

PREFACE.

AN apology is due for the non-appearance of the following work at the time expected. Suffice it to say that the delay in its preparation and issue, has been the result of unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances.

Part First of the book contains a brief sketch of the discovery of America; the colonization of Canada by the French; its state up to the conquest; a short account of that event, and a reference to important changes that have transpired from time to time. Also, a synopsis of the civil history of Canada, including notice of the several organic changes occurring in the Government of the country. This has been drawn from the histories extant; from public records; and from such authenticated documents as have been issued at various times; and may therefore be considered a condensed compilation rather than an original production.

Part Second contains a series of miscellaneous chapters, very small portions of which have before been published. They relate principally to the aborigines of our own section; the earliest explorations and general open-