

335 LAURIER AVENUE EAST,  
OTTAWA.

Dec. 19, 1916,

Dear madame,

I thank you  
very sincerely for  
writing me so frankly  
& so cordially. It will  
be a pleasure, & even  
more than a pleasure,  
to answer your queries,  
& to give complete  
information on the  
subject which you

timber spr.

You tell me that  
your clergyman  
makes two charges  
against me:

1<sup>o</sup> That I was not  
doing my part in  
recruiting in Quebec;

2<sup>o</sup> That I did not  
advocate Canadians  
assisting the "Old  
Land", at the time  
of the South African

was."

You then ask me  
what makes your  
friend so believe & so  
assert. As to this,  
the reason is very  
obvious. Your friend  
repeats what he reads  
in Tory papers, such  
as the Town & News  
& others of the same  
kind. If he had taken  
the trouble to inves-  
-tigate the facts, he

would be more compelled  
about his statements.

I would not in any  
way impugn his  
honour, but I abso-  
-lutely challenge  
his assertions.

As to the present  
war, here are the facts:  
In the year 1914,  
I opened the campaign  
for recruiting in  
Quebec, in the month  
of September, at a  
meeting in Montreal

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In 1915, I addressed  
meetings, at St. Kier,  
my native parish,  
at Sherbrooke, at  
Montreal;

In 1916 at Montreal  
again, at Sherbrooke,  
at Montreal once  
more, a large open  
air meeting, a lecture  
in Quebec city.

That is all that I can  
remember at the

moment, but there  
are other meetings  
of less importance,  
which I do not  
now recall.

As to the South  
African war,

I was then prime  
minister; it is a matter  
of history that Can-  
-ada sent three  
~~contingents~~ contingents  
within the few first-

months of the war.  
So, I fail to see what  
is the point of the  
charge against me,  
when the facts thus  
speak so clearly.

I hope that you  
will communicate  
to your friend, my  
answer to his ~~stern~~  
strictures, & if you  
desire some further  
information, I will  
be very too well pleased  
to forward it.

Accept my very  
sincere thanks for  
your great kindness  
& assistance, with  
great respect,

Yours very sincerely  
Wigrid Laurie

Mrs. H. A. Sanderson

Waterford  
Ireland