

in his Despatch of the 25th of March 1890, he questions whether it would be right to ratify by Imperial legislation the Act of 1889 in its present shape.

His Lordship is, however, anxious to meet the wishes of the Dominion Government as far as possible, and would propose to inform them that, if the Canadian Legislature will amend the Act by extending the period of one month allowed for republication and adding the condition referred to in his Despatch of 25th March 1890, before the issue of licenses, and submit for approval of Her Majesty's Government satisfactory regulations for making effective the collection of royalties, Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to introduce an Imperial Act for its ratification.

His Lordship would be glad to be informed whether, on further consideration, and having in view the recent legislation upon this subject in the United States, the Board of Trade concur in this view.

Marquess of Salisbury concurs.

As to the request of Canada to withdraw from the Berne Convention, I am to direct attention to the "Proces-Verbal of signature" which will be found printed at pages 16 and 17 of the Parliamentary Paper noted in the margin, and I am to request that Lord Knutsford may be favoured with the opinion of the Board of Trade on this point. (C.—5167, 1887.)

I am, &c.

JOHN BRAMSTON.

No. 27.

BOARD OF TRADE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received December 31, 1891.)

Board of Trade (Railway Department), London, S.W.,

SIR,

December 30, 1891.

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant,* with its enclosures, on the subject of Canadian copyright; and, in reply, to state that they have forwarded your communication to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with a suggestion that a meeting of representatives of the Departments interested should, in the first place, be held for the purpose of considering the questions raised.

I am, &c.

COURTENAY BOYLE.

No. 28.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 8, 1892.)

(Extract.)

[Answered by No. 30.]

Foreign Office, January 5, 1892.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th ultimo,* on the subject of Canadian Copyright; and I am now to inclose, to be laid before Lord Knutsford, a copy of a letter from the Board of Trade suggesting that a Departmental Committee should be appointed to discuss the questions raised, in the first instance.

I am to say, that Lord Salisbury concurs in this suggestion, and will be prepared to appoint a representative of this Department on hearing that Lord Knutsford approves of this course.

Enclosure in No. 28.

Board of Trade (Railway Department), London, S.W.,

SIR,

December 30, 1891.

REFERRING to previous correspondence on the subject of Canadian copyright, I am directed by the Board of Trade to transmit to you, herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a letter, in original (with its enclosures), that has been addressed to this Board by the Colonial Office in the matter.

I am at the same time to state that the Board of Trade would suggest, for the consideration of Lord Salisbury, whether it might not be desirable that the questions raised should, in the first instance, be discussed at a meeting of representatives of the several Departments interested.

I have, &c.

COURTENAY BOYLE.