

an indication that the repeal has not been express. Thus in the case of Acts altering Municipal or Registration Divisions, most of which are or will be eventually superseded by the general Municipal Act, or the Act providing for a Registry Office in every County, there may yet remain taxes to be collected, &c., or the requirements of the Registry Act may not have yet been carried into effect. If an Act has been expressly repealed, or has expired, it is of course entered in the second part of the Supplement. Of the private Acts, only those have been included which are or may be carried into effect in Lower Canada, except those relating to Mining Companies, which have been inserted on account of their stock being very generally held in both sections of the Province. Banks and Insurance Companies generally carry on their business in both.

There is a class of transitory Acts consisting principally of those granting sums of money to certain persons or for certain purposes, which are public and general only in so far as the grants come out of the public chest but local or personal so far as regards the persons or purposes for which the grants are made. They are not strictly temporary, for the money may remain any length of time unexpended; but they are effete whenever it is. These are entered in the main Index, whenever there appeared any probability that any thing remained to be done under them, as in case of public works still treated as such by the Legislature; in other cases they are entered in the Supplement, where, if required, they can be found with equal facility. Neither local nor personal Acts are of much general interest or of frequent reference; but, in seeking those upon any subject, I advise that both the Index and the Supplement be consulted.

The Tables of the Statutes in force, or which have been in force, in Upper Canada, have been printed during the present year; and it is my intention to prepare a similar work with reference to the Statutes which are or have been in force in Lower Canada—a revised edition and continuation, in fact, of the Tables to the Statutes of Lower Canada published by the former Revisers, of whom I had the honor to be one. But it will not be possible to do this until after the now approaching Session, the effect of the Statutes passed in which, will, of course, be noted in the work. In the meantime I have prefixed to the Index a Table of the Public General Acts indexed, in their chronological order, with the titles under which they are respectively entered, which will be found very useful in finding whether any given Act is or is not in force, and, if wholly or partly in force, under what head a summary of its contents will be found.

Much still remains to be done before an Edition of the Statutes in force in Canada, worthy of the Country, can be published. To re-print them in their present state would be worse than useless; the discrepancies, contradictions and double provisions for the same thing must be first removed, the doubtful points cleared up, and the enactments consolidated in cases where they are scattered through a multitude of Acts. This will undoubtedly be done by the Revisers appointed under the Honorable Mr. J. H. CAMERON's motion of the Session before the last, and with the aid of the Legislature. But some time must elapse before this can be accomplished, and I trust that the present work will not only meet the wants of the public in the meantime, but that by enabling the Revisers and the Legislature to start from a more advanced point, and to begin the work of amendment and consolidation at once, it will ensure the speedy accomplishment of the greater work which still remains to be done. It is not likely that any re-print will include the local and private Acts, and the portion of the Index which relates to them will remain useful after the rest is superseded by a newer and better work, while the Tables I propose to print will form part of the history of the legislation of the Country, and will never cease to be interesting and useful.

In the form of the work I have made facility of reference the first object, both in the arrangement of the matter and the type employed, and a fair margin has been left to afford room for noting the additions and changes which may be made by future legislation; but, so far as was consistent with these essential objects, I