

The volume now reported in English is all translated into French, and about two thirds of it printed in that language ; the remainder is in the Printer's hands ; the French version requires final revision and the addition of the notes, &c.,—but it will very soon be ready for delivery.

The English version of the work is complete and ready to be submitted to the Legislature. There are some points, generally indicated by foot notes, in which Legislation, though of a very simple kind, will be required to remove doubts or manifest contradictions, but they are few in number. Among them are the questions arising out of temporary Acts on some of the most important subjects,—such as the Militia Act, the Act concerning Riots near Public Works, the Penitentiary Act, &c.—One provision in the latter, hereinafter mentioned, affects a very great number of clauses in the Statutes relating to Criminal Law which are permanent. The Commissioners are humbly of opinion that no temporary Act ought to form part of the Consolidated Statutes.

The views of the Commissioners with respect to the nature of the task assigned them and the plan they adopted in executing it, have already been fully stated in the Reports of the Upper Canada Commissioners : the classification and arrangement of the Acts applying to all Canada, shewn in the Schedule annexed to their first Report, has been followed out with very slight alterations ; and the important and difficult work has been performed with all the attention and care which the time at the disposal of the Commissioners permitted.

The Statutes applying to the whole Province have, generally speaking, been consolidated with as close an adherence as possible to the words of the original, omitting mere redundancies of language,—incorporating all amendments with the enactments they amend,—arranging the whole in the best order that could be devised, without observing that of the original if it appeared susceptible of improvement,—and dividing and transposing clauses whenever it appeared necessary to clearness of expression. The whole of an Act, and all the Acts on the same subject, are for the most part incorporated in the same chapter ;—but this is not always the case,—and the Criminal Statutes have been arranged in an order different from that in which they stand in the Statute Book, and their provisions have been shortened in some particulars, without, it is hoped, altering their legal effect. For example, it has been thought unnecessary continually to repeat the words “ and being thereof convicted ”—with reference to each