

HALIFAX, N.S., 30th October, 1879.

The Hon. JAMES McDONALD, Ottawa.

In re Drawback on Tin-plates.

SIR,—I note the return of the Minister of Customs to Ottawa. May I beg of you to use your good influence with him to have the above matter put right. There are about \$1,500 to \$2,000 due to me, but, for the reasons already set forth, I am unable even to get my application considered.

I am, Sir, Yours respectfully,
(Signed) ISAAC H. MATHERS.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 27th November, 1879.

Hon. W. Ross, Collector, &c., Halifax.

SIR,—Enclosed I return several claims of Mr. I. H. Mathers for drawback on tin, all of which are incomplete.

In the affidavit he merely sets himself up as agent of the proprietors, without giving the names or residences of his principals. The drawback is not payable to him, but to the proprietors of the canning establishments.

It certainly cannot be expected that claims are to be made and paid without the Department knowing who or what the claimants are.

It is noticed that in the claim on 1,573 cases shipped per "Opal Gem," 173 boxes tin are said to have been used. You will readily see that 1,573 cases do not represent that quantity of tin.

Also, in claim on shipment per "Como," one of the bills of lading, that for 376 cases, is simply a copy, and cannot be accepted.

Kindly see that all bills of lading are firmly attached with gum to the claims; a simple pin is not the thing at all, where the document attached forms part of an affidavit.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,
(Signed) W. G. PARMELEE, *Accountant.*

Memorandum for the Hon. the Minister of Customs.

I beg respectfully to call your attention to accompanying claims of I. H. Mathers, Esq., of Halifax, for drawback on tin used in the manufacture of packages for canned fish exported. They have recently come to hand, and upon examination are found to be unsatisfactory.

Among Mr. Mathers' affidavits, made on the 21st, 24th and 29th January ult. to these claims, you will find those in which he declares that there was used in the manufacture of the exported packages tin which paid duty at the Port of Halifax, as follows:—

133 $\frac{1}{4}$	boxes on the 12th February, 1879, as per entry 14,517.
32 $\frac{1}{2}$	do do do
34 $\frac{1}{2}$	do do do
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200 $\frac{1}{2}$	
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30 $\frac{3}{4}$	boxes on the 7th January, 1879, as per entry 12,945.
57 $\frac{1}{2}$	do do do
11 $\frac{1}{4}$	do do do
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100	