

Private

April 8. 92

4, Carlton Gardens,
S.W.

AL/40

FAWCETT LIBRARY
27 WILFRED STREET
10 DO, S.W.1.

Friday

Dear Mrs Fawcett-

On leaving your job now, I met
Arthur in St James Park. He
was walking with Sir W. Bridges
& asked me where I had been.
On telling ~~me~~ him my errand
he said "you will be beaten,"
"so Mr Middleton has just told
us, saying the C.C. elections had
disgusted the men" "just so". He
then sd he had more to say to me,
& bidding me turn with him, we
went to 10 D. St, where as soon
as we were alone, he said he

Fawcett Library
27 Wilfred Street
London S.W.1.
66470

noticed we had two days of
our Suffrage Bills - Had we any
strong desire of the first, Apr. 27th?
"certainly" of ans? strongly. any
reasons, except fear of accidents?
Early dissolution certainly our
great fear, but I said } of thoughts
there were others (that we liked
this day all round the best. He
then told me great pressure was
being put on him to adjourn
over this wed, "and if an immense
bribe were offered me in the shape
of business, and if I felt the
women wd not suffer I might
be tempted." He went on to say
that unless they were beaten, Par-
liament was safe to sit over the

18th may our next day, quite safe.
He wound up by giving ~~me~~
me clearly to understand these
points.

1st That this proposed adjournment
over the 27th was not likely to be
feasible for various reasons.
2nd That if the women were to suffer
the sh. wd be done
He concluded by again saying we
sh. be sure be beaten -
now what I want you to do
is that if you have any very va-
lid reasons agt the 18th of May
you sh. write them direct to him,
telling him you had heard
confidentially of me. If you
have no very strong reasons, I
wd not write, because I don't
think it is very likely to happen,
and because I know that as-
sure will see that we get one of
the two days, unless we have

more today than that we fear
accidents it won't stop his taking
the 27th if he is ~~to~~ bribed ~~enough~~ by
the quick passage of business, and
I feel convinced that Arthur is
quite as wishful as we are
that a fair chance sh. be given
to our Bill. Please say nothing
of this to any one, I write the first
minute after the talk on wh. I
can say hands on pen & paper.

Yrs very sincerely
B