

Appendix
(Z.)
4th March

delay, detention and expence, necessary for perfecting in the first instance, a certificate, with a particular specification of all the packages contained in all the caskets of the ship.

It is therefore humbly submitted, whether the practice that has been adopted on these grounds shall be changed, or whether the undersigned shall continue to regulate himself on this point as heretofore.

Before concluding this letter, the undersigned hopes he may be permitted to advert to the circumstances which have given rise to the several references from your Honors, upon Acting Comptroller Young's representations of the 13th, 15th and 18th of last November, which he has answered in his several letters under this date.

The Acting Comptroller entered on the duties of his station in January 1820; from that time until the present period, he has had free and unrestricted access to every source and sort of information respecting the department at large, and he had ample time and means to inform himself of every thing before the opening of the navigation after his appointment, of which Mr. Young's abilities and talents, both natural and acquired, would preclude the doubt of his not having amply availed himself; but, neither in the course of this period, nor at any other time, did he ever intimate to the undersigned, that he had discovered the pretended errors pointed out by him to your Honors. He never attempted to obtain the correction of them by discussing them with the undersigned; he allowed them to pass unnoticed, and at the same time availed himself of the advantages and emoluments arising under them, until the navigation was closing, and then without any communication with the undersigned, he addressed your Honors on the subject.

The undersigned is perfectly aware, that the situation of Comptroller is intended as a check on the Collector, and he here refers to their joint letter to your Honors of the 22d November No. 31. A copy of which is herewith transmitted, to shew the views he has always entertained upon the subject, but he is persuaded, that this salutary arrangement was never meant to sanction any departure from that fairness and candour, and honorable dealing, which are as necessary to the conduct of public business, as they are natural to most men who have themselves upright views. He is persuaded, that it never was meant as an authority to one officer to betray another, or misrepresent his conduct, and as it is evident from other communications to your Honors, that the Acting Comptroller was informed of your instruction, requiring that one officer should be apprized by the other, of what was about to be done, the undersigned feels himself justified in imputing to the Comptroller any motives, but such as he could avow, and he hopes, that he may be protected in future from a course of proceeding, which has in this instance been inconsistent with propriety and fairness, and must in all cases be injurious to the public service.

With great respect, the undersigned has the honor to remain,

Your Honors

Most obedt. and most humble servt.

M. H. PERCEVAL, Coll.

To

The Honble. Commissioners
of H. M. Customs, London.

(Copy.)

QUEBEC, 15th May 1821.

Dear Sir,

I have perused the papers you put into my hands and returned herewith, respecting the letters of Mr. Young, the Acting Comptroller. As your justification to the Commissioners appears to me complete, I see no call for any interference on my part in the present state of the matter. I think it right however to enclose to you for perusal, and in order to be put into Mr. Young's hands by yourself; an expression of my sentiments in regard to his conduct in this case, as well as in the application he made to me lately, without your knowledge or concurrence.

Your's, my dear Sir,

Very faithfully,

(Signed) DALHOUSIE,
Governor.

The Honble. M. H. Perceval, Esqr.
Coll. H. M. Customs, Quebec.

(Copy.)

CUSTOM-HOUSE,
QUEBEC, 17th May, 1821.

My Lord,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 15th instant, which only reached me at a late hour yesterday, returning me the papers your Lordship permitted me some time ago to place in your hands. The assurance that your Lordship has been pleased to give me, that you were quite satisfied with the justification addressed by me to the Commissioners of the Customs, on the different accusations made by the

Acting Comptroller, and the other very favourable expressions of your Lordship's letter, have so entirely set my mind at rest, that from this, and from other motives, to which, under all the circumstances of my situation, I feel persuaded your Lordship's candour will do justice, I have abstained from taking further communication of the open letter addressed by the Civil Secretary to the Acting Comptroller, which your Lordship kindly authorized me to peruse; and I have handed it over to that officer, according to the directions of your Lordship.

I have the honour to remain, with the utmost respect,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

(Signed) M. H. PERCEVAL, Coll.

(Copy)

CUSTOM-HOUSE,
QUEBEC, 17th May, 1821.

Sir,

The letter which I have the honor to inclose to you, was transmitted to me by the Civil Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, for my perusal, before handing it over to you. I have not however thought it necessary to avail myself of the permission, and I forward it to you unopened, together with a copy of my Letter to the Governor in Chief, in answer to that with which he honoured me upon the subject.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedt. humble servt.

(Signed,) M. H. PERCEVAL, Coll.

To

T. A. Young, Esqr.
Actg. Comptr. of H. M. Customs.

(Copy.)

CUSTOM-HOUSE,
QUEBEC, 19th May, 1821.

Honorable Sirs,

In answering the several references from your Honors, on the representations of the Acting Comptroller of the 13th, 15th, and 18th November last, the undersigned feels it his duty to state, that under the particular circumstances in which Mr. Young was placed at the Custom-house, as an officer put in by the Provincial Government, until the vacancy should be filled by the King's Government, either by the appointment of Mr. Young, or some other person, to the Comptrollercy, the undersigned felt it incumbent on him to transmit to the Governor in Chief, the Earl of Dalhousie, the accusations preferred against the undersigned, without his knowledge, by the Acting Comptroller, together with the report made by the undersigned on each of Mr. Young's letters, conformably to the orders of your Honors. These documents were submitted to the Governor under a blank cover, and without any communication from the undersigned; and this course appeared to be required by the peculiar difficulty of his position, as, on the one hand, the officer whose province it is to assist the undersigned with his advice, and guard him from error, had not only become his secret accuser to your Honors, but had recently addressed communications to the Governor, tending to impute misconduct to the undersigned in the duties of the department; and on the other hand, if any strictures had been submitted to the Governor with these papers, it might have been attributed to a desire upon the part of the undersigned, in attempting to bring the influence of Government against the Acting Comptroller, to free himself from the continuance of that scrutiny, which, whether secret or open, he feels no cause to fear.

The papers thus submitted to the Governor, have just been returned to the undersigned, with a letter from His Excellency, of which a copy is herewith transmitted, together with a letter addressed to Mr. Young, which was purposely left open for the perusal of the undersigned, and which he was directed by the Governor to put afterwards into Mr. Young's possession. The undersigned, from motives to which he trusts a just construction will be given, declined perusing this letter, and gave it to that officer unopened. The undersigned, however, thinks it proper that your Honors should be made acquainted with all the circumstances attending the communication thus given by him to the Provincial Government, and has therefore entered into these several details.

The undersigned has the honor to remain, with the utmost respect,

Your Honors' most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

(Signed) M. H. PERCEVAL, Coll.

To the Honble. Commissioners
H. M. Customs, London.

(Copy.)

CUSTOM-HOUSE,
LONDON, 29th September, 1821.

(No. 23)

Gentlemen,

Having read the Collector's Report of the 11th of May, in return to our order, upon a letter from the Acting Comptroller, relative to the general certificates granted at your Port, in pursuance of the Lords of the Treasury, of the 27th June, 1817, in respect to the due landing of goods there.—

We acquaint you, that when such certificates are required by the parties, the same must express the particulars required by our order of the 31st January last, No. 4, upon this subject.

(Signed,) J. BULLER, J. WILLIAMS,
T. S. RICHMOND, G. WILSON.

Collector and Comptroller,
Quebec.

Appendix
(Z.)
4th March