

consideration of gain, as I already told you, but was in consequence of your unjust and arbitrary conduct towards me, which you probably thought you might exercise with impunity or without ulterior consequences. You showed yourself implacable; while my conduct was the reverse. When you appeared to have become aware of the wrongs you had done me, and to have desired to atone for them, although at a late hour, it seemed to me right to attach to your words the sense which they naturally bore. This I did, although I felt keenly an impression that your apparent sincerity was only a blind, concealing the true object you had in view. A close examination confirmed this impression, but, as formerly, I felt myself capable not only of resisting your hidden attacks, however traitorous they might be, but to force you again to beg for my compassion, or to make a public spectacle of your vileness should you not take that proper step.

I do not like the office of reforming people by punishing them, but if after this notice it suits you to submit to punishment rather than fulfil your obligations, please let me know at once.

I am, Sir, Yours, etc.,

HENRY LACROIX.

A. M. DELISLE, Esq.,
Collector of Customs, Montreal.

It will be seen from the foregoing letter that the affairs at the Custom House of Montreal are managed in a queer manner. The Collector, Mr. A. M. Delisle, through his ill-treatment of the author, a commissioned officer of twenty years' standing in the service, against whom he brought no complaint, forces him to offer his (conditional) resignation. The condition referred to was—eight hundred dollars as a gratuity. The condition was laid aside, but the resignation accepted, as if not conditional. Being sued by the author some time after for having voted at the last general elections, the said Collector, after a while, desires to make a compromise, and through the three delegates mentioned in the letter above, endeavors to bring the matter to a satisfactory point for himself. During this trial, which was instituted in earnest, and also in order to show collusion in the two former cases which Mr. Delisle had previously *pro forma*, got up against himself through the instrumentality of Messrs. J. C. Baker and Z. Séry, the latter testified under oath to the following effect:—

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, }
District of Montreal. }

SUPERIOR COURT
FOR LOWER CANADA.

No. 2403.

HENRY LACROIX, *Plaintiff*,

vs.

A. M. DELISLE, *and al. Defendant*.

1st. *Question*.—Is not your name Zéphirin Séry, and are you not one of the defendants in this case?

Answer.—Yes.

2d. *Question*.—Is not the case pending before this Court under the No. 1195, in which you appear as plaintiff against the said Alexandre Maurice Delisle collusively instituted between you and the said Delisle to prevent the said Delisle from the payment of the sum which you claim in the said case, No. 1195,