



Telephone N° 68.

AL/816  
THE UNIVERSITY,  
EDMUND STREET,  
BIRMINGHAM.

25 June 1900.

Dear Lady Frances

I have all my life held that tax payers who satisfy all the recognised social conditions for legislative duties and responsibilities shall not be debarred from exercising them, if they choose, on the ground of sex, — which in this connexion is a quite irrelevant consideration. Without being competent to express an opinion on the legal aspect of the "Conciliation Bill" it is clear that in so far as it aims at removing an

antiquated and impertinent disability, —  
 whereby women are classified with paupers,  
 criminals, and lunatics as persons unfit to  
 take part in representative government,  
 however otherwise qualified, however high  
 their ability, and however valuable their  
 services to the community may be, —  
 in so far as it tends to put an end to this  
 artificial restriction the Bill is exactly  
 what is wanted. And I feel sure  
 that the Country in general is now quite  
 ripe for the immediate passage of  
 whatever Parliamentary Document will  
 best secure this long delayed measure  
 of simple justice.

Believe me Faithfully yours  
 Oliver Lodge