

and is now nearly completed; but the great press of work thrown upon the Queen's Printer in printing the acts of last session, amounting to upwards of six hundred pages in each language, has necessarily somewhat retarded the Revised Statutes.

In the form and extent of the work as recommended by the Commissioners in their second report, no change has been made, except that a type has been adopted a little larger than that used in the Tables. It was found that this could be done without any considerable increase of expense or of bulk, while the facility of reading would be considerably increased.

Acts of a merely *private* nature have been omitted, (as suggested in the report,) nor does it appear that any adequate advantage could be attained by reprinting them at the public expense.—An exception has been made in favor of the Quebec Bank ordinance (2 Vict. (3.) c. 24.) partly because there is now no place in the Province of which the inhabitants may not become in some way interested in its provisions, and partly because it is the only bank law of Lower Canada remaining in force, and the Revised Statutes and the acts of Canada will now contain all the enactments in force relative to banking institutions in Lower Canada.

Local acts have been abbreviated in those parts which are of purely local effect, but the substance of these is given, while every enactment interesting the public at large (as those by which the Province guarantees loans, &c.,) is inserted entire. The ordinances incorporating Quebec and Montreal are given at full length on account of the magnitude of the interests they affect; but as by far the greater number of sections in those relating to each city, are almost word for word the same, these sections are printed but once, and the differences only between them and the corresponding sections of the other ordinances are noted. By this arrangement much space has been saved; and one of the objects of the Commissioners throughout, has been to reduce the bulk of the volume so far as should be consistent with its utility. By omitting the formal enacting clause alone, in each act, upwards of fifty pages of useless repetition have been avoided. The preamble is always printed entire and if any part, however small, of a section is in force the whole section is inserted, except only in those cases where the substance is given in *italics*. The titles of acts cited in others are for the most part abbreviated for the sake of saving room, but the title can be readily supplied by turning to the act cited.

The acts empowering the ministers of different religious denominations to solemnize marriage, &c., have been inserted (tho' in a condensed form) because the titles to property or other rights of any party, tho' not a member of the denomination, may depend upon the validity of some act performed by its minister. The repealed acts relative to the registration of titles to property have been inserted for the reasons mentioned in the second report.

The form and preparation of the general index have been the object of much care and attention. It would be easy to compile an index to a work of this kind which should bear a large proportion in bulk to the text itself. But in the present instance it was held desirable to be as brief as should be