

lation, a comparison of some conditions of the present law with those in the proposed Bill may be interesting.

Under the present Imperial law, first publication of a work in the United Kingdom secures copyright for the work throughout Her Majesty's dominions.

At the present time, in order to secure both Imperial and United States copyright, the publishers of the United States have to publish first in the United States and first in the United Kingdom. It is presumed that simultaneous publication in each country is equivalent to first publication in each country. This frequently necessitates a delay of several days in order to ship a supply of the work from New York to London.

Lord Herschell's new Bill makes this point more definite. He proposes in effect that first or simultaneous publication in any part of Her Majesty's dominions shall secure copyright for the work throughout Her Majesty's dominions.

This new clause of Lord Herschell's Bill will no doubt be gratefully accepted by the publishers of the United States. The ambiguity in the old law is to be swept aside, and *first or simultaneous publication in any part of Her Majesty's dominions* is to secure Imperial copyright. This will not affect Canada, provided Canada is allowed to enact and enforce its own copyright legislation. Otherwise this new clause will be altogether to the advantage of the United States publisher. Under the liberal provision of this clause, the United States publisher will no longer be under the necessity of losing several days in sending copies of a work to London. He will not lose a single day. He will simply have to ship his supply to some Canadian point, *just across the United States border*, publish simultaneously in both countries, and he will have secured copyright throughout the whole English-speaking world.

Another point is worthy of consideration. At the present time the British law is not quite clear as to who may secure