

I am to add that Her Majesty's Government consider it desirable that any discussions which may be held with a representative of the Dominion Government on this subject should be private, and that it will not, therefore, be possible to admit a representative of the London Chamber of Commerce, but that any (further) representations which that body may desire to make before a decision is arrived at will receive full consideration.

Copyright Association,

I am, &c.

JOHN BRAMSTON.

No. 109.

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

(Received June 19, 1895.)

MY LORD,

Government House, Ottawa, June 5, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copy of an approved Minute of the Privy Council from which your Lordship will learn that, in accordance with the suggestion contained in your Lordship's Despatch of the 15th March last,* Ministers have authorized Mr. E. L. Newcombe, Q.C., Deputy Minister of Justice, to proceed to London to discuss the copyright question with Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

ABERDEEN.

Enclosure in No. 109.

EXTRACT from a REPORT of the COMMITTEE of the HONOURABLE THE PRIVY COUNCIL, approved by his Excellency on the 30th May 1895.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a Despatch, hereto attached, dated the 15th of March 1895, from the Marquess of Ripon, with regard to the Canadian Copyright Act, which Act, and the correspondence relating thereto, the late Sir John Thompson proposed to discuss with Her Majesty's Government during his last visit to England.

The Ministers of Justice and of Agriculture, to whom the said Despatch was referred, observe that Lord Ripon states that previous communications and correspondence have failed so far to bring about even an approximation of view between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of Canada; that no result appears likely to be gained by further controversial correspondence, and that the only course which seems to offer any prospect of solution is, that, as soon as convenient, one of your Excellency's Ministers, or some other gentleman duly authorized by them, and thoroughly conversant with the subject, should proceed to London and discuss the matter personally with Her Majesty's Government.

The Ministers, in these circumstances, and considering the important interests which are at stake in Canada, and which have been and are suffering by the delay which has already been incurred in arriving at a conclusion of this question, approve of the course suggested; and, inasmuch as it would be impracticable, owing to the present sitting of Parliament and other considerations for one of your Excellency's Ministers to undertake the proposed conference at present, they (the Ministers of Justice and Agriculture) recommend that Mr. Edmund L. Newcombe, Q.C., the Deputy Minister of Justice, be authorized to proceed to London and confer with the representative of Her Majesty's Government upon the subject.

The Committee submit the foregoing for your Excellency's approval, and they advise that your Excellency be moved to forward a certified copy of this minute to the Right Honourable Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

* No. 91.