

Parliament and becoming Law during its present Session, and in case of an affirmative answer he would recommend that the introduction of the necessary measure be further deferred until the following Session of the Canadian Parliament. The undersigned also recommends, as a temporary measure, that a Bill to meet the immediate necessities of Halifax and other Nova Scotian Ports in relation to the shipping of seamen be prepared for the consideration of Parliament at its approaching Session.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed), P. MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor General.

DOWNING STREET, 18th April, 1872.

MY LORD,—With reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 64, of the 11th March, enclosing a copy of a Report of a Committee of the Canadian Privy Council enquiring whether there is any probability that the Merchant Shipping Code Bill will become Law during the present Session of Parliament I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter from the Board of Trade.

I have, &c.,

(Signed), KIMBERLEY.

Gov. Gen. The Rt. Hon.

Lord LISGAR, G. C. B., G. C. M. G.,
&c., &c., &c.

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

BOARD OF TRADE, WHITEHALL GARDENS,
15th April, 1872.

SIR,—I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant transmitting a copy of a despatch from the Governor General of Canada enquiring whether there is any probability that the Merchant Shipping Code Bill will be passed during the present Session. In reply, I am to state that the Board are not in a position to say that they expect that the Bill will be passed this year. Under these circumstances the Board of Trade hope that the Canadian Government will not on this account defer such legislative action as they may deem necessary to meet the immediate necessities of Halifax and other Nova Scotian ports in relation to the shipping and discharge of seamen.

I have, &c.,

(Signed), T. N. FARRER.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

City of St. John, Province of New Brunswick, Dominion of Canada, 2nd May, 1873.

The undersigned Merchants, Ship-owners Underwriters and others, beg respectfully to say;—

That in their opinion the best interests of Canadian Shipping would be greatly advanced and protected by His Excellency the Governor-General and their Honours the Members of the Privy Council of Canada introducing a measure to facilitate the organization of a Canadian Lloyds Registry and Classification of Shipping: and