

time, was again offered the position of recorder, which he accepted, and arrived at Fort Garry, or rather Winnipeg, in October, 1870, being sworn in on Wednesday, October 19th, as Recorder of Manitoba. As appears by the Court Records he proceeded to discharge his duties very shortly thereafter, for the last mentioned journal records the fact that the first sitting of the General Quarterly Court under the new *regime* took place in the Court House, Main Street, on the 17th instant, (November), Mr. John Sutherland (acting) sheriff; Mr. Thos. Bunn, clerk of the court, and Mr. O'C. Clark,* Q.C., occupied the seats allotted to the officers of the court and counsel.

No court had been held between November 18th, 1869, and November 17th, 1870. Recorder Johnson held all the courts from the last date to August 16th, 1871, when he held his last court, which ended on the 21st of that month.

CANADIAN COPYRIGHT AND THE BERNE CONVENTION.—AN ENGLISH VIEW.

The international aspect of the claim now put forward by the Canadian Government to secure an Imperial sanction to the Canadian Copyright Bill of 1889—to which hitherto Imperial assent has been refused—is of a very grave character. In form this claim of Canadian publishers is represented as being based on and intended to assert the self-governing powers of the Dominion. In substance it is an attempt to undo one of the most useful of the recent international conventions which prove that the civilized world is becoming a united society for the protection of civil rights.

Divested of technicalities, the claim to be considered is that Canadian publishers should be enabled, by the abrogation of an international convention to which Canada formally assented, to republish (as it is euphemistically termed) the works of British authors without their consent. The only excuse put forward for this claim is that United States publishers have for years systematically appropriated the works of British authors, and that even now, after the United States Act of 1891, they refuse copyright unless the British author's work is published in America simultaneously with publication elsewhere. It is quite sufficient

*The late Henry J. Clark, Q.C., then styling himself "O'Connor" Clark, arrived from Montreal a few days before.