

SANT/BEQ/28/1/2/534-535

Letter from Francis Eyre to Rev Robert Trotter relating to approaching Morpeth Court Leet, Northumberland, 24 March 1769

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Dear Sir

Surry Street, London
24th March 1769.

I promised You to write again when I had more fully considered the matter about getting the Mandamus Men sworn in at the Court Leet if adviseable. This is a Time when the whole Bar is out of Town upon the Circuit, However upon consulting with such of them as are in Town, & from my own frequent Thoughts and Deliberations thereon I think it will be right they should again present themselves to be sworn in at the approaching Court Leet, but then I think they should previously Sign and then deliver a Note in Writing in Court, to be kept a Copy of & to be proved if necessary, to some such Effect as the following — "We whose Names are hereunto subscribed do declare that our Swearing or Admission of Us by You Christopher Fawcett (since you swore us in under Peremptory Mandamus) is so done and Accepted without prejudice to any Action or Actions now depending or hereafter to be brought by Us against You for not swearing Us, or swearing Us, as you say improperly or otherwise howsoever Witness our Hands this Day of 27th 1769." I am not wedded to the words, but I think to this Effect will do, as we certainly must try Actions ag^{ainst} him, And I am determined on my own part to lay the whole Affair before a Court of Justice & to make my Case Publick And I will not spare the highest in Blood or Connection concerned in this iniquitous Transaction if I can legally fix them.

It hurts me that I cannot with some Degree of Ease come to Morpeth, I long to see them. I did mean to write the General a Letter, Tell him if you have not already, That a good Retreat is better than a bad Victory; I am sure being beat must hurt him, And as we cannot look into the Womb of Time, there is no knowing, but that both he and I are still Young enough to live to rout them compleatly, And therefore I rather incline to swear them in again at the next Court.

Who will you consult about Instructions to Your Member or Members and what will you say. Call our Friends together, & give me your Sentiments thereon as it may not be improper to do something herein directly.

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I intended to say a great deal more, but I will refer it to another Letter, This however sho^{uld} not prevent you from instantly giving me your Thoughts on this & my former, Adieu, Believe me most sincerely a Friend to Morpeth, and that I am very truly —

Your obed^t hble Serv^t.

Fra^{ncis} Eyre

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Fra^{ncis} Eyre



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