

Correspondence respecting the Deck Loads Act.

No. 1.

The Earl of Dufferin to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received May 2.)

My Lord,

Ottawa, May 15, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a Report of Council, submitting, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, a Report from the Minister of Marine and Fisheries on a petition from the Board of Trade of St. John, New Brunswick, respecting a Bill relating to shipping now before the Imperial Parliament.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General on the 15th day of May, 1873.

THE Committee have had under consideration the Report dated 14th May, 1873, from the Honourable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (annexed), on a petition from the Board of Trade of St. John, New Brunswick, in relation to a Bill now under the consideration of the Imperial Parliament, entitled "A Bill to provide for the Survey of certain Shipping, and to prevent Overloading," and they respectfully submit their concurrence in the said Report, and advise that a copy thereof be transmitted by your Excellency for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

Certified,
(Signed) W. A. AINSWORTH,
Clerk Privy Council, Canada.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Ottawa, May 14, 1873.

THE Undersigned has had referred to him for report, by the Honourable the Privy Council of Canada, the annexed petition of the St. John, N. B., Board of Trade, in relation to a Bill now under the consideration of the Imperial Parliament, entitled "A Bill to provide for the survey of certain shipping and to prevent overloading;" upon which he begs to make the following Report:

In the said Petition the said St. John Board of Trade allege as follows:—

"1st. Whereas, by the proposed legislation in the British House of Commons by Mr. Plimsoll's Bill, it is feared by this Board that undue discrimination may be made in favour of iron ships and of Lloyds' Registry; therefore resolved that the Dominion Government be asked to use its influence to prevent any discrimination being made to the injury of our shipping interests, as is feared may be done by this Bill or by other measures that may be proposed, with a due regard being had at the same time to the security of life.

"2nd. Whereas Mr. Plimsoll's Bill for the survey of shipping will, if enacted, deprive the Provinces of the benefit hitherto enjoyed from classification in Bureau Veritas, and, if passed, will be most disastrous to the shipping property under that classification; and