

Customs Port Wide Open.

One of the worst scandals of the whole action of the Government in this matter was the throwing wide open of the port of Customs at Morrisburg to permit Allison and his gang to bring in thousands and thousands of pounds of truck either for or which he was trying to sell to the Canadian Government. Evidence before the Public Accounts Committee in March 1916 proved conclusively that Allison brought in military clothes, uniforms and boots and shoes, and that he had a suite of rooms in Morrisburg for the purpose of changing the labels attached to these goods and then forward them on to Ottawa. He also brought in shovels, revolvers and pistols. No entry was made and no customs duties charged, the port was wide open for anything that Allison brought along.

The Hon. Mr. Reid, Minister of Customs Should Think Twice Before Speaking.

The Public Accounts Committee was investigating, and the Government saw that their deeds were to be exposed, when along came the Minister of Customs Hon. J. D. Reid who was responsible for the opening of the Port and told the Public Accounts Committee that the Port was not open wide, for the free entry of Allison's goods. And then the Minister of Customs undertook to smooth the whole matter over by stating that the only thing that it was intended to bring in at this Port was the Sifton Gun Battery.

Here are the words which the Hon. Mr. Reid, Minister of Customs used:

"Captain Sifton's father was making a large contribution to this Machine Gun Battery, and he went to the Commissioner of Customs and asked permission to bring them over at a point to be named afterwards."

"With reference to this case at Morrisburg all I want the Committee to know, and all I want the public to understand is, that the application was made by Captain Sifton to Commissioner McDougald for the goods he was bringing in at that time."

"Outside of that I never heard of any permission or application for any goods to be brought into Morrisburg except those connected with Mr. Sifton's Machine Gun Battery."

Sifton's Battery Came Into Canada at Cornwall.

The Minister of Customs stated this and expected the country to believe it, but a few days later on March 22nd, 1916,