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In replying to this letter, please write on the envelope:—

Number

15399

Name

A. Ker

~~Holloway~~ Prison

183

1912

My dearest Own One,

I only replied by a scrap to yours of Friday, received on Saturday, and we don't write on Sunday, as you know, so now I must answer it properly. I am sorry Mrs. Abraham did not give me the chance of talking over the binding over with her; but I am afraid it is not so common as you seem to think. Of course the papers will only mention those who have been bound, and not those to whom it is offered, but I think only quite young ones have been bound. However, I will certainly take any chance consistent with honour, if I can do so without putting myself into the power of the police. I don't want to be run in if I speak at a meeting, for instance. So, while you may be quite sure that I will take any chance I get, don't be too disappointed if I do not get it. I had a visit this morning from Aunt Lisa, who has come to London after all. She was very nice, keeping off controversial topics, of course. I gave her a message for you and Lady Conny; just tell me if you get it. She has your address on

the letter you wrote to her, and I gave her Mary's. She is still very tired, but hopes the change may do her good. It was very nice to see her, and the $\frac{1}{4}$ hour went faster than it has done with my other visitors. I asked her to send me in a sponge and some soap, in case I come back after Sessions. Again, I don't like to think which way it will go, and it is quite impossible to tell.

I am amused to hear of Norah Dod's engagement; yes, it seems weird, somehow, as you say. I hope she will be happy, and I hope he has some money so that she can help her mother a bit; otherwise she will be a great loss to the home establishment.

I got the embroidery on Saturday afternoon - no, yesterday, I believe it was. I have not got the silk, so I suppose you did not send it when you found the other. The embroidery patterns aren't a bit pretty, but it will be something to do to try various stitches on it.

Aunt Lisa brought me some paper books from Miss Robertson, the Novel Mag. for March, the Lady's Roll-up, as old Friend used to call it, the March "Grand" (a new mag. to me) and 2 paper books, Seton Merriman's Isle of Murest, a Corsican vendetta story, wh. I have read before, but don't mind reading again, and Pools of Silence by Staepoole. It's convenient to have books that need not be returned.

I have letters today from Aunt Ella, Aunt Bertha, Cousin Susan, Miss Willmer and Mrs. Irvine. Please write a p.c. to Miss Willmer, 48. Wellington R^d, and tell her that my remarks referred not to her or her sister personally, but to their Society, the National Union. I won't bother you with any other replies just now. Every body is very kind to me personally and unkind to the W.S.P.U.! Aunt Ella, only, says nothing about it. She says "You have my dear love and sympathy. This is not the time to say anything else." They are going to Aberfoyle on April 10th when Alan's holidays begin. Of course Easter is not a public holiday time in Scotland. She says she is hoping to have you and Mary for a visit; if so, consult her about any clothes you want. I will write to her tomorrow, or perhaps today. I have written to Mary, and I don't think there is any third person. I hope Mary's cold is better, but do you know, I don't feel the least worried about her, as I certainly would be in ordinary circumstances. It just shows how helped we are in difficult situations. But it was nice that you were able to go up and see her and take her temp. and, no doubt, comfort her. Is she all right? It is raining today, so we have not been able to go out; however we had chapel, and I have had a bath and a visitor, so it has not been so dull as it might have been. I haven't a letter from you yet today; perhaps you did not post in time yesterday. I shall like to know what you have been doing, whether you were at church, &c. We went twice yesterday. Aunt Lisa brought me some newspapers. I see the miners are having a minimum wages bill rushed through for them - and yet people

say coercion does not lead to legislation. Mr. Irvine's letter was all to that effect, feeling, she says "that the whole action is a very grave mistake and that it has greatly endangered the likelihood of the Conciliation Bill being passed and perhaps postponed for years the enfranchisement of women." However, she does say "I am sure you think you are doing right." She is sorry for you, she says, and afraid you will be feeling very lonely. I am afraid poor Cousin Susan had a great shock when she got my letter from Holloway, as she had not seen my name in the accounts. She says "I do not approve of the methods of the W. S. P. U. as either right or efficacious. I believe you are very near the attainment of your aims. & wish these methods were kept out of the campaign." They cannot understand that but for "these methods" we would be nowhere. Uncle David said he was going to write to you too. Be sure you answer him.

I can't find out which day we go to Court - presented at Court, aren't we? I'd rather have this than the other. The Sessions begin tomorrow, but there are so many cases that there is no telling when we will come on. Lady Conny was to be there if she could, but said she might not be able. If I get out, of course I'll telegraph at once, otherwise you'll see the result in the papers. If Lady C. is there, she'll telegraph, no doubt, in any case. I am very doubtful about it, our evidence is so clear. Well, beloved, goodbye for just now. We are all well and happy, and things are booming outside. Have seen Punch. Don't you like the paragraph "let"? It was noted in "Votes" Always, dear, your Mother, Alice J. Stewart Ker.