

with the author's or copyright owner's property for that to be maintained. But this was demanded by the peculiarities of the situation, and involves no detriment to the English author. It was, in truth, the only way of relieving Canada from being dependent for its intellectual sustenance on the costly and almost prohibitory issues of the English market on the one hand, or, in the absence of an International Copyright, on the often worthless issues of the piratical presses of the United States on the other. What the Acts sought to secure was some provision for the author, which at present is practically lost to him, and to substitute a desirable and operative law for an undesirable and defective one, which the author's ignorance or indifference has too long allowed to remain on the Statute Book. In other words, by their common-sense proposals, the author would receive a royalty, secured to him by the Government, on all editions of his work sold in Canada, as well as on such editions as might also be disposed of in the United States, as against the precarious and, at the best, inconsiderable sums collected at the Customs ports on stray copies of pirated American editions which a listless scrutiny detected entering the country. The proposals have this also to recommend them, that while the Canadian reprint would give employment to the native industries, the author would receive as royalty a sum *en bloc* on the edition authorized to be printed, with the practical benefits of acquiring on this continent a market which he does not now possess, and which, while being supplementary to the English one, would not interfere with it. Nor by either of the Acts are the interests of the English publisher, whether he is the owner of the Copyright or not, invaded or in any way disregarded. The Act of last session provides that at the expiry of a month after publication of the work in England, if the Copyright owner has not previously arranged for an edition, a license may issue from the Government to the Canadian publisher who applies for permission to reprint, and gives a bond for the amount of the author's royalty. But the English publisher may forestall that reprint, not only within