

No. 22.

LORD STANLEY OF PRESTON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

(Received January 6, 1891.)

[See No. 24.]

Government House, Ottawa,

December 20, 1890.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the Act passed by the Parliament of Canada in 1889, entitled "An Act to amend the Copyright Act,"\* and to your Lordship's Despatch of the 8th ultimo,† forwarding copy of a letter from the Society of Authors on the copyright question, I have the honour to enclose a copy of an approved minute of the Privy Council concurring in a Report by the Minister of Justice, who suggests the passing of Imperial legislation which shall authorise the Canadian Parliament to deal with the question of copyright notwithstanding any such legislation heretofore passed in relation to this subject. Your Lordship will observe also that the Minister in his Report deals fully with the points raised in the letter enclosed in your Lordship's Despatch above mentioned.

I have, &amp;c.

STANLEY OF PRESTON.

Enclosure in No. 22.

CERTIFIED COPY of a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the HONOURABLE the PRIVY COUNCIL approved by His Excellency the GOVERNOR GENERAL in COUNCIL, on the 18th December 1890.

THE Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a Report dated 15th December 1890, from the Minister of Justice calling attention to a Minute of Council approved by your Excellency under date the 17th August 1889, on the subject of an Act passed by the Parliament of Canada in the session of that year entitled "An Act to amend the Copyright Act."

The Committee concurring in the said report advise that your Excellency be moved to forward a copy to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

All which is respectfully submitted for your Excellency's approval.

JOHN J. MCGEE,

Clerk, Privy Council.

To His Excellency the GOVERNOR GENERAL in COUNCIL.

Department of Justice, Canada, Ottawa,

December 15, 1890.

THE undersigned has the honour to call your Excellency's attention to the Report which he made to your Excellency on the 3rd August 1889, on the subject of an Act passed by the Parliament of Canada in the session of that year entitled "An Act to amend the Copyright Act."

The Act referred to has not yet been brought into operation as it awaits the signification of the pleasure of Her Majesty's Government that a proclamation should be issued by your Excellency to bring it into force.

In the same connection, the undersigned begs to call your attention to the Despatch from Lord Knutsford to your Excellency, dated 25th March 1890, in which his Lordship is pleased to signify a desire that the matter should be further considered by your Ministers, and in which his Lordship concluded by expressing every desire to assist as far as possible in any well-considered measure which would substantially preserve the rights of copyright holders under the Imperial Act and would at the same time meet the wishes of the Canadian people.

In the month of July 1890, the undersigned had the honour personally to press upon the attention of Lord Knutsford the arguments in favour of the position assumed in the report of the undersigned of the 3rd August 1889, both as to the powers of the Parliament of Canada and as to the reasons why such an Act as the Copyright Act of 1889, should be adopted and be allowed to go into operation.

\* No. 1.

† No. 19.