

PREFACE.

The editors of the Canadian Annual Digest desire to record their appreciation of the generous patronage their work has met with at the hands of the profession throughout the Dominion.

In the present issue the scope of the Digest is extended by the inclusion of a selection of cases from the *Canada Law Journal*, the *Canadian Law Times* and *La Revue de Jurisprudence* which did not appear in the official reports. This has considerably increased the labour of compilation, but the editors were impelled to undertake it by the consideration that it would enhance the usefulness of their work as a whole. On the other hand, a list of the statutes cited in the cases dealt with has been omitted from this volume, the editors believing that the utility of such a feature in an annual publication is quite incommensurate with the labour and cost involved in its production.

The fact that the year 1897 was well advanced before the enterprise of publishing the Digest was settled upon, and it therefore became necessary to prepare and publish the first two volumes within a twelvemonth, accounts for the somewhat tardy appearance of the present issue. In future the editors will confine their labours to such cases as have been reported before the middle of December in each year, and they will thus be in a position to go to press at a seasonable and convenient date.

OTTAWA, 1898.