

Re, Disturbance

Kerwood

AL/137  
WATLING HOUSE,

BARNT GREEN.

Oct. 26.

1906

W. Birmingham

Dear Miss Sterling.

The pleasure that I feel on receiving your post-card, stating that the Tribune had espoused our cause, has been considerably damped & diminished by the leading article that appeared in yesterday's issue entitled "Supfrage Questions".

Such lukewarm advocacy as that will do us good at all, & I have written to the Editor expressing

WATLING HOUSE

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My disappointment. The Daily News is far more favourable - & would I should think - give greater support - if asked to do so. Mr. Barrow Cadbury lives here part of the year - & I should imagine that Mrs. Barrow Cadbury is in favour of women's suffrage.

It would be very easy to approach him - we certainly do want support from the Press.

You will notice that in all  
the comments on the behaviour  
of the Suffragettes, there is  
the assumption that com-  
paratively few women are  
in favour of the vote - It  
is taken for granted that  
there is no weight behind  
them. I should like  
respectfully to ask what  
our National Union is  
doing to press home this  
question upon the attention  
of the Government. There  
is no doubt Liberal Mem-  
bers must be attacked  
again & again - (of course  
I am not advocating  
the methods of the L. U.

But there is no doubt they  
have made an impression.  
The Government is distinctly  
pledged to women's suffrage.  
But it treats the question with  
hollering but ridicule - What  
do you think of the dis-  
graceful cartoon in this  
week's "Westminster Gazette."  
also of Mr. Asquith's state-  
ment that "for fourteen  
years he has not opened  
his lips" on the subject?  
If that is the way in  
which women's appeal  
for common justice is  
to be received, after all

AL/137 (cont)

WATLING HOUSE,

BARNT GREEN.

These years of patient  
work & effort, then I  
think it is high time  
to change our tactics,  
& to bring all the pres-  
-sure on the House of  
-Commons that we pos-  
-sibly can.

There are hundreds of  
professional women &  
others, who cannot per-  
-sonally express their  
-desire for the franchise-  
& they are relying on

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your Society to champion  
& forward the cause for  
them. I must say I  
think it is a mistake,  
at this critical stage,  
to stand aloof & withhold  
our sympathy & support  
from the advanced fighting  
wing of our army. We are  
all struggling for the same  
end - & as Mrs Fawcett  
says women must not  
turn their guns on one  
another. There has  
been the long & patient

Siege, & now it appears <sup>as</sup> tho' the moment had arrived to storm the walls. It needs some hot blood & courage in those who are to do this - & I think we should not be hard on ~~those~~ their particular methods. The leaders of the women-workers passionately desire the vote & they mean to have it! If the representatives of other classes of women were to show equal enthusiasm & determination, there can be little doubt that the question would be carried

through. I should like to  
urge on your committee  
or council the need for  
adopting more aggressive  
methods of work. Ordinary  
meetings are quite played  
out. I believe that attention  
should be concentrated  
on the Government.

Trusting that you will  
pardon me for venturing  
to throw out these sugges-  
tions. I am.

Yours truly  
(Mrs) Edith Kerwood