

Miss Smedley H Whitehall Court,
London. S. W.

9th February 1907.

AL/207

Dear Miss Esther Palliser,

It seems to me it would
be a very beautiful thing if the
leading singers and actresses
would organize a matinee in
support of the Woman's Suffrage
campaign.

Mrs Patrick Campbell &
Miss Stella Campbell are coming
in the Procession to-day, and
I do hope other famous women
will help too by their presence. If
only the artistes of the Concert
Platform & the Stage would
give the movement their support,
it would effectually destroy
public prejudice against the
movement, as one which springs
only from unattractive women.

I spoke to the Women's

Social & Political Union yesterday
about the enormous help it would
give the whole cause if only the
principal singers and actresses
would come forward and help
by organizing a matinee, and they
are enormously keen on the idea.

Mrs Petrick Laurence writes
to say:- "I hope that something
may come of your suggestion about
the matinee given in aid of the
Fund by well-known artistes.
I believe that this would be
the most splendid advertisement
that we could possibly have,
and would do more to make
our movement popular in the
country than anything else
that I can think of."

We might form an
organizing Committee of prominent
artistes - if you approve of
the idea - and get the

whole thing started at-once. I am writing to Mr Brandon Thomas also, to suggest that the men of the profession who are in sympathy, should also organize a mixed matinee - as in that way they would show even more actively their sympathy with the women of the profession: while it would be pleasant to feel that the artistes of the Concert platform and the Stage, are acting as leaders in so vital a reform. The audiences would be assured from the first moment, as the Press would give the whole thing such enormous publicity, & not only in England, but thro' the world.

But I most of all want the women to come forward

and especially the most attractive ones, to show that they can stand by one another.

I shall be very interested to hear your opinion. My flat is at the service of the cause, as far as Committee Meetings go, while the Women's Social & Political Union will help with all the Secretarial work. I would also be very grateful if you could tell me of any other prominent Singers, Actresses, Actors or Managers who are keen.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

Constance Smedley.

Lawrence Library
27 Wilfred Street
London S.W.1

Losa

I am enclosing a leaflet of a little book brought out simply to rouse the public and not the few dignified supporters of the cause.

Leaflet not enclosed.
J.C.