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July 10th, 1922.

Private

The Managing Editor,  
The Gazette,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

While this letter refers to something which appears in this morning's issue of the Gazette it is not for publication, but for your private information.

On page 7 of this morning's issue appears an account of the unveiling of the monument at St. Lambert yesterday. I presume this account was written by Mr. Passingham whom I saw present at the proceedings and who was taking notes. I may say that I spoke to him and therefore cannot understand why he should report, as he does, that I appeared in mufti, which was not the case, especially when he gives a good deal of prominence to the Guard being in uniform, to the band of the Grenadier Guards in full parade uniform, to the number of veterans who were in uniform, and to the large number of officers and other ratings from the North Atlantic Squadron now in port. They, of course, were in uniform.

In Mr. Passingham's account of what I said I do not recognize anything. He uses these words "if the Canadians could not hold the line he could do nothing to help". I never used these words, nor do they convey a correct meaning of what I said. Mr. Passingham's next sentence is "he then issued his order to the Canadian troops, pointing out their duty and those who fell would not be so much mourned as admired in facing immortality for their duty". That is just about as wretched a sentence as I have ever seen written