been suffered to expire. The present publication, is intended to obviate or remove these and other inconveniencies, and will bring into view, under the respective titles, all the laws now in force, which have ever been passed in the Colony, and will also show all the statutes which have expired, or have been repealed. Whenever there shall be a desire, therefore, to know, if any particular statute is in force, or has been amended, or repealed, or has expired, on a reference to the title in this Index, under which such statute is placed, the information required will at once be obtained. Such a number of titles are given, that there can be but little, if any difficulty, in finding the title under which each statute is arranged. As to those statutes which have been passed since the publication of the second volume of the laws, the years in which they were enacted, and the chapters of the laws of each session, are stated in this Index. All those statutes are now about to be published in a third volume, which of course will be paged as usual, but as the pages will also mention the years in which the several statutes were passed, and also the chapters, exactly as they will be found in the Index, the references from the Index to that volume, will very readily be made. Much labor and attention have been employed, to render this Work as correct as possible ; and it is hoped it will be found both accurate and useful.

Halifax, July 6, 1826.