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Private

Ottawa, 27th January, 1919.

My dear King,

I have yours of 23rd inst, with its enclosures. I send you back, herewith, the article of 'Le Soleil' and also the letter of our friend McColl.

With the latter, I have some acquaintance, but I was still better acquainted with his father, who was one of the stalwarts of Pictou County, when I was a young member, nearly fifty years ago.

These testimonials ought to satisfy you that your better course is to stay in Canada, and to deliver as many speeches as you can, without waiting for an official candidature anywhere. As evidence of this, your speech at the Montreal Reform Club has had so great an effect, that friends who thought you could not be a candidate in Maisonneuve are now changing their mind. One, who has, I think, a paramount influence in the riding, has told me that he is now a convert, and he is going to work at once to ascertain how far the movement has already extended. The article of 'Le Soleil' is also very significant.

As soon as you have finished your present engagement on the other side, please come back. Perhaps the movement will have sufficiently advanced then to announce it officially. Of this, I would not yet speak too positively, but it is sufficient to remember that at this period, of all periods, things are moving fast.

Believe me ever

Yours very sincerely,

W. L. Mackenzie King

The Honourable
W. L. Mackenzie King,
The Blakstone,
Chicago. Ills.