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10, Holland Park,  
London, W.

6th October 1921

My very dear Mrs. Harvey,

Thank you very much for your letter.

My Mother loved you dearly, so any word you say about her is very welcome to me and very precious.

I have been long in answering, but your letter found me at Geneva, listening with all my ears and such mind as I had to the debates. On the whole I came back greatly encouraged. I am sure that the League is alive, but I think the League of Nations Union, will have to exert itself to lead our feet into the way of peace. My husband was there as he is so deeply interested in disarmament and mandates.

Thank you for what you say about me.

I do not recognise that I have made any sacrifices. Of course I should have loved life in the country, with a garden and ~~some~~ drawings of flowers, and all that sort of thing, but the other side of life has its rich interests. I often think that most of the troubles come because one wants to do three things instead of one - and they are all attractive! However, I was well trained to think that there was no time for leisure. I come from a busy, responsible family, and I married a busy responsible man; so that ~~our~~ public effort and private affection

Mrs. Harvey

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got plaited in together, and one could not tell which was private and which was public duty.

I don't know what will be best about our own Association now. I would greatly wish to do what is best for the organisation, but I am not yet clear in my own mind as to what is best. I think there would be a great advantage after eighteen years to get someone fresh - fresher than I am, younger and more vigorous, taking more pleasure in this world. I sometimes feel very tired, and that cannot be good for the work. Anyhow, perhaps I shall see more clearly when I have talked with my colleagues at Newcastle.

Yours affectionately and gratefully,

*Cicilia Roberts*