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MONTREAL ,

August 19th, 1920.

Personal.

C. S. Pickford Esq.,
C/o. Messrs. Pickford & Black, Ltd.,
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of July 6th last, the receipt of which was acknowledged on July 18th by Major H. W. O'Connor, has been forwarded to me for further reply to you,

Upon my return to Ottawa from my visit to the Maritime Provinces last May and June, I took up the matter of the re-instatement of your son to commissioned rank. In company with the Adjutant-General and other officers at Militia headquarters the matter was given every possible consideration. I wanted to come to a conclusion which would meet your wishes, and it causes me sincere regret that I am unable to inform you that the Military authorities have decided to re-instate your son to commissioned rank.

I hope you will believe me when I say this to you, because I do, indeed, sympathize with you most sincerely in the losses you have suffered during the war. I feel that it is necessary to give you some of the reasons which forced us to this conclusion.

In the memorandum which you handed to me at Halifax you stated as follows:-

"The record of ex-Lieutenant Pickford was an exemplary one, and there was no complaint as to his character and ability."