

PREFACE.

THE delay in the publication of this volume has principally resulted from two causes. One of these was that the Reporters intended that the report should first appear in the *Protestant* newspaper; but as only a limited space could be given up in that journal to its publication, and the report proved much more lengthy than was expected, it could not be completed before the Legislative Session of 1861, during which the work had to cease, owing to the parliamentary debates occupying all the available space in the public prints.

The other cause was the detention by Mr Halliburton of the manuscript of his two speeches before the Commission, forwarded to him for correction. In compliance with his own urgent request to be favored with a sight of the report of his speeches before published, the manuscript of the first was sent to him in May, and that of the second in June, 1861. In October of the same year, the manuscript not being forthcoming, one of the Reporters took the time and trouble to re-write Mr Halliburton's first speech, and the publication was then proceeded with in the hope that his concluding speech would be returned in time to be inserted in its proper place. Another delay occurred about the close of the year; and after waiting two or three weeks, the first part of his closing speech was received, when the publication of the report was resumed. The conclusion of the speech has not yet been returned, which accounts for its omission in the following pages. The Reporters will not attribute any motives to Mr Halliburton in withholding the manuscript; one excuse in his favor they will admit, namely, that owing to his holding, last summer, the office of Secretary to the Commissioners in Nova Scotia for the Great International Exhibition of 1862, he was perhaps unable to attend to what was certainly an important duty—a