

AL/3111

OVERBURY COURT,  
TEWKESBURY.

November 20. 1881.

The  
Bankers  
I think

Sir,

In reply to your letter of-  
the 18<sup>th</sup> which has only today  
reached me, I beg to inform  
you that I am already  
engaged to address my constituents  
on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> December  
next. & it is therefore not in  
my power to avail myself  
of your invitation.

I may state that looking  
at the enormous social  
revolution that the adminis-

of women to the franchise would  
effect, I do not feel myself  
at liberty to pledge myself  
to support the movement  
unless it is made a  
government measure.

I think that if sufficient  
equivalents are provided for  
the responsibilities of political  
life, such as serving on juries  
in the militia &c. there is

no reason why the property owners  
of England, being women, should  
not exercise the franchise. But  
I am bound to say that some  
of the most intelligent women  
I know, who are far superior  
in mental calibre to the  
average <sup>(male)</sup> voter, are strongly  
opposed to the measure, believing  
that it will entirely ruin their  
legitimate influence as  
women. I am Sir

Your obed<sup>t</sup> servant  
Richard D. Martin  
D. M. D. Durham Esq