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sidered, the best for the British Dominions. I remember how earnestly we debated the pros and cons of that policy at the time; but I remember with even greater vividness the very frank manner in which you told me that you yourself had changed your point of view with respect to the whole policy of centralization, which is the very crux of the issue.

You will have seen, in my selection as Leader by the Liberal Convention, wherein I was right in standing by Laurier when I believed he was right in the position he was maintaining<sup>ing</sup>, under the circumstances as only those of us who knew the inside of everything could have understood them. I have said to many of my friends that I won the leadership of the Liberal Party, not at the National Convention in August, but at the time I went down to defeat in North York in the elections of 1917, and left my mother, who was dying at the time, to fight for principles which I believed just as sacred and just as necessary for the preservation of liberty in the state, as those for which you and others were fighting at the time on the battlefields of Europe.

The strength of the agrarian movements, their almost revolutionary aspect so far as matters political are concerned, is the truest evidence of the feeling of the people in the country against the governments that co-operated with Sir Robert Borden in trying to enforce policies against the popular will, and by methods which left no opportunity of expression of it. To think of Tory Toronto returning, in an Ontario election, four Liberal members and one Conservative, and the whole Province sweeping the Hearst Conservative Government out of office, leaving scarcely a remnant of its previous following shows how indignant the people have become. Do not be surprised if you find the Western Provinces all returning Farmer Governments, and wiping out the old political parties. Such are the natural fruits of unnatural alliances, which those of us who know the inside of the whole story will ever believe were for political rather than patriotic ends.

But I must not run on into political controversy. This letter is just to let you know of the ever constant nature of my affection for you, and interest in all that pertains to your life and well-being. Let me hear from you from time to time, as the chance comes to write, and never hesitate to give me the benefit of your counsel and advice on matters which you may deem of real concern.

I hope Lady Stanhope keeps well. Please give to her my best of wishes for the New Year. With the renewal of the same to yourself,

Believe me, my dear friend,

Ever very devotedly yours,