

CUSTOM HOUSE, HALIFAX, 21th June, 1879.

W. G. PARMELEE, Esq.,
Acct. Customs Dept., Ottawa.

SIR,—I enclose you letter of I. H. Mathers, Esq., explaining why he cannot in some cases give bill of lading as is required in O. C., 11th instant, *re tin drawbacks*. Banks here make advances and require bill of lading, if a certified copy would do. Mr. Hill, my chief clerk, being a Notary Public, could certify to copy. The time, ten days, is too short. Say shipment would be made at Richibucto, N.B., it might take ten days before particulars would be received here. I have circulated the O.C.'s as you requested, I do not know if you intend to prepare such form or forms as are suggested at the foot of the O. C.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) W. ROSS, *Collector*.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, 23rd June, 1879.

The Collector H. M. Customs, Halifax, N.S.

SIR,—With reference to Order in Council, dated 11th instant, as to drawback on tin plates, I beg to draw you attention to the fact that it will be impossible to comply with clause No. 3, which requires a signed bill of lading to accompany each application. When advances are obtained from bankers on such security it is imperative that every bill of lading affirmed to be delivered up. I would suggest that a certified copy be accepted instead, and also that some officer in the Department here be authorized to certify such copies.

It is also desirable that the period allowed in which to claim drawback be extended say to twenty days.

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) ISAAC H. MATHERS.

HALIFAX, N.S., 3rd July, 1879.

J. JOHNSON, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

SIR,—I telegraphed you to-day, as per enclosed copy, and I await the favor of your reply. I have to clear the "Sorata" outward for London to-morrow, with a cargo of canned goods, and I wish to know if you have given favorable consideration to the suggestion contained in my letter as to accepting certified copies of bills of lading, instead of originals, which latter I again say it is quite impossible in every case to deliver up to the Customs.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
(Signed) ISAAC H. MATHERS.

Copy of Telegram.

J. JOHNSON, Commissioner of Customs.

Am about clearing vessel for London with cargo canned goods. Please telegraph reply to my letter of twenty-third ultimo, forwarded you through Collector, as to applying for drawbacks.

(Signed) ISAAC H. MATHERS.