

47. He respectfully asks, also, that your Excellency's Government may be allowed to discuss all questions raised in this Report at further length and further detail, if necessary, as they involve grave consequences for the Dominion of Canada, not merely in relation to the subject of copyright, but in relation to the rights and powers of Parliament, and he recommends that a copy of this Report, if approved, be transmitted to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

August 3rd, 1889.

JNO. S. D. THOMPSON,
Minister of Justice.

No. 4.

LORD STANLEY OF PRESTON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

(Received September 16, 1889.)

MY LORD,

The Citadel, Quebec, August 31, 1889.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of the 14th instant,* introducing Mr. F. R. Daldy, the Honorary Secretary of the Copyright Association, and requesting that I should afford him all proper facilities for explaining to my Ministers his views in reference to certain points connected with copyright legislation.

I have communicated with the First Minister, who is at Rivière du Loup, not far from the address given me by Mr. Daldy, and have asked him to arrange to see him if possible, and I have told Mr. Daldy (who was personally known to me when I was at the Board of Trade), that I will see him here if he will call. All other possible facilities will be given him.

I have, &c.

STANLEY OF PRESTON.

No. 5.

F. R. DALDY, Esq., to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 3, 1890.)

Aldine House, Belvedere, Kent,
February 22nd, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour of sending to your Lordship four copies of a letter I have prepared for Sir John Thompson, the Canadian Minister of Justice, on the subject of the recent Canadian Copyright Bill.

I should esteem it a favour if your Lordship would forward it to Sir John Thompson, with any criticisms or opinions you may desire to express upon it, as I am most anxious, in consequence of the kindness and courtesy I have received on this question from the Colonial Office, not to entangle the subject by expressing any opinions to the Canadian Government without your full cognisance.

Your Lordship will notice that I venture to recommend the Canadian Government to drop the subject, because, in my opinion, no further legislation is required on their part, at least at present.

I have not entered into the question of the particular "Royalty editions" which the Royal Commission suggested might be allowed to be published under certain circumstances, because those circumstances do not arise here. It cannot be said that the Canadian market is "not supplied with cheap editions enough to satisfy the wants of the public" under present regulations, and it is only in such a case that their recommendations apply. I think it was never contemplated that the law should be changed merely to confer a doubtful benefit on the Canadian printing trade at the expense of the author's interests.

The difficulties which would arise from the issuing of licensed editions, as proposed by the Canadian Act, appear to me so great that they practically destroy the very principle of copyright. Licensed editions would under any circumstances rob the author of the