

ance, etc. We, in Montreal, have to thank the Eighth Parliament of Canada for recognizing our Port as the National Port of the Dominion, and at the same time, for voting money towards making it worthy of the name. The Port accessories provided for, along with the support of the Dominion as a whole, bid fair to place Montreal as a Port, in the front rank on the Continent. The cheapness of handling is the all-important point—both vessels and cargo seek the cheap Port. There are no charges upon vessels here now and we hope the charges upon cargo will disappear by the time that present plans of harbour improvement are completed. We will then thank Parliament for a "Free Port" and at once the importance of our city will magnify. The whole business of the Continent will be disturbed by the aid Montreal will soon afford towards lessening the cost of transport from the producer in America to the consumer in Europe.

I might point to the Postal system, compare that of to-day with the customs and regulations current at various periods since the introduction of the Postage Stamp. The Government of Canada brought to us, as to many other and far-distant parts of the world, the last and the most important change—two cent postage.

An early winter—a late spring—good or bad crops—I am still willing to leave to a higher will or authority.