

discussed orally than in a written communication. Nevertheless, I willingly respond to your request and offer you—for whatever they may be worth—my views of the present political situation in Nova Scotia and the Dominion.

I am well aware that there has been amongst the Nova Scotia Liberals a large measure of hostility to the Union Government at Ottawa, and that the action of Liberals who have given that Government any degree of support has been regarded with disapproval by many of our old friends. So far as I am personally concerned, I am conscious of the fact that criticism has been tempered with much kindness. In my own constituency, after heart to heart talks on all aspects of the subject, I have had the happiness of receiving, along with much friendly consideration from opponents of former days, the hearty and unanimous support of those with whom I had the pleasure of working as a Liberal during the fifteen years of my former term of service as a representative in Parliament. But while I thus have no personal reason to complain, I cannot be indifferent to the fact that the Liberal Party has been much divided.

While I regret that there has been so much hostility to the Union Government, I cannot say that I have been surprised that such a feeling existed. There need be no difficulty in understanding the cause of it. There is nothing to be gained by ignoring palpable facts. As I ventured to say in my remarks published at the time of the formation of the administration, Union Government came too late to effect the chief purpose for which it had been desirable. A movement in the early months of the war to unite all political parties in the forming of an administration—as occurred in Great Britain—would have been eminently proper. I believe