

PREFACE.

THE volume of Reports now published, contains the cases decided in the Supreme Court of the United States, during the January Term, 1828.

In the execution of the trust committed to him, it has been the earnest endeavor of the reporter, to exhibit the facts of each case presented to the court, briefly and accurately; and to state such of the arguments of counsel, as, in his opinion, were required for a full and correct understanding of the important points of the case, and the decision of the court. He solicits the indulgence of his brethren of the profession, for any deficiencies in this part of the work. It has not been within the scope of his purpose, to give, at large, all the reasoning and learning addressed by them to the court.

It is freely admitted, that this volume is issued from the press, under an anxious solicitude for its favorable reception. As it is the first of a series to be published by the reporter, while holding the station assigned to him by the kind consideration of the court, he is most desirous that it shall obtain, what will be deemed by all, the highest sanction—the approbation of those whose enlightened and learned labors, it is the object of the work to record.

In the statement of the points decided in each case, a plan, somewhat novel, has been adopted. The syllabus of each case contains an abstract of all the matters ruled and adjudged by the court, and, generally, in the language of the decision, with a reference to the page of the report in which the particular point will be found. As many of the cases occupy a considerable space, this mode of reference will be found convenient to the practitioner and to the student.

It is held to be obligatory on the reporter, under the provision of the act of congress, which declares that “the decisions of the court shall be sold to the public at large, at a price not exceeding five dollars per volume,” to stipulate with the publisher, that the price, per volume, shall be that sum. This has been done.

