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March 23, 1921

Hon. Woodrow Wilson,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

Will you permit a friend to welcome you back to private life; and in doing it to say some of the things that she has long been wanting to say?

The first will sound a little like self-glorification, I fear; but I do want to say that it is a matter of genuine pride to me that in the hard eight years that you are just finishing, I have practically always been in agreement with your view of every public situation and with your method of handling it. I take deep personal satisfaction in this.

More and more as time goes on I realize how right you have been at every grave moment, how deeply based your conclusions have been, how invulnerable they are before attack. Smoke and noise may have obscured or distorted them at times for a mass of onlookers; but, with the clearing of the smoke and the silencing of the tumult, they stand, and will continue to stand.

The long months of your illness have been hard for those of us who believe in you and in your work as I do. It was hard to see the country grow more and more bewildered, to see it take up with lesser things, to see it forfeiting its place in the hearts and minds of the men of other nations - we did so need your leadership!

And yet, personally, through it all - I think you will understand this - there has never been an hour when I have not had complete serenity, both as to the inestimable value of your achievement and as to your future position in the world's history.

As I see it, you have been the first to open the eyes of the world as a whole to the practical nature of the greatest of all men's ideals, that is, world peace. You took it out of the realm of the visionary and built it into men's minds as a reasonable, practical thing. It is now a world concept, not the dream of a few scattered groups of men and women. It can never be dislodged from the place that you have given it. It has become a part of practical human thinking and planning. You did

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that. It was consummate statesmanship to realize that the moment had come when this could be done, that it had to be done at that moment or not at all.

The supreme effort that you made in Paris seemed to me at all times like a conscious, willing sacrifice of yourself. You have had to pay a terrible price, dear Mr. Wilson, but you must believe that what you have done is worth all it has cost you. The country is already beginning to acknowledge your achievement - it has known it in its heart all the time. I am looking forward to happy years for you when the honor and affection which you have so nobly earned will be manifest not only here at home but the world over.

With all good wishes for your happiness, believe me

Faithfully yours,