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## PREFACE

TO THE

### CONSOLIDATION OF 1866-'70.

To any one accustomed to consult the Statute Law of the land, it is almost needless to allude to the difficulty experienced in arriving at a decision as to the real state of the law on any point which has been the subject of frequent legislation, and that, when the research has to be made through well printed volumes, furnished with well classified indices. When, therefore, it is considered that from the date of the incorporation of the City in 1834, to the issue of the present volume, upwards of five hundred By-laws have been from time to time passed, which could only be, for the most part, referred to in manuscript volumes in which they were transcribed, but without anything like an analytical index or digest of their contents, or to call attention to repeal or amendment, it will be admitted that the wording of the resolution of Council, under which this publication was undertaken, expressed, without exaggeration, its necessity.

Reference to the minutes of the Council shows that such a work was often contemplated; and resolutions in its furtherance frequently adopted only to be abandoned, and it was not until the year 1860 that Mr. Justice WILSON, who then filled the office of Mayor, after expending much time and labour in going through these manuscript volumes, and comparing and noting changes in the way of repeal or amendment, arranged a By-law (No. 334) which repealed a number of By-laws that were at that time obsolete, and partially amended others: to the value of this By-law, and the labour of the learned Judge as preliminary to the present compilation, the Commissioners bear willing testimony.