

AL/3155 §

Dec. 15. 07.

15, HAMMERSMITH TERRACE,

Dear Mr. McHugham,

It is truly a long
time since I wrote to you, & the
reason is the mass of little things
that have to be done for the
Union, which keep me per-
petually at work or pre-
occupied with trying to re-
member them.

We
have just had two meetings,
in public halls, & one three
weeks ago, & I undertake them
all, except for what I organize
the others to help in. It
might be put on a better
footing, & I shall leave
something perhaps from
Kensington next week, when
several local secretaries
meet.

But I am
working hard with the Nat.
W. S. & P. U., never having

15 HAMMERSMITH TERRACE

wavered in my ^w conviction about the Parkhurst (except for our horrible day in September). I do not find it easy to sympathise with the seceders or with anybody ^{who} does not understand & respect the Parkhurst. And some of them have said very bad things both by letter & by word of mouth, showing a state of mind that is not what I can like. However, there are good souls among them, & good workers, & they certainly have some clever speakers & writers. There is no scope for personal ambition in their association, & that attracts many. As the Women's Freedom League it will I am sure do some work & help on the cause, & I am very glad they have at last dropped the pretension to be the original

W. S. & P. H., & we a newly formed body. I enclose you a list of nearest fixtures; all very important as you see. How I wish you were coming up to be present at some of these. We are at a stirring stage. We had a mob of medical students & others of a lower class, too I should think, who got together in the gallery & kept up a pandemonium of din the whole time of the meeting. The suffragists ~~that~~ are now the butt of the rowdy, & fair game as they think. Miss Parkhurst was magnificent; her voice pierced the uproar, & her eloquence grew with the difficulty. I have no doubt the next night - at Clapham was the same - the night before, also, at S. Kensington, the same scene

was enacted. The afternoon
of the 10th, we had a meeting
of P. O. Savings Bank clerks -
half an hour before. The P. M.
General put in force a joint
them some rule, meant to
apply to men & votes only,
forbidding them to take active
part in political meetings!
Was ever anybody stupider
than this government? I am
glad to say I went to a meeting
where Mr. Lydell Brewster ap-
-peared & lifted up my voice
to some effect in the way of
confusion, & sh^d do it with
added pleasure now.
course we held the meeting &
Miss Parkhurst turned the
incident to very good use, &
there was a strong feeling in
the ~~room~~ hall.

I see, Chittenden has had a
meeting lately. I suppose that
dialogue "The Conversion of Mrs.
Edwely" is a suffrage dialogue.

15, HAMMERSMITH TERRACE,

I wonder if it^{W.} is good, & if it could be done in other places. Mr. Wardy Cambridge is wanting something for meeting of working class women.

The Bristol Memorial is very nice, very clear & concise, & to the point, & if we were to get the Suffrag^{ts} by argument is just the sort of thing that should prevail. But because we are not it seems to me pathetically useless. The premier would never praise anything likely to have any effect? I have heard from Mrs. Drummond that the Chairman at his Bristol meeting was drunk. She noticed that C. B. looked ill, & told the women not to

15 HAMMERSMITH TERRACE

make any demonstration, but having a lively tongue of her own, when some one was speaking of taxing this that & the other she interpolated "women". I was promptly turned out herself. To match that drunken chavir-man, I have a bit of experience here. The other afternoon Mr. Haldane was opening a rifle range at a Liberal Club, & I went with others to form a group to see him as he arrived. "No ladies admitted". We stood outside on the wet pavement, giving leaflets & talking to a little crowd; a woman got into talk with Mr. Baldock & said she knew of two jobs who had been

ruined through that Club, & happening to mention the Club to a lady here. Mrs. East of this week who has lately come into the movement, she said she had long known of it as a disreputable place, a drinking saloon under the name of a club. And that is all in the day's work' of a politician, to go round patting these places on the back. I getting reported next day for his happy speeches & dutiful condescension, a real genial popular War Minister. Well, I must say goodbye, & hope things are going well with you. You do not say any thing about your own health or Mr. Mc

St. Ignace's. How much
I hope that Mr. Elmy will
not have a bad winter but
will come through it safely
& find the wish of his heart
near accomplishment.

With love

Sincerely Yours

Frances E. Rowe

P.S. The pink bill shows
where Mrs. Moulton used
stands. She will go to
anybody who will have
her.

Thanks for papers & things you
send me. I like to see you
in evidence speaking & writing.
I cannot speak; it is no good.