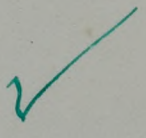


Ellis M, P

AZ/3127



Staverton House,  
Nr Cheltenham.

May 10th 89

My dear Sir

I take the liberty of  
addressing you because some time  
ago I had the pleasure of hearing  
that you were in fully sympathy  
with those friends of Women's

Suffrage who hold that the  
Coverture Clause in Mr Woodall's

Bill is an unnecessary insult  
and injury to married women

and payers. I am having a  
Jarvis thrown on my hands <sup>some few years ago</sup> in

such a bad state of civilization  
that I could not find a tenant  
for it. I of necessity became a  
married woman caterer and  
farmer and during eight  
years of that time I have sat  
as a Poor Law Guardian

Through all the past years of  
terrible agricultural depression  
I have <sup>had to bear</sup> ~~bore~~ my burden of  
landlord and tenant, and  
<sup>have</sup> paid my labourers for services  
which have never secured me

one farthing towards my rent  
By the Married Women's Property  
Act of 1882 I am legally constituted  
a trader. Yet myself and  
such other traders are singled out  
by Mr. Woodall and his supporters  
as women who should be by  
Statute Law placed beyond the  
right of parliamentary representation  
for the simple reason that we  
entered the <sup>hon</sup> ~~hon~~ <sup>estate of matrimony</sup>  
~~are married women~~

I do sincerely hope Sir that  
you will render women similarly  
situated as myself the <sup>valuable</sup> important

service of bringing <sup>into</sup> before Parliament  
some measure which shall seem  
to us the same ~~political rights as~~  
~~may be conferred on~~ ~~any other~~ ~~class of~~  
~~persons~~ ~~in the~~  
future right of representation  
as ~~we hope will be long~~  
~~as we are enduring~~ ~~to~~ as seems  
likely ~~to be~~ ~~passed~~  
to an ample & undoubted basis

By so doing you will at  
least confer an everlasting  
debt of gratitude on

Yours <sup>truly</sup> Servant  
Mrs A M. Stoughton

J. E. Ellis M.P.

J. E. Ellis M.P.  
Nov 10 1889