

THIRD REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS FOR CONSOLIDATING STATUTES—LORD REDESDALE.

different from that following in regard to other Acts.

While thus dealing with the language of the statutes, we have endeavoured to avoid introducing, either by omission or addition, any alteration in the legal effect.

The orderly arrangement of the Revised Acts, under appropriate heads, we have not regarded as of subordinate importance. We have employed, as a basis, the classification adopted in the Consolidation of 1859, making, however, such alterations as were considered improvements, or were rendered necessary by the re-distribution of the legislative functions by the British North America Act, 1867.

Sir James B. Macaulay, in his final report recommending the Consolidation of 1859 for adoption, after observing that the work was by no means submitted as free from errors, remarked that he could not vouch that the rendering invariably expressed the Law, as it might by judicial construction be held to exist in the statutes, but that he nevertheless regarded it "as sufficiently accurate to justify the Revised Consolidation being substituted for the Acts proposed to be repealed, trusting nevertheless to the healing efficacy of future legislation should any very material errors or omissions be afterwards discovered."

We are also, of course, unable to present to your Honour a perfect work, and as the revision has been continued since the printing and distribution of the Rough Draft, some variation has been made from the consolidation which is there shewn, but we think that the volumes now submitted represent, as correctly as possible, and may be safely substituted for the existing law.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) S. H. STRONG,
GEO. W. BURTON,
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Toronto, Dec. 30, 1876.

SELECTIONS.

LORD REDESDALE.

We understand that Lord Redesdale is about to be made an Earl of the United Kingdom, and his new title will be Earl Redesdale, of Redesdale. For many years he has acted as chairman of committees in the Upper House, and in that capacity has performed great public services. He is one of the most consummate business-men in the country, and his knowledge of the principles and practice of private bill legislation is unequalled. In fact, so far as private bills are concerned, Lord Redesdale has really been the House of Lords. In all cases the House acts on his opinion, and so well is this known that Parliamentary solicitors never think of contesting any question either of form or substance in the face of Lord Redesdale's opinion. Sitting as chairman of committees he has been the model of firmness and rapidity, and the ease with which the House of Lords performs its legislative work is largely due to the promptness and readiness of Lord Redesdale. We find the following anecdote in "Waifs of Conversation" (by "W. H. H." Magill, Belfast), where it is recorded, as related by the well-known Boyd, M.P. for Coleraine:—"I was urging before Lord Redesdale, the Chairman of the Committee of the House of Lords, my view of a point which had been raised in connection with the Portrush Railway, then before Parliament, but in which, unhappily, I differed from his Lordship. As I felt strongly on the point I continued to press it, till at length his Lordship, nettled by my perseverance, peremptorily silenced me in a manner which is not uncommon with him, but which was rather hurtful to my feelings. After a short pause I ventured timidly to say to him, 'Well, my lord, I really don't think you would have put me down in that manner if you only knew the trouble I had with you the night you were born.' 'What do you mean, sir?' said his Lordship, interrupting me. 'Well my lord, if your Lordship will only have a little patience with me, I will explain my meaning. One night in the winter of the year 1805—it's a very old story, my lord—I had just