

Kingdom and the British possessions which was made to the United States in 1891 and on the faith of which the United States admitted British authors to the benefit of their copyright law.

"It would be inconsistent with the policy of making copyright independent of the place of printing which the Imperial Government had for many years been urging the United States to adopt.

"It would impair the rights in Canada of British authors by whom the Canadian market was principally supplied."

When the Hall Caine Bill was presented to the Canadian Government of the day in 1896, it received the support of publishers such as Mr. G. M. Rose and Mr. Irving, but their support was based upon the complaint against the then existing law which was, that the Canadian publisher had then no protection in the Canadian market after he had bought and paid for it. Their complaint is, I believe, summarized in the letter I addressed to the Board of Trade on the 19th February, as follows:—

"When the Canadian publisher made an arrangement with an author or copyright owner to bring out a Canadian edition—a speculation involving considerable pecuniary risk—he had to pay for the right to do it as the English publisher had, but his market was likely to be interfered with by an influx of copies of a cheap edition from the Old Country, not sold to the public in the United Kingdom, but prepared expressly for exportation to Canada and other possessions and styled a 'Colonial Edition.' A Canadian publisher might have purchased from an English author the right to reproduce a Canadian edition; he might have gone to large