

**Transcription of a letter from Janie Allan to the Master of Polwarth, 26<sup>th</sup> June  
1914**

To the Hon[our]able,  
The Master of Polwarth.

Dear sir,

I make no apology for writing to you as I think the seriousness of the situation necessitates my doing so.

I do not know if you are aware that the burning of White Kirk was the direct result of the forcible feeding of Miss Ethel Moorhead in Calton Prison. Some people are of opinion that Miss Arabella Scott [and] Miss Frances Gordon are likely to be forcibly fed in Perth Prison. I hope this is not the case. To anyone who realises the strong feeling among Scottish Suffragists against forcible feeding, it is not difficult to imagine what the results might be, if this suspicion unfortunately prove to be true – and, in view of the Royal visit to Scotland which would of course present many opportunities for protests of a memorable & disastrous nature, it seems doubly a pity to enter upon a course calculated to entail such serious consequences.

I have felt it right to endeavour to point out to you the seriousness of the position, as I think many people in Scotland, & possibly you also, fail to realise what is undoubtedly the case that White Kirk would have been standing today had forcible feeding not been introduced to Scottish prisons.

Believe me,  
Yours truly,  
Janie Allan

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