

twenty-three dollars. Mr. Goron had innocently given to the word *loan* its strict and real meaning, and being hard pressed, after a long delay, for the return of said loan to meet the wants of himself, his mother and sisters, whom he had to sustain, he begged for it, cried for it; but the *legitimate* consequence of those stirring appeals and unfortunate demand was Mr. Goron's dismissal from his situation.

It would be useless to go on here with farther items on this particular part of the subject, as the above will no doubt suffice to illustrate and demonstrate it, for all necessary purposes. We will leave out of these immediate paragraphs the other exploits of Mr. Villeneuve, also those of the minor members of the Ring, to begin a cursory review of the grander tactics and doings of Mr. Delisle as Collector of the Customs of Montreal.

Mr. Delisle being a warm and stern advocate of economy in public matters, could not very well have been expected to follow the footsteps of his predecessors. In consequence of that strong proclivity he began his first reform by exacting an increase to his salary of *six hundred dollars* and getting a *private* secretary, whose salary is now nine hundred and fifty dollars, and a *private* messenger receiving five hundred dollars. This was a bold and radical change, which the Government, no doubt, admired, as a sample of able strategy—and which the whole class of tax-payers, even the malcontents, should also consider in the same light.

By prevailing upon Government to purchase from the Royal Insurance Company the new premises, which offer inadequate proportions and conveniences for a Custom House and Examining Warehouse at the same time, and in the basement of which the waters of the St. Lawrence have an easy access every fall and spring, unfitting that part to be constantly used for storing goods brought in for examination or otherwise, Mr. Delisle considered the investment from a financial point of view rather than by those vulgar principles which reformists are so apt to bring forward on every possible occasion. Mr. Delisle being a large and successful real estate owner, possessed the necessary qualifications to give to Government the very best opinion in this transaction, and as to the carrying out of a close bargain, in which so many men are apt, unless very closely watched, and even then, to realize handsome or extraordinary bonuses or *loans*, he, Mr. Delisle, acquitted himself in this affair to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, notwithstanding what Dame Rumor may have then said to the contrary. Vindication never comes too late, and clean hands need not be afraid to show themselves; these must be the sentiments of Mr. Delisle, and he would have no objection, we dare say, to come forward of his own accord to vindicate himself in this affair were any Government imbecile enough to propose an enquiry.

The affairs of the Custom House being altogether under the control of the Collector, no one has any business to bring the latter to account, or insinuate anything against him which is bad so long as the Department, controlled by Government, does not see fit to interfere or find fault with the proceedings of that functionary. The question otherwise viewed, would be tantamount to the upsetting of all the rights and privileges of authority, however much democratic liberty and its pernicious principles might gain by attempting the contrary. Collectors, like other mortals, have their troubles; and the best among them, after doing all they can for their subordinates, are sometimes exposed to the ordeal of receiving anonymous letters from some of those ungrateful beings, who pitilessly accuse