

Ed. Morris to Col. McKim

18880-1

Holkham, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>  
1888.

My Dear friend

I ought to have returned  
Pole's letter. I now enclose it, apologizing  
for the former omission.

I likewise send for your perusal one from  
Plunket. My intervention could not be ne-  
-cessary to ensure to the representation  
from the fellows of Trinity College any de-  
-sire of authority as to the reception, whatever  
may be the ultimate decision upon their Memorial.

Ld. Mayor to Col. McMahon

18881

But it is advisable for me to leave it to say that I did not neglect Plunket's entreaty.

It was with regret I viewed the extravagant step of the Irish Government in moving resolutions against the Catholic Delegates. Were the Vice-Roy & Peers the only persons responsible to public opinion for the irritating perseverance in this desperate controversy, still I should have regarded the measure as pregnant with evils which no future palliations might suffice to remedy. It would, however, be a mischievous concealment to

the Prince to suppress the fact that in the eyes of the Country he is not / & cannot be / clear of implication in this business. The plea that, as he keeps them, he must let these Ministers follow their own judgment, is not admissible in a case of vital importance to the tranquillity of the United Kingdom. I should not express the point so forcibly did I not know from information entirely beyond question what the extent & the strength of feeling is upon this matter. The contest is not with a portion of the Catholics, or the whole body

of the Catholics alone, but with the whole population  
of Ireland. The adherents of the Castle are too insigni-  
-ficant to be put into any scale. That the Prince,  
after the spontaneous pledges he had before given,  
should allow an attempt at oppression of a sev-  
-erity such as was never offered under his father's  
Government, bewilders the minds of all classes.  
And I do not meanly assure you that it ve-  
-rily affects the best link that existed for keep-  
-ing the Countries together. Can I put this too strong-  
-ly when the view of the Irish Government to in-

Lord Alcock  
Dec. 1. 1811

18882

-value the Prince directly & personally in this  
particular warfare is obvious from the procedure  
of putting off the trials so as that the legal  
issue shall not be determined before the period  
at which the Catholic Committee is to meet.  
The dispersion of that Committee, to which Govern-  
-ment is pledged, is an act of outrage that  
(altho' it will produce no result) is to draw the  
line between the Parties for ever: And the base per-  
-formance of those who have been upon bad ground &  
are obliged to admit it, is, to include the Prince  
in their Squad, so as to cover their error with Lis

name, at the trifling expense to him of the loss  
of confidence from so vast a proportion of  
his People. The consequence is chief is not either  
problematical or remote. The exigency is even  
now upon us: and, if the means which ought  
to bring it shall on the contrary cooperate  
in the purpose, it requires no agency to produce  
the result. I shall be in town by the end  
-the of the week; but the uncommon anxiety of  
my mind would not allow me to delay the arrival  
-al of these sentiments. Faithfully yours  
Ch. W. Pickens.