

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

June 9th
1915

My dear Mr President;

It is

with sincere regret that I have reached the conclusion that I should return to you the commission of Secretary of State with which you honored me at the beginning of your administration.

Obedient to your sense of duty, and actuated

by the highest motives,
you have prepared for
transmission to the Ger-
man Government a note
in which I can not
join without violating
what I deem to be an
obligation to my coun-
try, and the issue in-
volved is of such mo-
ment that to remain a
member ~~a member~~ of
the cabinet would be
as unfair to you as it
would be to the cause
which is nearest my

heart, namely, the prevention of war.

I, therefore, respectfully tender my resignation, to take effect when the note is sent unless you prefer an earlier hour. Alike desirous of reaching a peaceful solution of the problems arising out of the use of submarines against merchantmen we find ourselves differing inconcilably as to the

methods which should be employed.

It falls to your lot to speak officially for the nation; I consider it to be none the less my duty to endeavor as a private citizen to promote the end which you have in view by means which you do not feel at liberty to use.

In severing the intimate and pleasant relations which have existed between us during the past

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two years permit me
to acknowledge the pro-
found satisfaction which
it has given me to be
associated with you in
the important work
which has come before
the State Department,
and to thank you for
the courtesies extend-
ed. With the heartiest
good wishes for your

personal welfare and
for the success of your
administration, I am
my dear Mr President,

Very truly yours

W. J. Bryan