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LONDON, W.C.1

My esteemed friend

Being favoured at my request by my friend Ironside with the names of the 7 ladies who waited on him to be the exercise of his vote I take early opportunity of writing to beg those patriotic women as members of a national charter association to aid their brethren in the review of the charter the first article of which is an error calling that universal which is only male & it will now dishonour them to go on repeating their demand for only men when it is so widely spread & acknowledged that every adult member of the human family bears the same burdens has the same right to a vote for the man who will bear the law & taxes which sisters as well as brothers are alike compelled to endure pay I do not know the chartists had now any organization for their rights till they joyful some of ladies being united with them I entreat your dear friends to pursue the question & diligently in associating to demand our rights we have been accused of not banding together, women & many philanthropic or well thought of men think it incorrect we have shoals of charitable societies so called for objects which would not require their aid if political action were pursued for itself to gain the rights which an exercise would soon expel the rapacious hordes who now in our places of law making plunder us

of those earnings which would enable all to live decently without recourse to these charity societies; endeavour dear friend to rouse the people to this & beg the chartists really to demand their political rights & not content themselves with endeavouring to alter men's theological views & to think about halls for music & dancing when the people are sinking fast into a melancholy military despotism instead of enacting the Charter it had seemed to me quite dead, defunct & revive it again dear friends on this new plan think not of land schemes to purchase that which is our birthright & only men can buy it after all it is excellent in itself to bring men to this forethought, but to place it instead of the charter is a degradation of humanity I grieve that all our public writers shun the cause of the suffrage & are too fond of amusing by romantic stories poetry music & rattling the mind with distressing fictions when reproached with not thinking of our rights they retort they do not like the woman doing the scavenger's dirty work of politics! it is the dirty work they drive us from the exercise of our rights

Do me the kindness dear friend very shortly to write my opinions of the enclosed & my sympathies to the assured friend  
Anne Knight

Chelmsford 20/57

SHEFFIELD  
1842



Mr Brooke  
National Charter Association  
Queen St  
Sheffield

