

Dr. J. Staines Clark to Duke of?

21931_2.

Lord Egremont's Petworth.
Sunday - 1816.

Sir, and my good Friend.

As it is of much consequence to me, that I should be allowed to see the Prince Regent soon after my arrival, and that His Royal Highness should know the real cause of my coming hither. I take the liberty of addressing you on the subject, as your Royal Highness may probably have an opportunity of conveying the information which I am so anxious about to the Prince Regent.

On the Saturday before I left Brighton, Lord Egremont sent me the news, that the Rev. Mr. Dunster the Rector of Petworth, and of the adjoining parish of Willington was dead - and that if I wished it,

and the Prince Regent continued still
to approve - Tillington should be
mine in exchange for St Burian.
I will not now trespass on the patience
of your Royal Highness, by mentioning
the various reasons which induce me,
with the Prince Regent's permission, to prefer
Tillington; but I may add, that according
to a letter I have received from the
very best authority, St Jenkins is so much
recovered, that he is likely to confer
on for two years; and, that by having
Tillington I possess an additional vote
for the County - which may be
of service to the Prince Regent; -
and have also a Home, wherein, if
I get out of fashion, and should
ever find myself dismastred, I might

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21932

contrive to get into Harbour, and die.

Lord Egremont goes to Four to Morrow -
and when he arrives there, intends to send

you a Poem. Letter respecting
his offer of Dillington, which will only
be mine, when the Prince Regent
has in form ratified his approbation.

I have the Honour & Happiness

To be, Sir, with the true & sincerity
Your Royal Highness's faithful servant

J. S. Clarke.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text on aged paper, possibly a letter or document fragment.]