

may have appeared in the newspapers.

Tell it not in Gath! but is it possible that this weekly purveyor of platitudes—or purveyor of weakly platitudes, whichever you prefer—is himself an ex-Private Secretary?

Yours,

ANTI HUMBUG.

Ottawa, February 5, 1912.

Classification and Promotion.

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

In modelling the Act of 1908 so closely upon British precedent, the government of Canada undoubtedly took a good deal for granted. It assumed that the social fabric in England and in Canada is the same.

Is this assumption justified? Hardly.

The matter is illustrated in what is called the Third Division situation. Much of the hard feeling engendered by that situation is among those who, having fulfilled all demands of the government upon entrance found themselves confronted by new demands under the C. S. Regulations. But the root of the difficulty lies deeper and concerns future as well as present members of the service. It consists in the dual entrance system.

For a country like England with its sharply defined classes, each with their recognized educational and other standards, such a system may be admirably suited. But in Canada things are very different. It is significant that, inspiring as the United States has found the British precedent in most civil service matters, they have not followed it in this. The reason is plain. There are no stereotyped gradations, social or educational, on this continent.

The Canadian commissioners cannot look to the universities for their Second and First Division men and to the common schools for their third division men as they could in Eng-

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land. That is not the way in which the various walks in life have been recruited here in the past and it will not be the way in the future unless conditions change materially.

Yours,

DEMOCRAT.

“L'Union Fait La Force.”

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

Cette belle devise choisie par les fondateurs de la Société St.-Jean Baptiste devrait être celle de tous les employés civils de notre Dominion.

Une union plus intime entre nous serait de nature nonseulement à améliorer, mais aussi à faciliter l'accomplissement de nos devoirs respectifs et en ce faisant co-opérer avec nos chefs pour donner au public en général une satisfaction complète pour l'expédition des affaires.

Diverses méthodes peuvent atteindre ce but à la fois si louable et si désirable. D'abord, tous nos compa-