

hands in printing American reprints of English works at Rouse's Point than carry out his original intention of printing for the Canadian market. He would be able to turn out something like one book a day, and had now from a Boston firm one order amounting to some 40,000 dollars. In the course of a few months he would employ 500 hands, who would otherwise have been employed on Canadian soil, but would now be engaged on American territory, and he supposed in time would drift into the position of citizens of the United States. The Act of 1847, giving the English author the right to a 12½ per cent. customs duty, to be collected on the frontier, had practically been a dead letter. There was an amount of routine necessary which enabled the American publisher to obtain an advantage over the Canadian publishers, and to anticipate the action of the customs authorities. There was a great difficulty in collecting this. That was the case with Mr Disraeli's novel "Lothair." A direct application had been made to the customs department to collect the 12½ per cent. on this work as reprinted in the States, but the officials had received no instructions, and the edition was circulated in Canada before any action could be taken. There were practical difficulties, too, in the way of collecting the duty, as book parcels were often of a very miscellaneous character, and amongst a large number of other works were perhaps only a few dozens of reprints, and it was said that in some parts parcels were never opened to ascertain if they were subject to the author's copyright duty. The whole sum collected in 1872-73 under this head amounts to a trifle over 400 dollars. There was no intention, in the legislation proposed, to interfere with any special arrangements that might be made between the publishers of Canada and copyright owners in Great Britain. The law would only take effect in cases where such arrangements had failed to be made, or had been refused. He had received a communication from a large publishing firm in Toronto, Hunter, Rose & Co., who, he was bound in fairness to mention, were somewhat opposed to the views he had advocated. They stated that for the last three years they had been publishing a number of works by arrangement with English authors, including the late Lord Lytton, the present Lord Lytton, Mr. Charles Reade, Mr. George Macdonald, Mr. F. W. Robertson, Mr. Wilkie Collins, Mrs. Oliphant, and others. These arrangements, however, appeared to have been of comparatively recent origin; during the time in fact that the Honourable Senator Ryan, Sir F. Hincks, and other persons, had pressed upon the Government of Canada, and through them upon the Imperial Government, the importance of legislation in the sense of the Bill now advocated. It was worth remarking, too, that while some English authors opposed this legislation, its most active supporter in Great Britain was Sir Charles Trevelyan, the executor of Lord Macaulay and trustee of that nobleman's copyrights, as disinterested an advocate, therefore, as could be found. He (Mr. Dymond) believed that if the Bill in question became law, they would find a large number of favourable arrangements entered into between English authors and Canadian publishers. It would induce the publishers here to obtain the earliest advices of English works likely to be put to press, or advance copies for publication in this country. Mr. Lovell had assured him that if such a law as this were sanctioned, not only would the Canadian publishers enter into the publication on a large scale of these works, but by a system of book canvassing there would be no village, farm, or store throughout the Dominion that would not be sought by the book agents. As an instance of the want of legal protection for British authors under the present law, he mentioned that "Todhunter's Arithmetic" had been published in Canada by some one who had substituted dollars and cents for pounds, shillings and pence, and placed another name than the original author's on the title page. There would be no inducement to this species of piracy if a fair and equitable system of reprinting under legal agreements existed between the authors in England and the publishers of Canada. After a careful investigation of this subject, and after having been, long before he had the honour of a seat in that House, in communication with Canadian publishers on this subject, he (Mr. Dymond) believed that if this right were given to them they would be able to supply not only the Canadian but also the American market. All the expenses of production were far less in Montreal and Toronto than in Boston or New York, and he was told that very important results might accrue to the trade in this country if the legislation they sought were accorded to them. He repudiated any idea that because he had crossed the Atlantic he was less anxious than before to preserve the rights of his fellow-countrymen at home; and in