

A draft circular to Registrars and other officers in the British possessions abroad is enclosed for the approval of Earl Kimberley, and the Board of Trade would be glad to know the number which will be required for distribution.

I have, &c.,

(Signed), THOMAS GRAY.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

DOWNING STREET,  
10th July, 1873.

MY LORD,—I referred to the Board of Trade Your Lordship's Despatch No. 128 of the 15th May, with the Minute of Privy Council and report by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, which accompanied it, on a Petition from the Board of Trade of St. John, N.B., respecting Mr. Plimsoll's "Shipping Survey and Bill, 1873," and I have the honor to transmit to you herewith, an extract from a letter received from the Board of Trade in reply.

I have, &c.,

(Signed),

KIMBERLEY

The Right Hon. Earl Dufferin, K.P., K.C.B.,  
&c., &c., &c.

*Mr. Farrer to the Under Secretary, C. O.*

(Extract.)

BOARD OF TRADE, WHITEHALL,  
June 30, 1873.

SIR,—I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, transmitting a copy of a despatch from the Governor General of Canada, enclosing a minute of the Dominion Privy Council, and a report by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries on a Petition from the Board of Trade of St. John, N.B., respecting Mr. Plimsoll's "Shipping Survey, etc., Bill, 1873," now before Parliament.

In reply, I am to state, for the information of Lord Kimberley, that this Board concur in the general scope of that Petition.

At the same time, they wish it to be understood, that as at present advised, they propose to proceed with the Merchant Shipping Bill, which has been introduced by the Government.

No. 1.

*The Earl of Dufferin to the Earl of Kimberley.*

(Received May 2nd.)

OTTAWA, 15th May, 1873.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to enclose a copy of a Report of Council, submitting, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, a Report from the Minister of Marine and Fisheries on a Petition from the Board of Trade of St. John, New Brunswick, respecting a Bill relating to shipping now before the Imperial Parliament.

I have, &c.,

(Signed),

DUFFERIN.