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FROM MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

11 Old Square,
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23rd, October. 1929.

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My very dear Friend,

I thank you for another beautiful letter which I have been keeping until I found a moment to reply.

It is strange that you speak of "Prison and Prisoners" because I am also re-reading and studying the book afresh, as I have promised to lecture on the Life and Work of Lady Constance Lytton on November 25th. It is extraordinary that the spirit of the Militant Movement has been so little understood, and I wonder whether in years to come those who study history will realize the significance of it? It was to my mind the greatest spiritual and moral awakening that has taken place for centuries and has already resulted in a kind of resurrection of women all over the country. The bursting of prison bonds that has resulted in an immense accession of life to all people. At present those literary or other writers who comment upon the militant movement seem to see only its ugly or absurd side. For of course there were ugly and ridiculous and exaggerated incidents as there are

in all great movements. To dwell on them is to describe a great procession only in terms of the one or two beggars in rags and tatters who trailed by its side.

I am deeply sympathetic with you in your distress about the political developments in South Africa. I can only say that these periods of darkness nearly always herald a very strong reaction against them. During the war for example, the outlook was so dark and the prospects so dreadful, that we could hardly look beyond it. Yet as a great reaction to this awful experience, there is a will for International understanding and world co-operation such as has never been seen before.

I was taking part as a speaker in a great meeting in the Central Hall last night. I was the only woman and the only lay person on the platform. The Bishop of Chichester was in the Chair and "Canons to the right of me and Canons to the left of me". The meeting inaugurated ^{to} a call/the Churches to repudiate War. As I told them last ~~night~~ night they are fifteen years too late to head the ^{the} procession towards/post-war world of Peace and Brotherhood. Nevertheless even coming in now, they have a very great power to influence the great mass of public opinion. I believe with you, that just ~~has~~ there has come a resurrection for women and a resurrection to the principle of Brotherhood, so there will come, ~~one~~ day, a resurrection for the native

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peoples. They must be brought up to the full force of humanity before the reign of Peace can be established.

My dear Friend, there will, I am sure, come a day when those who sowed the seed, and those who bring in the sheaves, will rejoice together.

With much love, yours

Annularis Patrick Lawrence