

— No. 5. —

(M. 7984.)

Colonial Office to Board of Trade.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 May 1875.

I AM directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to transmit to you, for the consideration of the Board of Trade, a copy of a Despatch from the Governor General of Canada, enclosing a Report of a Committee of the Privy Council relating to the objections taken by the Board of Trade in your letter of the 4th of February last to the Acts of the Canadian Legislature, entitled respectively—

See ante, No. 4.

37 Vict. c. 30.

“An Act further to amend the Act respecting the Inspection of Steamboats;” and

37 Vict. c. 32.

“An Act to provide for the Appointment of Port Wardens at certain Ports of the Dominion.”

I am to observe that an extract only of your letter of the 4th of February last was communicated to the Governor General, as shown in the Despatch, of which a copy is annexed, and I am to request that you will move the Board of Trade to inform Lord Carnarvon whether the explanations now forwarded remove their Lordships' objections to the Acts in question.

The Assistant Secretary,
Marine Department, Board of Trade.

I am, &c.
(signed) *W. R. Malcolm.*

— No. 6. —

(M. 7984).

Board of Trade to Colonial Office.

Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens,
26 June 1875.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 25th ultimo, forwarding a Despatch from the Governor General of Canada, with a Report of a Committee of the Privy Council, relative to certain objections raised by the Board of Trade to two Acts of the Canadian Legislature.

With regard to the first of these Acts, “An Act further to amend the Act respecting the Inspection of Steamboats;” as this Act is stated only to apply to British, Canadian, or Foreign vessels engaged in the passenger coasting trade of Canada, and not to “British or Foreign ships trading between Canada and the United Kingdom, or between Canada and Foreign Countries,” the Board of Trade see no reason why this Act should not come into operation.

With regard to the second Act, entitled “An Act to provide for the Appointment of Port Wardens at certain Ports of the Dominion;” looking to the views expressed in the Report of the Committee of the Privy Council, the Board of Trade are of opinion that this Act may also be sanctioned.

At the same time they adhere to the opinions expressed in their former letter as to the extensive powers which this Act confers on Port Wardens, and request you to move the Earl of Carnarvon to point out to the Canadian Government that should the exercise of these powers be found to clash with Imperial interests, Her Majesty's Government must claim the right to interfere for their protection.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Gray.*