My dear Dick

I have had nothing of importance to communicate to you since I wrote last from what I then said you might be perfectly certain of our success in the House of Lords, where the address to the Prince proposed on Monday last by a Majority of 19— Pending the debate a letter was handed about by a noble Lord stating that the Prince had sent directing, on account of the King's approaching health, to stop our proceedings on the Regency Business. The noble contriver of this notable trick had forgot that no packets had arrived here for the space of three days—I am however happy to find that the news of the King's being really much better which reached us this day, has not as yet appeared to have produced any effect among our friends. This has made our opponents hold their heads very high, and given them very dancy looks.

This day the two Houses of Parliament in all their state waited upon Lord Buch— by his own appointment with their joint address to the Prince, and to request
he would transmit it to his Royal Highness—
Lord R.’s answer was very long, as follows—

My Lords of Gentlemen,

Under the impressions which I feel of my official duty, & of the oath which I have taken as Chief Governor of Ireland, I am obliged to decline transmitting this address into Great Britain. For I cannot consider my self warranted to lay before the Prince of Wales an address purporting to invest His Royal Highness with powers to take upon him the Government of this Realm before he shall be enabled by law so to do.

It was imagined that he might refuse to transmit the address, or we were prepared for the event—but no one had a conception that he would have dared to assign so impudent a reason for not complying with the wish of both Houses of Parliament, as that contained in the conclusion of his answer. It is in short a direct insult, a direct rebuff to the proceedings of the two Houses. On their return the Duke of Leinster, in the House of Lords, & Paget in the House of Commons immediately moved the question of adjournment without permitting the answer to be inserted in the journals of either house, which question was carried in both without a division. To-morrow it is intended in both Houses to come to a strong vote of censure upon the Marquis’s conduct—which he will find of serious consequence to him own Marquis has been telling you a speech of such a one as will render it impossible for him to remain in Ireland, let what will happen to the King’s representative—It is also intended to vote the persons who advised the Marquis to make this answer enemies to this country—by both the two Houses will respectively appoint a committee to wait upon the Prince with the address yourselves. These gentlemen will leave Dublin, Saturday or Sunday, so that by Wednesday or Thursday next you may expect to see them in London—I shall send you an account to-morrow night of all that has passed in the House—

I understand the Marquis is more angry with me than with any other person who has opposed him—this to be true is very likely—I have not seen him these two weeks—he does all business with the first clerk in my office—

God help you.

C.O. R.