

of the Reports which contained the Amendments suggested by the Commissioners.

On the 13th of March, 1865, the Committee reported. On the 1st September following, the Bill passed the Lower House; on the 6th, it passed the Legislative Council; and on the 8th, it became law.

On the 23rd May, 1866, the Commissioners, after having embodied in the text the amendments adopted by the legislature, and made such changes as were necessary to render the other portions of the Code consistent with these changes, and after having revised and corrected the work throughout, made their final Report, and presented the Civil Code of Lower Canada in the form in which it now is.

On the 26th of the same month, the Governor's proclamation issued, fixing the 1st of August, 1866, as the day on which the Civil Code should come into force.

According to the manner adopted by the Commissioners for performing their work, different portions of the Code were drafted by each of them. Copies of the draft thus prepared by one were furnished to the others, and, after being examined by them individually, it was brought before formal meetings of the Commissioners, at which the Secretaries were also present. At these meetings, each article was separately considered and discussed, and was either adopted, rejected, or modified, according to the conclusions arrived at. This mode of dividing the work, although perhaps unavoidable, has caused a want of uniformity in the style of the Code; an imperfection which it shares, however, in common with the Code Napoleon. Thus, a portion of the work was originally prepared in English, and, of the portion prepared in French, the titles *Of Gifts inter vivos and by Will*, and *Of Prescription*, were drafted by one hand, the titles *Of Privileges and Hypothecs*, and *Of Registration*, by a second, while another hand, again, drafted the remainder.

Although both texts are equally law, it may be interesting, and in some instances, perhaps, useful to know, for purposes of interpretation, which was at first the original and which the translation. It may, therefore, be mentioned that the