

21476

Strandley

7th Jan'y: 1896

Sir,

On account of the weather I was not able to take Mrs Port- to the Museum until Thursday last, and after going over it had almost decided to accept the undertaking, but on Sunday morning Mrs Port- said she had been considering about the work and the dwelling rooms again and thought the responsibility was greater than she would like to

undertake. The rooms are very damp indeed and ^{as} she suffers very badly in her chest. She would be afraid she should soon be ill and incapable of looking after the work properly.

We, therefore, while feeling very grateful to you for your kind thought of us, are compelled with great regret to decline your kind offer.

I am,
Sir

Your Obedient Servant -
James Bout

Genl. Pitt-Rivers.

Mr. Bout is also getting exceedingly deaf.