

minster is increased from \$300 to \$1,300. It seems to me you have been robbing Peter to pay Paul. I hope the hon. minister will rob Paul to pay Peter back again. Possibly, the expenses of Nanaimo, which is now a separate port, were included in those of Victoria.

Mr. BOWELL. That is the explanation; Nanaimo being established as an independent port. It was formerly an outpost of Victoria.

Mr. BAKER. Then, what are the salaries, respectively, of the collector at Nanaimo and the deputy collector at Departure Bay.

Mr. BOWELL. I think we give \$300 or \$400 a year to the officer stationed on the coast from Nanaimo to Cowichan, merely as a preventive officer.

Mr. BAKER. There is a collector at Nanaimo and a deputy collector at Departure Bay, who was formerly the collector for both of those ports. I want to know what salary he is now getting, that his position has been somewhat reduced.

Mr. BOWELL. When Nanaimo was made an independent port, a collector was appointed, and Mr. Peck remained in the position he formerly held as a clerk. He is assistant to the collector at Nanaimo at the same salary he had before.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. The hon. gentleman did not state why he wanted \$2,400 for British Columbia.

Mr. BOWELL. We have had to put an additional officer at New Westminster, and there has also been an officer placed on the Columbia River, to watch the goods which come up that river into the Kootenay district.

Mr. BAKER. There is no great distinction between the salary of the collector and that of his assistant at Nanaimo. Either the collector should get more or the assistant should get a little less.

Mr. BOWELL. I found Mr. Peck there with the salary he is getting. But I quite agree with the hon. gentleman, and if Mr. Peck was out of the way, I would not appoint a clerk at so high a salary. I do not want to say anything disparaging to the gentleman, but I do not know that there would be any injury done if he were away.

Mr. BAKER. I quite agree with you.

Mr. BOWELL. In justice to the Auditor General, I desire to make an explanation regarding the charges against this item of \$18,000 for salaries and travelling expenses of inspectors of ports, and other officers on inspection. When this subject was under discussion before, some hon. gentlemen opposite tried to be facetious at my expense, and I stated that I was not aware why the travelling expenses had been put under the head charged to this item, rather than where they were formerly placed, in the contingencies of the Department. I stated that I thought that was a matter exclusively with the Auditor General. I have found since, however, that he did not place them there. They were placed there by the accountant of the Department, for the reason that all the travelling that took place and which is charged to this item had special reference to disputes in connection with importations, and which legitimately came under the head of the Board of Customs. The travelling expenses of the Minister, the accountant, and the commissioner were placed under that head, because the travelling that took place was for that special service. However, I gave instructions that as that had not been the mode of charging the contingencies in the past, it should not be followed in the future, at least, so far as the Minister and the commissioner were concerned. When the other officers travel on that business, this is the item to which their expenses should be charged. There is an increase of \$2,000 for miscellaneous. Last year it was found that \$13,000 did not cover the expenses under this item. Some

years the printing is greater than others. This year it may be \$1,000 less; next year it may be still lower, and another year it may be increased.

Mr. CASEY. Will the hon. gentleman answer the question which I gave notice I would ask when we came to Supply, in reference to the request that Ridgetown, in my county, should be made a port of entry?

Mr. BOWELL. I gave instructions the other day to have a recommendation made out to erect Ridgetown into an outpost, under Chatham, and I propose to remove Mr. Duck from the position he now holds to Ridgetown, to act as sub-collector. I do not think it necessary to make an additional appointment, but I will give Mr. Duck a little more salary.

Mr. CASEY. The arrangement is eminently fair and proper, under the circumstances.

Mr. VAIL. With regard to the outside detective service of the Customs Department, I would ask the hon. Minister whether he intends to keep Mr. MacLaren in the employ of the Department, knowing the very improper course he took last year in order to obtain information as to goods shipped from the United States to the Maritime Provinces? I am told he went to Boston, and there bribed the clerk of one of the largest establishments trading with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, induced him to go into the place of business at night with him and make out invoices on the invoice paper of the firm, to carry with him to the Maritime Provinces, and in other ways obtained information very improperly. I am quite sure the Minister of Customs would not countenance such conduct as this detective pursued. I am not making statements from hearsay, because the whole transaction was subsequently acknowledged and sworn to by the clerk. The young man was removed, became very penitent, and made a full statement of what took place. The following is his sworn statement:—

“STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS, SUFFOLK, U.S.

“I, Charles B. Gilliatt, of Boston, United States of America, in the employ of Delong & Seaman, merchants of Boston, aforesaid, of my own free will and without threat, fear or promise, make oath and say as follows:—

“I say, that while I was in my room at 8 Allston street, Boston, having leave from above firm to stay at home two days, I was called on by John S. MacLaren, a Dominion of Canada Customs detective, about 8th February, 1885, Friday, and about 2.30 p.m. I did not know the man, and never heard his name before. He introduced himself, after a little talk about the weather, etc., in this way: Said he was a Customs detective, and called on me to make a dollar and make one for me. He then told me what he wanted of me, which was to give him information of smuggling and to furnish him with invoices and a few bills of lading from Delong & Seaman, to compare at the Custom house in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. He also told me that I would get a large amount of money out of it, as well as himself, and that the amount of the fines was to be divided thus: the Canadian Government to receive one-third of the full amount fined each man, and 5 per cent. of the balance to go to a Mr. Wolfe, for collecting fines and forwarding all moneys to MacLaren and his partner, Jack Bonnes, and that the balance of the two-thirds was to be divided between MacLaren, his partner Bonnes and myself, equally. I told him it would not be right for me to do so, and that I would lose my position if I did. He replied that I need not fear; that I would not be known in the matter at all, and that he and the Canadian Government would protect me in all things; also, that he would drop a seizure if he had to make me known at all, and that he would not fine a man or firm if they were not able to pay. To all of this I replied that I would not give him any answer then, but would think it over and let him know the next day, Saturday, when he called about four o'clock, p.m., and made the same promises again, and explained more definitely what he wanted me to do, and then I agreed to give him the papers and information that he required.

“I also saw him Sunday afternoon at his room, No. 1 Hancock street, when he gave me \$5 for which I asked him; then I met him several evenings afterwards at No. 7½ Bowdoin square, and there he gave me \$20 more. He also told me what he wanted me to get for him, and he named places and ports that he said he must have information and invoices for, of the customers we had there. He also told me at his room, Sunday afternoon mentioned before, that he had made \$10,000 out of the seizures he had made; and this he told me confidentially, and seemed to be anxious that I would not say so to any person.

“I then commenced to make out the invoices about Monday night following, and continued to do so almost every evening, sometimes at