

"That 'Colonial Edition' be printed at the head of the title-page of every copy printed.

"That a Government stamp be impressed on the title-page of every copy of any book printed under this Act, so that the English copyright-owner may have security as to the number of copies printed.

"That the printer's name and address be printed at the back of the title-page of every copy printed.

"That the Canadian Government receive the aforesaid duties, and transmit the same to England half-yearly, and cause notice to be given, and the amount to be paid on application to the British publishers of the books, on account of which they have been received.

"That nothing in this Act be held to modify the duration of copyright which a British author possesses in the Colonies, under Imperial Act or Acts.

"That this Act cease on conclusion of a Copyright Treaty between the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

"That adequate penalties be imposed to prevent infringement of this Act.

"I would further add, that it is desirable that the Canadian Government should agree to receive notice direct from any British publisher of the existence of copyright in any book issued by such publisher, and that a sworn declaration by such publisher, or a copy of the entry of such book in the register of the Stationers' Company, kept for that purpose, be accepted as *prima facie* evidence of the existence of such copyright. And further, that the proof of non-British copyright in any book whatever imported into Canada shall rest on the importer. These regulations must be embodied in a Colonial Act, to give them legal force.

"Also that a condition precedent to above arrangement would be the passing of an Act by the Imperial Legislature prohibiting the importation of 'Colonial Editions,' by post or otherwise, into the United Kingdom.

"The effects of the changes indicated above would, I think, be increased stimulus to Canadian manufactures and commerce, and the raising up of a class of book producers within the Dominion which would considerably promote literature and learning, and thereby elevate and improve the people.

"I have, &c.

"The Hon. John Rose, Minister of Finance."

(signed) "F. R. Daldy."

The propositions embodied in this letter were discussed at considerable length at a meeting, on 16th March 1870, at the house of Mr. Murray, and gentlemen who were present expressed an opinion strongly in favour of the above "Canadian Proposals;" but a resolution, based on an opposite opinion, was maintained by others, and was carried by a large majority.

The decision of that meeting, without doubt, was influenced by the able address and advice of the late Mr. Robertson Blaine, who recommended the author and owner of copyright on no condition to surrender control over the republication of their works. He suggested that the object in view could be effected by other means than the total surrender of that control.*

The following were the resolutions then passed:—

That a representation be made to the Right Hon. the First Lord of the Treasury, pointing out the great hardship sustained by British authors and publishers from the operation of the Imperial Copyright Act of 1847, and stating the earnest desire they feel that Her Majesty's Government might deem it right to propose its prompt repeal.

They further desire to call the attention of Mr. Gladstone to the unexpected and unjust position in which all British Colonial authors and publishers are placed by the decision of the House of Lords in "*Low v. Routledge*," upon the "Copyright Amendment Act, 1842," as to works first published in any part of the British Dominions not included in the United Kingdom.

Stanhope.

(in the Chair of the Meeting held 16th March 1870.)

Wm. Smith, LL.D.

Alexander Macmillan.

Arthur Helps.

Charles Dickens.

D. Robertson Blaine.

John Murray.

George Bentley.

Henry Reeve.

Anthony Trollope.

Jas. Fergusson.

Fred. Chapman.

Thomas Longman.

Frederic Richard Daldy.

And, further, it was requested that Mr. Murray and Mr. Longman should write to Mr. Gladstone on the subject, and send him a copy of the resolution.

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* It could be effected by the Canadian Parliament availing themselves of their powers under the "Dominion Act of 1867," to grant to owners of copyright under the Imperial Act of 1842 the benefits of the Canadian Copyright Act of 1868, on condition that the said owners republish their works in Canada within a certain time after the passing of the Act here suggested, or of their first appearance in England.