

last Session to regulate the importation of Books, and to protect the British Author ; also, an extract of a Despatch relating to the Act for consolidating the Laws relating to Deeds and other Instruments.

W. M. G. C.

(Copy)—No. 127.

*Downing Street, 18th November, 1847.*

SIR,—I have had under my consideration the Act passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick in the month of April last, entitled “An Act to regulate the Importation of Books, and to protect the British Author.”

I transmit for your information the copy of a Minute addressed to me by the President of the Board of Trade, which will put you in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the provisions of this Act ; and although I concur in the opinion expressed by Mr. Labouchere that the Act is, in its main features, entitled to receive the confirmation of Her Majesty, I have refrained from tendering to the Queen my advice on the subject, deeming it the more convenient course that you should submit the points adverted to in the enclosures to the consideration of the Legislature of New Brunswick, with the view to the adoption of the amendments which Her Majesty's Government deem advisable.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GREY.

Lieutenant Governor Sir W. Colebrooke, &c. &c. &c.

*Extract of Despatch No. 114, from Earl Grey to Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke, dated*

*Downing Street, 18th October, 1847.*

Her Majesty has not been advised to withhold her assent to the Act consolidating the Laws relating to the Registration of Deeds and other Instruments in New Brunswick, although that Act is not entirely free from objection—I refer to the limit which is fixed for the Registration of Wills. The section which provides for the Registry of such Documents, distinguishes between the Wills of persons dying within and of those dying out of the Province, and allows three years for Registering the Wills of the latter. In many of the British Colonies, the period allowed for Registering all Deeds is expressly prescribed, and is more or less extended according to the place in which they may be executed. Such a provision appears to be a very wholesome one, as its omission may inflict positive injustice on persons at a distance who might be unable to complete by Registration their claims before encumbrances made and completed in the Colony. For that reason I am of opinion that it would be desirable to suggest to the Colonial Legislature the propriety of amending the Act so as to ensure a reasonable time for Registration of Deeds executed out of the Colony.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GREY.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

*Message to the Legislative Council,*

*25th January, 1848.*

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE, LT. GOVERNOR.

The Lieutenant Governor, referring to his opening Speech, communicates to the Council the copy of a Despatch which he has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, intimating that a favourable report has reached Her Majesty's Government as to the practicability of constructing a good Line of Railway between Halifax and Quebec. The Account of the expenses of the preliminary Survey will be laid before the Council as soon as it is received from Major Robinson.

W. M. G. C.

(Copy)—No. 117.

*Downing Street, 23d October, 1847.*

SIR,—A favourable report having reached Her Majesty's Government as to the practicability of constructing one good line of Railway between Halifax and Quebec, it appears to Her Majesty's Government