

THE CANADIAN LAW TIMES.

SEPTEMBER, 1889.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN CANADA (a).

IN the addresses to the Queen embodying the resolutions of the Quebec conference of 1864, the legislatures of the provinces respectively set forth that "in the federation of the British North American Provinces the system of government best adapted under existing circumstances to protect the diversified interests of the several provinces, and secure harmony and permanency in the working of the Union, would be a general government charged with matters of common interest to the whole country, and local governments for each of the Canadas, and for the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, charged with the control of local matters in their respective sections."

In the third paragraph the resolutions declare that "in framing a constitution for the general government, the conference, with a view to the perpetuation of our connection with the mother country, and the promotion of the best interests of the people of these provinces, desire to follow the model of the British Constitution so far as our circumstances permit." In the fourth paragraph it is set forth: "The executive authority or government shall be vested in the

(a) This article is composed of abstracts of lectures delivered in June last before Trinity University, Toronto, and I now avail myself of the permission accorded me to publish a necessarily brief abstract of their material points in the pages of the CANADIAN LAW TIMES before they can appear in full in the publications of Johns Hopkins University. J. G. B.