

THE UN-PACIFIC SCANDAL

AT THE
CUSTOM HOUSE OF MONTREAL.

Those readers who may imagine that this work was got up in a vindictive spirit or as a retaliation for personal wrongs, need only be told that the author considers he has to fight other battles than his own : that the great majority of the employes at the Custom House of Montreal, who have had to suffer in many ways from its present administration, without any near prospect of relief, require also that the Public, as a supreme authority, should be called to consider the following matters of public import, and thereby compel the Government to institute an enquiry. This introductory paragraph and the following letter, will give readers some idea of the nature of this work, and induce them to give to the whole a careful and unbiased consideration.

MONTREAL, 20th Sept., 1873.

SIR,—You will please understand that I can no longer temporize, and that you must either openly state your intentions with regard to me, or carry into effect your reiterated promises, given under your *word of honor*, that you would have me reinstated in my former position in the Custom House at Montreal if I put a stop to the law suit which I had instituted against you, which promises you afterwards for political emergencies altered thus : that in nowise would you put any obstacle in the way of my reinstatement, etc, etc. Was your proposition made through the Hon. J. L. Beaudry, Messrs. C. O. Perrault and Joseph Turgeon, your delegates, sincere ? . . . Was not the frank and loyal manner in which I acted on that occasion such as to prove to you that I did not wish to make an improper use of the circumstances which had put you in my power, notwithstanding the remembrance of the treatment to which I had to submit when you were my superior. That treatment might naturally have led me to refuse your proposition, or induced me to exact a larger amount than the two thousand dollars which you paid. By my refusing to comply with your wishes you would, in all likelihood, have had to expend eight thousand dollars, without counting law expenses. Your four votes so imprudently given at the last general elections rendered you liable to that penalty.

The motive which had urged me to institute that action did not rest upon any