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NEWINGTON HOUSE,
EDINBURGH.

Nov. 22nd 1895.

My dearest Mrs Fawcett

It has been a real pain to me to have allowed your beautiful letter, congratulating me on having attained my 80th Birth Day to remain so long unacknowledged. But you would not ascribe this to ingratitude if you could know how much my strength, physical and mental, has been taxed during the summer & autumn months; whilst most of my friends have been renewing their vigour amongst the health giving spots of this beautiful world, a world which seems to grow more beautiful to me as I near its confines, and which has been made more beautiful by the priceless love of relatives & friends, beyond my share - love which has so clung to me

and gathered round me in this dear old home, perhaps for the last time, intended to cheer me on that tall-tale Birth Day, that I have had to allow letters & many other things to be put aside in order to meet the kindred which brought so many claims along with it - whilst my strength has not been what it used to be when it was so common for guests to fill this house in days gone by -

I have had no letters that have gone to my heart like yours & Helen Blackburns, Miss Jods & the one, so unlooked for, from your Committee in Green College St. These touched a chord in my heart which united the past with the present. Dear Miss Becken & other loved workers rose before me, & the time since they left us seemed bridged over by the love you all showed me - a love which was born of that past.

Your letter, dear friend, which was far beyond my deserts, I greatly prize and so

will my children when I am gone. I sent it to Walter, knowing how grateful your reference to him would be - no one honours you more than Walter & his mother.

Sometimes tell my children & others how when you first came to our Women's Suffrage Committee, then held at Mrs D. A. Jagers at Aubrey House, you looked like a school girl rather than a married woman, and how you listened to opinions & suggestions as they fell from different members, and would then throw in your own counsel which always seemed just the right thing for us to accept.

You perhaps since then has been one of deepest interest, often of most touching interest. It was for many years shared and enabled by one whose memory will be among other great qualities, you ever linked with the question of Justice to Women, and generations yet unborn will honour the names of Henry & Millicent G. Fawcett.

In later years you perhaps morally and

intellectually, has grown brighter and
brighter - until now, by your high
moral purpose and your calm reasoning
you have become a beacon light
to many.

That you may live to rejoice over
victories which you have done so much
to help to win is my earnest prayer.

Thank you dear sister Agnes & your
dear Philippas both of whom I love & honour,
for their kind greeting along with yours.

I believe me to be

Dear Mrs Fawcett

Your always loving & grateful friend

Priscilla Bright McKean.

Fawcett Library
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