



1-4-1918

## Letter From Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson to Woodrow Wilson, January 4, 1918

Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson

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January 4, 1918.

My dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter I have addressed to the Secretary of War and at the same time to renew to you the expression of my desire to be of any service to your Administration in connection with the war, which I made to you by telegraph just after our relations with Germany were severed and which I assume reached the White House,

I will say frankly that it has been suggested to me that a certain little incident of 1913 (coupled with the fact of my having been an active Republican) might create an indisposition to avail of such services as I might perhaps be qualified to render. I will also say that I have been quite unwilling to believe that any considerations of that nature could be factors in such a question at such a time. If indeed you recall at all the little incident to which I have alluded, you will, I am sure, also recall the facts that absolutely compelling circumstances, including a loyal sincerity to you, necessitated my resignation when Acting Secretary of State; that my obligation to Mr. Bryan necessitated a full explanation to you of those circumstances; and that it was no action of mine, but the publication of our correspondence by the White House staff, which made a necessary intra-Governmental communication appear regrettably like a disagreeable incident.

In now renewing the offer of my services I have not the slightest desire to importune you and I particularly do not wish to be understood to "seek office" in personal preference to my present congenial employment. I do, however, wish to raise the question whether with my sixteen years' past service, with its experience of work in reorganizing, administrative, diplomatic, legal and economic questions, I may not be qualified to be of some slight service to your Administration in some suitable capacity in connection with the war. And I wish above all to make quite sure, once for all, that it is understood that I am at your disposal in the sincere desire to be of any service for which I am qualified if I am given opportunity.

I have the honor to be,  
With great respect,

Your obedient servant,