

## NOTICE.

THE object of the following Tables is to exhibit, as clearly as it can be done in a compendious form, the present state of the Statute Law of the late Province of Lower Canada; the first step towards the improvement and consolidation of any system of Laws being, evidently, to call the attention of the Legislature and of the Public to that system as it actually is; and to enable them easily to ascertain what its enactments are upon every subject of which it treats, and so to judge in what its faults, deficiencies or uncertainty (if any) really consist. The Acts and Ordinances mentioned in the Tables have undergone no revision until the present time,—they extend from the year 1777 to the year 1841, and are in number nearly thirteen hundred, occupying fourteen large volumes. The published Index to them extends through the whole series, but it has been compiled at four separate periods, and though its several parts indicate the Laws which have been passed on any subject, they do not exhibit them at one view, and they afford but little assistance in the important inquiry whether any and what portion of such Laws are now in force, or were in force at any assigned period. To those who are in possession of the Statutes and Index in their present form, the Tables are intended to facilitate this inquiry; and it is hoped that while they form an almost necessary preliminary to the work of Revision, they will also be a useful addition to any revised edition of the Laws, which it may hereafter be deemed advisable to publish, but which cannot for many and obvious reasons be commenced until after the report and suggestions of the Commissioners shall have been submitted to the Provincial Legislature.

KINGSTON, May, 1843.