

Fawcett.

AL/517

41, NORFOLK SQUARE,
HYDE PARK, W.

March 25. 1909

Dear Prof. Poynting,

If you are an
advocate of Woman's Suffrage
(+ I cannot imagine that
you are not) I wonder if you
will be so very good as to sign
one or both of the clauses at
the end of the enclosed letter.

It is, perhaps,

impossible for a man to fully
realize what the absence of
political status is to a woman,
from an economic point of
view it is, of course, fatal;
but quite apart from that
the implication of inferiority
goes through everything in
our lives, & sets up endless
difficulties & troubles that
actually undermine our

efficiency. The prejudiced idea
of what is "natural" to a woman
pursues us from the cradle
to the grave, & this political
disability largely helps to
keep it alive.

But I am sure I am
preaching to one who is in
no need of conversion - you
are too fair & large minded to
require it.

Very sincerely yours
Hertha Ayrton