

INTRODUCTION.

All the leading tables have been retained in this, the third issue of the Statistical Abstract, and have been revised, in some cases enlarged, and brought down to the close of either the financial or calendar year, as the case may be, while, on some matters, information has been given up to the end of May, 1888. A number of new tables have also been added throughout the book, more particularly in the Preliminary Remarks and in Chaps. I, II, III, IV, VII and VIII.

An entirely new chapter on Mineral Statistics has been added, which will be found to contain information of much value, hitherto not available to the public.

The full text of the proposed Fishery Treaty is given in Chap. IX, but owing to the returns of the Fishery Department not having been made up at date of going to press, the figures relating to the fisheries for 1887 are necessarily meagre and incomplete.

As it was found impossible to obtain all the Provincial Reports on Education in time for an early issue of this work, the chapter on Education has been omitted, and will be inserted again, brought down to a common date, in future issues.

Some misapprehension respecting the tariff, as published in last year's issue, having been found to exist, the appendix