

the subject was brought up originally, as well as subsequently, communications were had with the Imperial Government, in the hope that they would take proceedings that would result in our attaining the end he has in view. For a time the answers given were that the Imperial Government were constantly expecting to be able to arrange an international copyright system with the United States, and therefore it was deemed best not to legislate or interfere in any way calculated to defeat or impede that result. When this result appeared to be becoming more and more unlikely, however, communications with the home government were again tried, and we were expecting legislation with the best fruits. This hope was disappointed once more, and then a bill was passed here in Canada. There was some doubt as to its quality and the view that might be taken of it in England, but it seemed the most likely means of procuring a definite answer from the Government there. The Bill therefore was reserved, and went to England in the usual way. My honorable friend is mistaken in thinking this Government did not call attention to that measure, and to the advantage which would result to this country from its receiving the Royal assent. Communications, though not official, were had, personally, by a gentleman in London who takes a great interest in this subject, with the proper authorities in England, in order to an answer or a decision on the matter. Ultimately an official despatch was sent home to secure some definite action on the part of the Imperial Government, but no effect has followed so far. I understand, however, that that Government has under consideration a Bill which should it pass this session, will effect the object we in Canada wish. Although I look upon the Bill which I have seen as complicated, and perhaps not the kind we should most desire, yet if acted upon in the spirit which we expect, it will accomplish our object. I am as sorry as my honorable friend can be that these delays should have resulted in prompting the transfer of the large business of Mr. Lovell from Montreal to the United States; but I do not think they have offered him any particular encouragement at Roué's Point. The United States Government have certainly presented none; only the residents of the village have; they have submitted a petition to the Legislature of New York, praying that his business there, his buildings, type, and so forth, may not be taxed. We in this country sometimes exempt new manufacturing establishments from taxation in the same way.

Hon. Mr. RYAN said more had been done. The Legislature had acted.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, dissenting, said— I am not aware that the New York Legislature has passed any bill to relieve Mr. Lovell's establishment from taxation.

Hon. Mr. RYAN—He assures me it has.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL— Well, it may be, as the hon. gentleman says so; still I can not but mistrust his information. I think it will be found there is some mistake. I conceive the Legislature has not. As to allowing Mr. Lovell to buy or sell real estate, that is no special encouragement. Any person desiring to be a citizen can buy or sell.

Hon. Mr. RYAN—But Mr. Lovell does not want to become a citizen.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL— At any rate I contend the hon. gentleman has not established the contrast he desired between what he calls the active encouragement given Mr. Lovell by the Americans, and our supposed indifference. We have not exhibited any such mood. I am sorry Mr. Lovell's industry should be lost to the country, and hope it is only for a time. The Government has been in no way lax in doing its utmost, for the accomplishment of the end in view. One cannot keep urging upon the Imperial Government the necessity of acting in a particular matter. The law gives it two years for assenting to or dissenting from such bills. It is impossible to urge it as one business man would urge another. The Canadian Government has done everything reasonable to reach the object which my hon. friend has at heart, and which he has so usefully, zealously, and with such good result, so far labored to achieve. I am confident that any ultimate success will be due very much to his action, and success, I hope, will be attained at an early day. I cordially concur in the address, with this stipulation, it must rest with the Government to say how far the despatch which may come between now and the time to which the motion alludes, can be properly brought down. I apprehend it will be such as can be produced to Parliament. [Cheers].

Hon. Mr. BUREAU said that the hon. gentleman from Victoria (Mr. Ryan) certainly merited the sympathy and gratitude of the House for his part on this question throughout. He (Mr. Bureau) understood perfectly the difficulty in the way of dealing with it. The Imperial Government having granted certain rights or privileges to authors for a number of years, could not make away with them, or diminish their value, without compensation to the