

AL/2533

WHITTINCEHAME,
PRESTONKIRK, N.B.

STA: EAST LINTON, N.B.R.
TEL: STENTON.

Jan. 9. / 11

My dear Mrs Fawcett.

I must write you a line about my affairs. The anxiety about Rubtace, wh. for long has been great, has of late deepened, about Xmas time it looked as if the end were very near. His heart, with complications of many sorts. I got him here, at his wish. He fought bravely & cheerfully about, but now it is a life

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confined to two rooms. There is great discomfort, most patiently borne. It may last weeks even months, it may end very rapidly. No Dr can say, or will say. My own convictions have varied. I am here indefinitely, & closely occupied nights & days with him. I get letters asking me to speak, & to all I reply. "I am indefinitely detained in Scotland." As many

grounds we do not wish for a newspaper publicity. Tonight I wrote into Edin bro to fulfil an engagement made last July! It is my last definite one. I had some tentative ones, & there is a fixed one in March. If you see Miss Dimmock, & Miss Strachey, you might drop them a word in confidence how I am "withdrawing." Arthur has gone abroad for three weeks - risk. His recall. I am well, but tired to the bone, because

What the family know now
as a present trouble, has
been with me for two years.

I passed a really awful
New Year knowing as I
went away, what I might
find on return.

What an inspiring word

Betty has for you this A.M.
So may all our enemies
perish! Zsaffatyl

Francesca