

327 COMMISSIONERS STREET,

MONTREAL, 29th January, 1879.

WM. J. PATTERSON ESQ.

*Secretary Board of Trade.*

Sir,—I am sorry that there should be any need for asking attention again to the way the Elevating Company I am connected with, is hindered from carrying on business in this Harbour, but as a member of the Board I claim the right respectfully to lay before the Council and request it to consider the following statement of facts which refer to the Harbour Commissioners' Rules made to regulate the movements of Elevators, and which also show how these Rules are in part enforced with rigour and in part entirely set aside, which in effect is to favour one Elevating Company and to crush and damage the Company I represent.

The Harbour Commissioners do not publish these Rules so that vessel owners and the public may know them, in consequence of this and for other reasons which I shall state, it is necessary to explain as follows.

In December 1875 the Harbour Commissioners corresponded with the Board of Trade in reference to what Rules should be made "to regulate the employment of Elevators in the Harbour" and the Rules adopted were stated once at a public meeting of the Commissioners, and given in a letter addressed to the Harbour Master.

The following is a copy of that letter :—

HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS OF MONTREAL,

*Secretary's Office,*

MONTREAL, 4th May, 1876.

Extracts from the minutes of the Special Committee appointed in October last to consider and report on the working of floating elevators in the harbour.

"After consideration it was resolved to report to the Board that the Committee are of opinion that the prevailing system should not be disturbed. That when two out of the three of the parties interested in the grain to be elevated present to the Harbour Master a written order indicating the Elevator or Elevators they desire to have employed, then that officer is to act accordingly; but in no case are Elevators to be allowed to go alongside a vessel until these questions shall first have been settled."

The above report was adopted by the Board at a meeting held on the 12th April, 1876.

H. H. WHITNEY,

*Secretary.*