

economy makes me support you always. Get Foster and the others." The thing was of course done. It was done quickly and by his influence alone.

However it appears to me not improper or unjustifiable to say that my record warrants you in supposing that in both the salaries and contingencies of this office, the economy, which it is my duty to preach with reference to other departments, is not forgotten.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. McDOUGALL,
Auditor General.

TREASURY BOARD, OTTAWA, 3rd February, 1898.

SIR,—I am directed by the Treasury Board to inform you that the estimate submitted by you for your Civil Government has been under consideration, and it has been found that you have asked for increments to the salaries of 18 officials. This is more than has been asked for by any other department in the public service; and, as it is requisite that the estimate to be submitted to Parliament should be as low as is consistent with efficiency, I am directed by the Board to inform you that they regret that the increases of the 18 officials cannot be considered, but that two or three very deserving cases may be entertained.

I should be glad to hear from you at your very earliest convenience as to the names of the two or three officials that you desire should have their salaries increased, presuming that you will act on the suggestion mentioned above.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. M. COURTNEY,
Secretary.

The Auditor General,
Ottawa.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, CANADA.

OTTAWA, 4th February, 1898.

The Honourable
The Privy Council,

I have a letter from Mr. Courtney, Secretary of the Treasury Board, stating that only two or three statutory increases are to be given in the Audit Office. No doubt it is intended to convey that the Board knows that this is the determination of the Governor in Council.

On this understanding, while I cannot forbear expressing my extreme disappointment, I recommend that Messrs. D. J. Wagner, C. W. Steeves and E. S. Johnson receive the increases.

Attached hereto is an estimate for these three salaries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. McDOUGALL,
Auditor General.

MEMORANDUM.

I cannot take the responsibility of refraining from drawing the attention of Parliament to the danger to the efficiency of this office which would arise from the continuance of the policy above set forth.

In private business a man who has an interest in examining the accounts of another does not, if he is sane, allow the latter to determine the remuneration of the examiners, why then should not Parliament through the Public Accounts Committee, deal with the Audit Office salaries, instead of leaving the duty to the Government?

J. L. McDOUGALL.