

PREFACE.

The object of this work is to present in a condensed form those legal principles which are of common use in the various transactions of business. It is also intended to supply an educational want that is every day becoming more keenly felt as the modes and relations of business grow more intricate and extended.

It is a well-known and universal rule of law that ignorance of the Law is no excuse. Everyone is presumed to know the Law, hence the plea or defence of ignorance avails nothing: we must suffer for every infraction. Therefore business men, who each day are liable to meet with new legal difficulties, require some book containing the essence of the various branches of Commercial Law, condensed into a convenient form.

It is the writer's hope that in preparing his third edition of this small volume he is affording business