

suggestion which I had made that a member of your Church should receive honours and that you were best entitled from many considerations, had been favourably considered and would in all probability be acted upon. I therefore 'phoned you, as I thought from the terms employed it was beyond doubt, or I should not have ventured upon a communication.

Since my return from Ottawa, I have looked for the letter in every private receptacle, but have failed to find it. I put it away in some private place so that it might not fall into the hands of any one, even of those who see some of my private letters. I am sorry to say I do not find it in any of them.

When in Ottawa, I casually and by way of query mentioned the subject to another Minister. His answer, while not direct, led me to infer that the matter was not at all settled—that other names were also being considered and had support, and that in so far as I could gather there was no certainty.

I thereupon saw my correspondent, and he gave me about the same information—that the matter was still under consideration, or that there was a difference of opinion. Neither of them was at liberty to speak openly, but this is what I gathered.

That I should have misread or misunderstood the letter appears to me wholly improbable, as I read it a second time to satisfy my mind that it was sufficiently favourable to warrant me in mentioning the matter to you.

I cannot say how sorry I am now that I did this, for if it should turn out that I was mistaken or that the question is open to reconsideration, and that the honours should either be withheld or go elsewhere, I may have placed you and Mrs. MacMahon in a false position.

I could not, of course, ascertain anything definitely, and as my letter was a confidential one, I could not use it. I therefore do not know what will happen. It has occurred to me in thinking over the matter since my return, that perhaps some very strong support has since been given to another name—a rich man who stands well with their Graces and indeed with the whole Clergy, and that the whole subject has been reopened.

I have not spoken of it to others, and only hope I may not in my eagerness to communicate what I thought good news, have led you into making any communications yourself.

It may turn out all right—but I was not able to have my information confirmed.