

Munro.
Ans'd. Dec. 30/98.

Stratfieldsay Rectory
Mortimer, Berks
Dec 15. 1898

L2283

Dear Sir

I am sorry to have to trouble you again about your illustrious ancestors whose monuments adorn this church but the Church wardens have requested me to write & tell you that parts of them are quite unsafe & might fall to their own injury & that of the congregation at any time.

I cannot see that you are in law bound to repair them, but I venture to ask

Do you know if there was any faculty obtained for pulling them up Sr W Pitt died 1688.

& Mr George Pitt in 1746?

2 would you consent to myself & the Churchwardens doing the necessary repairs?

3 would you be willing to help in the work?

4 Do you know anything of a society for the preservation of ancient monuments & would they help us?

It would be a very small matter to make the monuments safe from actually falling.

But Sir W Pitts monument is a very beautiful work of art by Christmas & it seems that this treacherous clay soil has given way & that there are cracks in it which might extend further & that if the work were carefully taken down for a certain distance the foundation underpinned the repairs executed

& the work recreated it would cost some money but if it were done the monument might last as long again as it has already stood.

If you would care to visit the Monument I should be glad to see you here Bramley is now our nearest station 3 miles & Mortlake a mile further.

I remain dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Horace J Morris