

Heretofore, I suffered from those facts not being known to the head of the Department and the Government; but now that they have been admitted and made known officially and otherwise to the Department, I naturally expect that such services will not only be officially and suitably recognized but adequately remunerated, and that I shall not be allowed to continue as *Assistant Collector* at a *clerk's* salary.

There is no case of neglect and want of consideration at the Port, so great as mine. The circumstances show it and I feel it.

For several years prior to 1873, (as well as since) I practically performed the most important, mental and administrative work of this office, while the credit therefor was distributed in other quarters, so far as the Department was concerned, although it was neither unknown to nor unappreciated by the mercantile community and the public familiar with Custom House work. Ten years is a long time to render important administrative services with only a clerk's recognition and salary and without even the credit of the facts; and, I confess, it has now tested my patience to the utmost. If the Government to which I owe my original appointment, embracing Ministers who are best acquainted with my antecedents and familiar now with the actual circumstances of my case, to whom recommendations have gone in my behalf from friendly sources in which they are wont to have confidence—cannot do me simple justice, then I must begin to despair of being able to attain (however I might work for or merit it) advancement in the Public Service of the Dominion; and I must look for success in some other channel where the personal interest of those served may be able to prevail against narrowness, jealousy and sectionalism, which are found in the public service and met with even by Ministers of the Crown when they seek to carry out their views for the benefit of their departments. In any event, I am sensible of and grateful for what I believe to be an earnest wish on your part to accomplish what you believe to be fair and right in my case, and with the assurance of my respectful and sincere regard, I beg to remain, dear sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed), W. J. O'HARA.

Honorable MacKenzie Bowell, Minister of Customs, Ottawa.

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