

4994

TELEPHONE,
HAMPSTEAD 7163.96, SOUTH HILL PARK,
HAMPSTEAD HEATH, N.W.

March 12.15.

Dear Pippa

I am going to Florence on Tuesday next, following your good advice ~~re~~ example. When I can't bear it there any more I shall come to Rosquerouse - probably about the first week in April. But I will give warning & can be turned away if not wanted.

A great turmoil has been raging since you left, in the suffrage world, particularly at 58 Victoria Street. Everyone has behaved abominably except Miss Robinson, & I have been the worst of the lot. However it can't be helped now. I am amazed at the extent to which you keep us in order, was that I see what happens in your absence. You don't want to hear about it in sure, but still I'll tell you about the N.W. thing, because they are not quite so unimportant.

For a few wild days everyone was thinking of standing themselves. I was - egged on by Owen my own folly - Rosamund Smith was proposing to Mally, ~~to Mally~~ was proposing you. Someone else Patten. Chaos & private interviews required. Several letters were written to you, I fancy. I was guilty of giving you address to Mally - expostulated with her talk about you I told

him if she wanted you to stand she'd better ask you if
you wanted to. We went on good talking about it
in the office from morning to night. But I don't
suppose you would think of it.

Dr. Maguire's ^{old} ~~old~~ ^{old} me she would stand, & great
confusion reigned. Today my mind has cleared, & I
see what I want, there is no fight. I believe
Marshall ^{has gone for good} ~~has gone~~ ^{make this terribly explicit} that if no fight occurs
we they'll go ^{alone}. If we put up you, or even a less
notorious militarist.

Manchester & Co would
follow C. M. out of the Union. If we lost, C. M.
would revive, their party with in power ^{in the end}
we should have to go. Therefore I want to avoid
a fight. ~~we~~ Noeline will stand. I think Miss Palliser
will, & I believe we must concentrate on Atkinson.

Dull ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~as she is,~~ ^{as she is,} we could endure her.
Manchester ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~annoying~~ ^{annoying} Mrs. Schuster - ^{beautifull}
this we must almost inevitably have some one on the Co.

So that's what I shall urge.
The ^{fund} Co., however, will be almost incredibly horrible I fear.
Miss Ward is very keen on O'Malley, which seems to me
sheer lunacy. & Miss Dowdes is re-emerging for the
first time. Rosamund Smith is very edgy, & Miss
Palliser has been away all the week. But ~~then~~ it will

work itself out somehow.

We are fairly unanimous in asking for a Parl. sec to be appointed anyway. ^{quite} unanimous in the best way to conduct the election - by postⁿ in respect to membership. It seems there is great doubt whether this is the process in that way. It will be a fine scandal if they don't. One for. one vote is what is being rumored, but I refuse to believe that except for purposes of scandalizing such as writing to you.

Now that I have embarked on this I find it hard to refrain from all the Scottish Hospital horrors. But I will. It is really too distressing to put on paper. We all brooding along, outwards, will be all right. Dwardy is rotten, & Robinson has a lot to put up with; but we don't think that, in spite of its rottenness it will be a great success.

As for things other than suffrage, they are all well. My specialist said there was nothing the matter with me, & no reason for me to go blind, or to suppose I ever should have another miscarriage. She said it was a case of mania. She said that sometime in my life I'd have to have an operation, but ~~that~~ probably not for years, other than there was no reason why I should not have six children first if I preferred it. She was very nice. & I put implicit faith in her. So I am rushing off to try to cure my mind

by a complete change, & after that I hope never to
give another thought to the subject.
I am depositing Barbara with Lady S. She
herself suggested it, & I think it will be no trouble
to her, as Florence will take all responsibility, & her
sister do all extra work. Olivia will go out with
James. I'm going by the sack, that is, handed her
on to Karin, & shall shut up this house. All
is smooth & easy.

Karin has done the wildest thing in the world. She has
forced Adrian, a little against his will I gather, to become
press sec to the U.D.C. If she is to be believed (which I
doubt) he will have complete control of the issue of
leaflets, the correspondances in all newspapers, answers to
leading articles etc on on. It is a nightmare. I
suddenly felt really funny as she was talking to me about
it, for it seemed so utterly impossible she took it so
seriously.
No news of Marjorie's affairs, nothing else I can think

of.

Yours
Ray

P.S. My address is c/o Berenson

3 Tatti

Settegrosso

Florence.

Favorites Library
27 Wilfred Street
London S.W.1.

1129