

marked in the margin with the word "New," or with such remarks as we thought proper to add to direct attention, or explain the object of the amendment. It is also to be noted, that it has not been the least of our labours to make the arrangement of the several sections more in harmony with the order of time when the things required are expected to be performed.

A few Acts partly finished will shortly follow this Report, and will be ready whenever required by the Legislature to complete our first Volume.

When we suggest to Your Excellency, that the Commissioners appointed by the State of Massachusetts were engaged three years before they completed their Report of the Revised Statutes; that in Maine and Massachusetts the Report was considered by a joint Committee of both Branches of the Legislature for eighty six days in one, and fifty one in the other; and in both an extra Session of the Legislature, called for that purpose, was solely occupied therewith, you can easily believe that it required an extraordinary amount of labour to complete the codification this Session; but no sacrifice of time or labour on our part has been spared to effect an object so beneficial, which the Country so ardently desires, and without which it will be impossible for any large class of persons to understand, far less appreciate, the improvement that may be hereafter made in the law proceedings and the administration of justice generally.

The avocations of the Attorney General have been so numerous and pressing that we have often been obliged to proceed without the benefit of his knowledge and experience; and the Surveyor General, when relieved from the duties of his office, has occasionally aided us with his practical knowledge.

We desire to record with great satisfaction, that we have received from our Secretary, W. H. Needham, Esquire, the most able and valuable assistance. His exertions have not been confined to mere writing or copying—although he has accomplished much in this way, and we believe given up most of his time to it—but his assistance in the art of condensing has materially tended to the accomplishment of so much of our labours.