

PREFACE.

THE AUTHOR of the following Communications under the signature of "MENTOR," has endeavored, after much labour and research, to arrive at the adjustment and settlement of a disputed question, respecting Boundaries, Lines of Survey, and Patent Rights, founded on facts, in the early history of the country, and on the Statute Law of the Province, or Law of the Land. He has much satisfaction in stating his opinion in support of Patent Rights, to the rejection of the title of adverse possession, or illegal and usurped occupancy. This title, if admitted to be a right, would subvert true boundaries, and destroy Patent Rights, would invest spoliation and injustice with the character of legal right and just possession, and would violate the faith of Government in the patents granted to the Loyalists and their heirs.

This disputed question has, in the lapse of many years, from 1792 to 1843, the present period, given rise to a multitude of law-suits in the Courts of Justice and Law, and has been attended with continued contention and accumulated expense. The Courts of Justice and Law have, in many instances, decided cases involving the disputed question of patent rights and the title of adverse possession or illegal and usurped occupancy. The Board of Commissioners of Boundary Lines, established by law in the year 1837-1838, have also heard and determined all cases submitted to their cognizance and authority, unrestricted by the plea and title of adverse possession, or illegal and usurped occupancy, and in accordance with the Statute Law of the Province, or Law of the Land. This law, however, has been, through the omission and culpable inattention of the Legislature, allowed to expire.

The author, under the signature of "Mentor," is encouraged to offer to the public the series of Communications under the title of MENTORIANA, in the confident expectation and hope that from the information contained in the subsequent pages, the Juries, or men who shall be summoned to compose that body, will thereby be enabled to understand and appreciate the high importance and general interests of the disputed question. They will thereby become competent to co-operate with the Courts of Justice and Law, and professional men in hearing and determining all cases submitted to them, on the basis of Patent Rights and the Law of the Land, to the rejection of adverse possession or illegal and unjust occupancy.

THE AUTHOR.