

THE INSTRUCTOR, FOR NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

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The Legislative Acts of New Brunswick—1860.

The sayings, doings, and Acts of the Legislature of this Province for the current year are now before us.

Daniel O'Connell used to say of the statutes of England, that a "coach and six" could be driven through them. We would be glad if the "Revised Statutes" of New Brunswick were even as perfect as those complained of by the champion of Ireland's freedom. All the coaches in the Province might be driven through these statutes; in them any law desired may be found, except the law of eclipses and common sense. These statutes are an embodiment of confusion confused, mystification mystified, and common sense violated. Each lawyer construes them, which is not difficult, to mean this, that, or the other thing, or anything else he pleases, or what suits his purposes best; and the judges don't know what they mean; still, the good people of New Brunswick have to take them as a man takes

his wife, "for better for worse," and have to be governed by them, or in other words, these are the *Revised Statutes*, so govern yourselves accordingly.

Historians informed us that the educational regulations of China, at one time provided that the laws of that Empire should be taught in its schools. We wonder what the school children of New Brunswick would understand about,—"*Anno vicesimo tertio Victoria regina*," and "*Anno vicesimo secundo Victoria Regina*," and "*Anno Regni Victoria Britanarum regina vicesimo tertio*," and "*intit de contumace capiendo*," and "*subpœna de testificandum*," and "*subpœna duces tecum*," which we find in the Acts of 1860. Pages of such expressions might be gathered from the *Revised Statutes*.

We remember once listening to two men holding a discussion about the