

PREFACE.

While engaged in compiling my work upon the "Coins, Tokens, &c., of Canada," I could not but remark the number and beauty of the Medals struck for various Societies in Canada, to commemorate important public events. Montreal is foremost in possession of these Bronze mementoes, having no less than 20 Medals, (with different varieties.) To have given anything like correct fac-similes of those Medals would have added greatly to the cost of the work referred to, and placed it beyond the reach of many. I therefore contented myself with describing fully the different varieties, (with exception of one or two since discovered,) and in some instances furnished an illustration. Feeling desirous of offering my numismatic friends in America and England some more extended remarks upon, and reliable representations of our Canadian Medals, I determined, as time and circumstances might permit, to publish, at intervals, pamphlets accompanied by fac-similes of one or more of those Medals. The number now presented is the first of the series, and the visit of His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur, suggested to my mind the idea of devoting this first issue to the Medals commemorative of his Royal Brother's visit in 1860. I have spared no pains in securing reliable information, and in this connection I would return my sincere thanks to those who kindly aided me—particularly so to Hon. P. J. O. Cheauveau, Minister of Education, and Professor J. W. Dawson, L.L.D., of McGill College, for permission granted to make extracts from records under their control.