

1812

Buckingham House.  
 Wednesday  
 21<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Dear Prayo, Your and Mr. [unclear] of 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Feb: did not require an immediate answer  
 and indeed I meant to have what passed between  
 you and the Lord Lieutenant before I wrote: how-  
 ever I shall begin by expressing my approval of  
 your letter to Mr. Pakenham, will not fail to  
 speak favourably of you to the Prince Regent  
 with whom I am if possible in higher estima-  
 tion than ever as our present King's government  
 are more except on the Catholic question:



You know I am pledged to Lord Sutherland: but under  
 the present circumstances, I conceive his Lordship  
 has not any chance: I know not the politics of  
 Lord Sandaff: you may and must therefore be  
 aware of his Lordship's interest: I should conceive  
 after the event of last Thursday in the Lords  
 I should most firmly stand unless he should  
 - yet my brother or some calamity befalls the  
 Company which I do not: consequently I con-  
 sider your chance as very great and you may rely  
 on me in every way possible.

Others and the papers will inform you of public  
 events: my daughter Peter and myself live very much  
 with the Smiths who are kind and pitiful to us:



1812

I am much as usual and am sure of being soon  
-ded for by my brother, when in his power: money  
is as you know my object and I am now come to that  
time of life that I must make those sacrifices I  
would not formerly have done: but then I am  
the father of ten children and it is my duty to  
provide for them:

I understand you on all points but understand  
the more I consider it the more I see the absolute  
necessity of the measure: I shall not say more as  
you understand me.

My best and kindest wishes attend Lady Fitz.  
I understand the Smiths are in a hurry to pay you



a visit and hope to bring you and the Countess to this  
side of the water after Christmas. Hope to visit  
all my heart and ever remain,

Dear Prayers,  
Yours most sincerely  
W. Pitt Rivers