

## PRIVATE MEMORANDUM

*Regarding the Position of the undersigned in the Customs Service at Montreal.*

The undersigned entered the Service as a Tidewaiter in 1866; was appointed a clerk in the Collector's office in 1868, to assist in the correspondence and general office work; the appointment was confirmed in July, 1869, since which date the writer has, practically, discharged the functions of Collector's deputy, or assistant, by giving not only personal attention and thought to the most important correspondence, but aid in the most important administrative work of the Collector's office. In November, 1873, the undersigned had his salary increased to \$1,000 per annum, but has never made any progress since, in the way of emolument, although the testimony of facts will, he thinks, indicate that the nature of his work steadily increased in importance and usefulness. The following are some of the written opinions of his superiors on this matter:—

The Hon. Sir Leonard Tilley—to whom the undersigned owes his appointment—was good enough to write to him as follows, under date the 5th January, 1871: "I wish you every success in life, to which your talents and application "entitle you to look," &c., &c.

On the 3th April, 1873, the honorable gentleman, then Minister of Finance, very kindly wrote as follows:

"I will very gladly express to my successor (Hon. Dr. Tupper) the value I attach to your services, and the faithful manner in which you have discharged them entitling you to his most favorable consideration. \* \* \* \* \*  
"I will always be glad to hear of your advancement in the Service."

In June, 1873, Mr Collector Delisle recommended that the writer be authorized to take bonds and administer oaths for Customs purposes, so as to assist him in that respect also, and further, recommended his promotion to the rank of Secretary in the Customs, stating: "In the absence of the Collector from any cause, he is represented by his chief clerk, and Mr. O'Hara, a clerk, does really almost all the business of the Collector himself."

In September, 1875, an enquiry was held into the administration and affairs of the Montreal Custom House; the Commissioner called upon every officer to state what he conceived his duties to be, prior to ascertaining how he performed them. The writer's statement was as follows:

"My duties have been for a number of years past, and are, I conceive, to carry on the correspondence of this office under the direction of the Collector, and to assist him generally in the conduct of the business of the Port."