

of the authority by virtue of which it is passed, may be made shorter." The change thus effected has, no doubt, accomplished all that was expected of it in regard to a saving of expense in publication. Whether the comprehension of the statutes has been in a like degree facilitated, may not be so apparent.

The second section of the Act provides that "after the insertion of these words, which shall follow the setting forth of the considerations or reasons upon which the law is grounded, and which shall, with these considerations or reasons, constitute the entire preamble, the various clauses of the statute shall follow in a concise and enunciative form.

The form of preamble provided by this Act continued in use down to the time of the confederation of the provinces (1867). By 31 Vict. (D.) c. 1, s. 1, it was enacted that "The following words may be inscribed in the preambles of statutes, and shall indicate the authority by virtue of which they are passed: 'Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:'" Following this, s. 2 of 18 Vict., showing what shall constitute the preamble, etc., is re-enacted.

By 31 Vict. (O.) c. 1, s. 1, the form provided is: "Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:" And again s. 2 of 18 Vict. is re-enacted. No change has since been made in the preambles to our Acts of Parliament. By clause "thirty-ninthly" of s. 7 of each of those Acts (the Interpretation Act), "The Preamble of every such Act as aforesaid shall be deemed a part thereof, intended to assist in explaining the purport and object of the Act."

So much for the "Preamble"; and now, shortly, as to titles of statutes. The titles of some statutes being rather lengthy (or, perhaps, needlessly prolix), the citing or referring to such, in other Acts, or in legal proceedings, where thought necessary to give the title in extenso, would be a matter of some inconvenience. And in comparatively early times, "short-cuts," somewhat in the nature of soubriquets or nick-names, were occasionally resorted to; and the name of the place where the Parliament