

TO THE
STUDENTS OF THE SECOND YEAR

*In the Department of Political Science in the University
of Toronto.*

WILL you let me dedicate these lectures to you, and ask you to accept the written in place of the spoken word? You will observe that they barely reach down to 1791. Once I thought that I might, without any very considerable labour, arrive at conclusions to lay before you on all or most of the important questions which the history of the Dominion involves. But when I came to 1791 and looked across the gulf to 1867; when I read the titles of all the works already written upon the period as they are collected in Mr. Reade's recent papers in *Canadians*; still more when I turned over Mr. Brymner's *Calendars* of unprinted historical MSS.; may I confess that my heart sank within me? Here was a sufficient task for one man's strength: and yet on the other side Economics were crying out with still louder voice for all the attention I could give. You will not think it strange that I should decide that for the present the social and industrial problems of Canada and America demand all my energy. Deciding thus, it occurred to me that it would be a still further saving of time on your part, and on mine, if, instead of annually redelivering