

will follow up their predecessors' neglect of me by visiting upon me the consequence of their predecessors' extravagance

That would, in my case, be sacrificing justice to retrenchment with a vengeance, practically holding me responsible for what I had no control over and did not profit by, while permitting the same to continue and prevail, in other cases for which neither efficiency nor long vested rights, so to speak, could be put forth as a warrant.

In conclusion, let me say I owe my appointment to the present Minister of Finance—Sir Samuel L. Tilley, to whom, it may not be out of place for me to refer you for any further account of my career, since—say 1868, when I was appointed to my present duties, having previously been a Tidewaiter and Locker.

With every belief in an earnest desire on your part to deal with cases fairly—on their merits,—allow me to subscribe myself, my dear sir,

Your very devoted and faithful servant.

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

CUSTOM HOUSE, MONTREAL,
13th September, 1879.

MY DEAR SIR,

With a view to the strengthening of your hands in the accomplishment of whatever intentions you may have in regard to the improvement of my position in the service here, let me suggest to you the bringing of the subject before Council when Sir Leonard Tilley is present for he is more familiar, than probably any other member of the ministry, with my career in the Customs service and the nature of the position I occupy and the duties I perform and have performed for years.

When taking his leave of the Customs Department for that of Finance in April, 1873, he was good enough to write me as follows:—"I will very gladly express to my successor (Hon. Dr. Tupper) the value I attach to your services and the faithful manner in which you have discharged them entitling you to his most favorable consideration * * * I will always be glad to hear of your advancement in the Service."

Unfortunately the change of 1873, took place some months afterwards, and my position has never improved since in rank or pay, although it has steadily increased in labor and responsibility, and in the important nature of the assistance rendered constantly to the administrative officer of this establishment.