

AL/25N

32 ADDISON ROAD,

KENSINGTON, W.

May 14./08

My dear Mrs Fawcett.

I felt a great pang as I read  
in today's Times of ~~Donisa~~  
Stevenson's death. I had not  
heard of any increased illness.  
I don't grudge it to her, because  
her life had become a mere  
burden. The week before we had  
read of her brother's death, a  
great friend of Ruskin's, & she  
has now gone, the last of a  
very remarkable generation.  
I was engaged to speak at  
Winbledon today, & Miss Wat-  
son told me a lady of 86, offer-  
ed to have me for lunch. I ac-  
cepted rather gloomily & some

times these pre-luncheons,  
much prolong the agony. On  
the way down I heard she was  
Z's niece, & when I saw her,  
I had no doubt of the truth  
of the statement. I found a  
perfectly delightful hostess,  
& most pleasant company  
in a delightful house. "Times  
of refreshing"; truly curious  
Mrs Anderson who came to  
the station in her motor to meet  
us, was Miss Davis's niece  
& I'd tell me many things.

I was sorry to see in the Scots-  
man tonight that Z had had  
a bad meeting at Cardiff. I

did not see it in the Times.  
I was in the gallery when  
Winston took his seat & his  
mother was there, terribly long  
& grumbling over the women!  
Yours faithfully  
Francis Balfour