

No. 75.

THE MARQUESS OF RIPON to the EARL OF ABERDEEN and the EARL OF JERSEY (at OTTAWA).

MY LORD,

Downing Street, July 5, 1894.

THE bearer of this letter, Mr. F. R. Daldy, is the Honorary Secretary of the English Copyright Association, a body comprising all the principal proprietors of copyright in the United Kingdom, and has been deputed by that body to lay their views on the question of copyright in the Colonies before the members of the Conference at Ottawa.

Mr. Daldy, who was a member of the Royal Commission on Copyright, has devoted much attention to the question, and I have no doubt that [*your Government and] the members of the Conference will give full consideration to the views which he has been deputed to lay before them.

I have pleasure in recommending Mr. Daldy to your good offices.

I am, &c.

RIPON.

No. 76.

BRITISH MUSEUM to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received July 20, 1894.)

[Answered by Nos. 78 and 99.]

MY LORD MARQUESS,

British Museum, July 19, 1894.

THE Trustees of the British Museum learn that negotiations have some time since been opened by the Canadian Government with your Lordship's Department, with the view of obtaining some concessions in copyright legislation as applicable to Canada; and they would wish to draw your Lordship's attention to the fact that, by the Imperial Copyright Act of 1842, Canadian publications ought to be deposited in the British Museum. The obligation is, however, not observed by the Canadian Government, and the Trustees have, therefore, to purchase books which they should receive gratuitously.

It would seem, then, not unreasonable that, if the Canadian Government obtain any relaxation of copyright regulations in their favour, they should undertake on their part to comply with the law as regards the deposit of books in the British Museum, following the example of the Governments of India, and of the Cape of Good Hope, and of several Crown Colonies.

I am directed to make this statement to your Lordship, and to add that the Trustees will feel greatly obliged to you if you will be pleased to keep the interests of the British Museum in view in the course of the negotiations with the Canadian Government.

I have, &c.

E. MAUNDE THOMPSON.

No. 77.

THE MARQUESS OF RIPON to the EARL OF ABERDEEN.

[Answered by No. 96.]

MY LORD,

Downing Street, August 4, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, to be laid before your Ministers, a copy of a letter from the British Museum,† respecting the supply to it of copies of books first published in Canada.

I need not remind your Ministers of the important advantage secured to Canada by virtue of the Copyright Act of 1886, by which copyright throughout Her Majesty's Dominions is granted to Canadian authors.

The collection in the British Museum is, as you are aware, the only national collection, and I am sure your Ministers will agree with me that it is important that it should be complete, and especially in respect of works issued in the most important of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, and that it is not too much to ask that a copy of a

* To Lord Aberdeen only.

† No. 76.