

letter of dismissal. I had, however, ceased to act on new matter in my district, for as it came up it was referred to Mr. Perley. My old work, on the other hand, could only be closed up by myself, and I think Mr. Perley will do me the justice to say that when he took it up, he found it brought up to its latest possible stage—that I left him no annoyances to contend against, and no unnecessary work to do. In any case I endeavoured to do so. After the 31st December I ceased in any way to deal with the work, old or new. I was no longer Engineer of Harbours. My attention was then confined to the Annual Reports which I had written for several years, on which I was then engaged, and on their completion at the end of February, I left the office in which I had passed eight very happy years. I trust my old friends and comrades will believe that I shall always think kindly of those days. As I write this I feel how much I owe to the consideration always shewn me, and the great ability and kindness of the Deputy Minister, Mr. Trudeau, and to the courtesy and honorable bearing, which in common with every one in the office, I experienced from our excellent Secretary, Mr. Braun.

The first letter now published is my letter of dismissal, after my eight years' service. The correspondence which follows took place after I left the office, on the last day of February:

No. 783.

OTTAWA, DEC. 30TH, 1879.

SIR,—

I have the honor to inform you that owing to the recall of Mr. Perley from outside service, and his assignment to the duty of Engineer of the Department of Public Works, the services of an Engineer in charge will hereafter become unnecessary. I am therefore to state that after the completion of the Annual Report of the Department, which you are now engaged in preparing, your services will no longer be required.

I have the honor to be,

(Signed) S. CHAPLEAU,

Secretary.

WM. KINGSFORD, Esq.,
Engineer-in-Charge, Ottawa.

NO. 194 WILBROD STREET, OTTAWA.

Monday, 1st March, 1880.

SIR,—

I received from you on the 31st December last an official notification that after the completion of the Annual Report my services as Engineer-in-Charge "will no longer be required;" the reason assigned being that such services "will hereafter become unnecessary."

The Annual Report was finally completed on Monday, the 23rd instant, and I have received no communication from you countermanding the notice of the 30th December. Accordingly I beg leave to call your attention to the conditions under which my position was held.

I was appointed to the duties I have hitherto performed in May, 1873. Having been