

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> 1913. 5452

Dear Mr. Harben

My brother has forwarded your letter to me & has asked me to reply

I enclose an extract from a letter which I wrote to Mr. Mark Wilks & which he sent to the Standard - It is a restrained ~~of~~ account of the brutal treatment I received in prison -

My nose & throat have been examined by two doctors, one a specialist & they both certified verbally to the ~~ignorance~~ & cruelty of the treatment -

In fact their words were that had my nose been first examined no doctor would have dared to have subjected me to such torture incurring the possibility of permanent injury & that the mucous membrane was swollen & abnormally sensitive & in one nostril there is a bone which needs to be removed -

Neither doctor has as yet found courage to written his opinion of the case for me - You may

be more successful in <sup>procuring</sup> ~~eliciting~~ a written reply from them

The one doctor's name is: -  
Dr. Kellott 39 Granville RD, the other Dr. <sup>Hunter</sup> Burney a specialist at Miss Margaret Mc Millan's clinic in Deptford - his private address

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either through want of courage in allowing his name to appear in our <sup>connecting with</sup> ~~press~~ or through professional etiquette wh. forbids one doctor condemning another doctor's acts

New Cross Rd. S. E.

They both admitted the forcing of the tube down my nostril to be an act of "useless cruelty"

I am sure all who have to face imprisonment + possible forcible feeding will be grateful to you for taking this matter up.

It is only those who have been through the torture ~~that~~ who can testify to the barbarism + indignity of resorting to such methods as those now adopted by the prison authorities on the Suffragettes.

If you think a more detailed account of my prison experiences would strengthen your advocacy of our cause I should be pleased to arrange an interview with you

Your v. truly

R. May. Pellinghurst,