

Sincerely my wife and myself, with your numerous personal friends, welcome this very happy birthday. The honor of succeeding to the post Sr. Wilfrid is particularly flattering and is a magnificent tribute to your personality.

I have been trying to persuade Cardinal Mercier to visit Canada and think I have succeeded. Unfortunate circumstances only could, in my opinion, prevent him from paying this visit. I trust that your fellow-country-

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will give this illustrious patriot a reception at least as enthusiastic as that which the Americans are preparing for him. I have spoken of your good opinion in the exactest terms which my love of the country invariably inspires me and I am glad to say that His Eminence has been listening to me with unmistakable interest and thankfulness. I have suggested a visit to Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal & Quebec. I am in communication with Sr. Robert on the subject.