

copyright in the United Kingdom. It is certain that a British subject, and probable that an alien, are entitled to copyright. The United Kingdom has an International Copyright Convention with France and other countries. The United Kingdom is also a member of the Berne Copyright Convention. The United States has steadily refused to enter into an International Copyright Convention with the United Kingdom. Nor will the United States enter the Berne Convention. Despite the selfish spirit thus exhibited, Lord Herschell proposes to sweep aside all doubt on an important point, by granting copyright throughout Her Majesty's dominions to an author, *whether he is or is not a British subject*, without any condition as to manufacture.

The Authors' Society of the United States should certainly convene a special meeting, and decide to have a dinner, as a fit and proper mode of celebrating this crowning act of generosity on the part of "John Bull." At the same time, the members might exercise their wit at the expense of "Uncle Sam," who is, at present, somewhat more selfish in regard to this question.

It may be, of course, that Lord Herschell thinks the United States can still be coaxed into eliminating its manufacturing clause. This may happen; but, unfortunately, public opinion in the United States seems to assert that the manufacturing clause is there to stay; although a great many think that the 25% duty on books is quite enough protection without the manufacturing clause.

For some time back, United States publishers have been accepting Lord Herschell's proposed law as an accomplished fact. Here is the copyright notice on a new book, published by Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York and London:

COPYRIGHT, 1898, BY
 FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY
 [Registered at Stationers' Hall, London, England]
Printed in the United States of America