

Jan 1814

St. James's.
Thursday
12th Feb.

x
Dear Mayo,

Business has of late of vari-
ous nature so occupied me that I have not been
able to answer your different letters sooner, and
indeed now they are not before me being at
Buck; you so entirely know my sentiments
on the Catholic question I need not repeat them;
it must be very extraordinary circumstances
that can change my opinion: still however we
have seen and may therefore see again the vulgar
clamour on many questions: under a form of this

nature we may see the Catholic question
 carried: I am therefore most happy to find by
 your various accounts how small is the land-
 ed property vested in the Catholics: I wish
 not the question were agitated and much less
 carried: but I enquire to find in the want of it being
 ever carried a little prospect of Parliamentary
 influence can fall to the share of that perma-
 nent: I have always thought too much impar-
 tance has been attached by both sides to the
 question: but I have ever seen great difficulties
 attending this measure and the Catholics so
 far from endeavouring to make their views
 by their conduct increase them.

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I am going in a few days to Holland and if I do
 not proceed further shall probably return by
 the end of January: but an invitation from
 the Emperor of Russia may determine some
 time beyond may perhaps send me much
 further: I may proceed to Petersburg and not
 in that case not return till next fall: you
 know my motives: but as events arise I shall
 excuse me.

My daughter unites with me in every sincere
 and kind wish towards Lady Byron and ever
 believe me,

My Dear Lord,

Yours sincerely
 J. Ashurst