

AL/2503

<sup>much</sup> modified

2 Eower Street.

Oct-Nov 1. 03

As well as to so many in  
the political world

Dorothy Frances.

When Mr Westlake & Miss Horn

Stevens & I met on Thursday

we agreed, as I urged L<sup>rd</sup>, L<sup>ite</sup>.

draw the letter & take steps L<sup>rd</sup> urge

the widening up of the WLU A

on the ground that Home Rule

L<sup>rd</sup> resist which the As<sup>n</sup> was formed

is now relegated L<sup>rd</sup> a back <sup>Place</sup> ~~stage~~,

& that on this political question

including of course free trade v. protection

the members of the association are

not united <sup>This I think is a line which makes us all I think a good many of us</sup> <sup>own I cannot</sup> <sup>favor</sup> <sup>united</sup> <sup>protectionists</sup> <sup>in support of</sup>

draw the distinction which Lady Seward

draws (& in which we partially agree)

between Mr. Balfour and Mr.

Chamberlain. <sup>what is it?</sup> At present Mr.

Balfour does not go so far, but

he has blessed Chamberlain &

wished him God speed in his

"Great Task". We cannot do other

wise than regard <sup>the Government</sup> ~~Mr. Balfour~~

(judging from the correspondence

between <sup>Mr. Balfour</sup> ~~him~~ & /C. & from the Sheffield

speech and from the speeches of Lord

Stanley & Mr. Weylandham) as just in

a half way house case and willing

to <sup>follow</sup> ~~take~~ <sup>up</sup> Chamberlain's <sup>track</sup> ~~position~~

as soon as the necessary pioneering

has been done.

I feel we have a very strong ground

for claiming that the Ass<sup>n</sup> should

be dissolved and the matter

ruled of the majority (I assume we

free traders are a minority) would

support this & will feel that

it will be best to form another

association with definite aims

other than those of the WLU A.

8

On separating, on Thursday Mr Westlake  
agreed to go to the office of Mr W L A  
see the rules & take whatever  
steps were necessary to ensure  
a <sup>special</sup> general meeting of the Assn. I have  
not heard from her since. I will ask  
her to let you know as early as possible  
the date of the <sup>special</sup> general meeting: but  
it cannot be I am afraid <sup>till</sup> ~~for~~ towards  
the end of the present month. I hope  
this will suit you. I sympathize very  
much with you in your many personal  
anxieties, and in the special one which  
you must have of the immense loss  
which the death of Lord Salisbury is. He  
must have been the central pillar & prop