

belonging to us in his possession. To this letter he replied that he did not see that any action was possible to be taken in the matter. I now address myself to you. The letters that went to Ottawa were considered an addition to the Archives. The books I enquired about when I wrote to Mr. Brimmer, were an Orderly Book of the 1st Lincoln Militia, a Letter Book in which were copies of letters sent and received by Col. William Claus, and a manuscript of eight or ten pages called "The Origin of Many of the Ceremonies Among the Indians." I am afraid from this that he has kept the best of the collection for himself before sending the rest to Ottawa.

C. A. M. CLAUS.

Niagara, Nov. 17, 1900.

Ottawa, Nov. 23rd, 1900.

MRS. C. A. CLAUS,
Niagara, Ont.

DEAR MADAM,—I have yours of November 17th in regard to your papers. I find on enquiry that these papers were bought by my predecessor, Mr. Pope, from a certain Mr. Kirby, through the intercession of Senator Plumb. No list of the papers was ever furnished. Mr. Cruickshank, at Fort Erie, has examined the papers in Mr. Kirby's possession and could give you information. As there was no list furnished at any time of the papers we were to receive, there is nothing to shew us whether Mr. Kirby supplied us with the papers we bought. The matter is an old one, and I could not myself re-open it with these facts in view. If Mr. Kirby has retained any papers which belonged to you, the only course I can see for you would be for you to take an action against him for that reason. We could, I suppose, supply you with a list of the papers which Mr. Kirby furnished, if you wish it for use in such a suit.

Yours truly,

SYDNEY FISHER.

THE HON. SIDNEY FISHER,
Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.

SIR,—Would you be kind enough to send me a list of the Claus papers in the Archives, and could you let me know how much Mr. Pope paid Mr. Kirby for these papers?

C. A. M. CLAUS.

Niagara, Jan'y 29th, 1901.