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By G. P. Putnam in The Critic.

N March, 1891, certain amendments were inserted as part of the Copyright Statute which had for their right relations with the other literature-producing nations of the world. The several European states purpose the bringing the United States into copyliad, from an early period in the century (1830-1834) entered into individual treaties with each other under which their authors tand artists) secured for their productions reciprocal protection; and in 1887 these states came together, under the Berne Convention, in an association the regulations of which secured copyright recognition throughout nearly the entire territory of Europe (Holland, Austria-Hungary and Russia are still outside) and also in Tunis, Liberia and Japan.

It had for many years been a ground for mortification to citizens who were jealous for the good name of their country, that the United States had refused, in regard to the recognition of property in literature, to enter into the county of nations. As far back as 1837, an association had been organized tot which the late George P. Putnam was secretary) to bring about an international copyright, but a contest of more than half a century was required before it proved practicable to interest and to educate public opinion and to secure from Congress favorable action for a bill securing property rights for foreign authors and (under reciprocity attangements) protection acress the Atlantic for the productions of American authors. Before the Act of 1891 copyright could be secured in this country only for the production of citizens et the United States of or those who could be classed as permanent residents. Under the new law, the protection of the statute is made to cover the works of authors whether resident or non-resident, with the condition for the non-resident author the country of which he is a citizen shall concede to American authors copyright privileges substantially equal to those conceded by such foreign state to its own authors. It is also a condition tapplying both to resident and non-resident authors) that the book securing American copyright shall be published in the United States not later than the date of its publication in any other country. It is a further condition of such copyright for all anthors, whether resident or non-resident. that all the editions of the work so copyrighted must be printed from type set within the limits of the United States or from plates made therefrom." This provision was instituted in the new Act at the instance of the Typographical Unions and was insisted upon by them as essential. The unions were under the apprehension that if the international copyright should be established without such condition of American manufacture, a large portion of the book manufacturing now done in this country would he transferred across the Atlantic, to the injury of American type-setters and printers and of the other trades employed in the making of books.

The provisions of the Act as finally passed were not a little centused by amendments inserted hastily during the last weeks of the session, amendments which had not been planned in connection with the original drafts of the bill and which presented certain new conditions more or less meongruous with the general purpose of the bill