

apparemment imprimée par l'imprimeur de la reine et alors ce n'est qu'une preuve *primà facie*. Reg. vs. Wallace, 2 U. C. L. J. N. S., 138 ; 10 Cox, 500 ; 31 V., ch. 1, s. 7, § 38 ; 31 Vict., ch. 13, s. 9. Voici ce que dit M. Greenleaf au No. 480. " Next, as to *legislative acts*, which consist of statutes, resolutions, and orders, passed by the legislative body. In regard to *private statutes*, resolutions, etc., the only mode of proof, known to the Common Law, is either by means of a copy, proved on oath to have been examined by the roll itself ; or, by an exemplification under the great seal. But in most if not all of the United States, the printed copies of the laws and resolves of the legislature, published by its authority, are competent evidence either by statute, or judicial decision ; and it is sufficient *primà facie*, that the book purports to have been so printed. It is the invariable course of the legislatures of the several States, as well as of the United States, to have the laws and resolutions of each session printed by authority. Confidential persons are selected to compare the copies with the original rolls, and superintend the printing. The very object of this provision is to furnish the people with authentic copies ; and, from their nature, printed copies of this kind, either of public or private laws, are as much to be depended on, as the exemplification, verified by an officer who is a keeper of the record."

482. In regard to the *Journals* of either branch of the legislature, a former remark may be here repeated, equally applicable to all other *public records and documents*, namely, that they constitute an exception to the general rule, which requires the production of the best evidence, and may be proved by examined copies. This exception is allowed, because of their nature, as original public documents, which are not removable at the call of individuals, and because, being interesting to many persons, they might be necessary, as evidence, in different places at the same time. Moreover, there being public records, they would be recognized as such by the Court, upon being produced, without collateral evidence of their identity or ge-