

P R E F A C E.

THE following papers have been collected together and printed in one volume, with a view to facilitate and expedite the settlement of the province of Quebec, which has been for some years past, and is still under the consideration of his Majesty's privy council. This settlement, it is conceived, cannot properly be made without a careful perusal and examination of the several instruments of government that have already been passed under his Majesty's authority, or that of his royal predecessors, concerning the said province. These are, first, the articles of capitulation granted to the French governour of Canada by general Amherst upon the intire surrender of it in 1760;—secondly, the fourth article of the definitive treaty of peace, in February, 1763, containing the full cession of the said country by the French king to the crown of Great-Britain, and the stipulation of his present Majesty the King of Great-Britain, in favour of a toleration of the Roman Catholick religion in the same, as far as the laws of Great-Britain will permit;—thirdly, the King's proclamation in October, 1763, for erecting four new governments in the ceded countries in America, whereby his Majesty promises to such of his subjects as shall resort to, and settle in, the said governments, that as soon as the circumstances of those new governments will respectively permit, they shall be governed in the same manner as the subjects of his Majesty's other colonies in America,