COlLReCTIOH BAME: Guttridge-Lee col lection.

MS 90

Detailed Contents: page 1

DETAILED CONTENTS
( # refers to the fuller notes at the end of Detailed Contents.)

Aa. LEE, Sir WILLIAM, 1726-1799.
Letters to his son William (1764-1801).

1. 1786 Jan 26 [Bucks:] Hartwell
TO: "Dear William"
SUBJECT: You must be busy (the Major and Harcourt absent and Sir Robt called to town); too bad you can't be at St Stephen's Chapel. Your friend Harcourt. Friendship. George left us Tuesday. I feel an indifference growing on me to politics. 2p (1 piece)
FRAGILE: mended with paper tape -- should be fixed.

2. [17191 Mar 18 [Bucks:] Hartwell
TO: "My Dear William" [Kent:] Canterbury
SUBJECT: You lack consideration of what is due to others: your childish excuse for not writing. Have you any right to mortgage my unconfirmed gift to you without consulting me, and then to tell me how to conduct myself? I too am maitre de mes actions. DIRECTED TO: Lieut Lee Q.L.D. Canterbury. 18 March 91.
Note: "Q.L.D." probably "Queen's Light Dragoons" (i.e. 16th Dragoons?)
Docketed: "Father"
3p & a (1 piece)
TORN: Corner cut away. SEAL: featureless fragment. Old no.: 12:3

3. 1791 Jul 10 [Bucks]: Hartwell
TO: "Dear Wm" Norfolk: Thetford
SUBJECT: Politics: refutation of your desire to abolish Tests for civil employment. Toleration of private opinion in religion proper, but must not be applied to civil government. It defeats the two-party system. The English happy medium in politics; I regret the weakening of the distinctions between Whig and Tory. Farming: my problems with turnips. Other difficulties from the drouth. But "I will not be baulked in shewing my neighbors the variety of usefull plants...if the Farmer will exert himself." What do they do where you are? Love from George and your mother. DIRECTED TO: Lieut [?] Lee Q.L.D. Thetford Kent Norfolk two sheets only 10th July 91.
Docketed: "Father". Incipits: p.1: There can be no doubt I think... p.5: the Implements used. I hear...

Pencil note at head "On Toleration".
TORN: Outer quarter of address-leaf cut away. SEAL: (armorial): partial. Red wax. 5p & a (2 pieces)

Ab. LEE, Sir WILLIAM, 1726-1799.
Retained copies (drafts?) of letters to others.

1. 1765 Aug 24
TO: Harcourt, Simon, 1st earl, 1715-1777. "Lord Harcourt"
SUBJECT: I must give up the town house not because I prefer the country but because of my finances; I do not wish to distress your daughter or offend you. My only fault re money was the folly of building. Here with an account of my finances (a version was previously given to Lord Vernon and you).
pp 2-3: "Copy of the papers sent at the same time": Rents minus Charges of London and Bucks Estates, debts, annuity to Mrs Taylor; Expenses of housekeeping, rent of town house, garden & stabling, pin money, clothing. (Not detailed.)
Note: See Ba:8 below. 3p & a (1 piece)

TO: Grenville, George Nugent, 1753-1813, (later Marquis of Buckingham) "Lord Temple"
SUBJECT: Do not wish to fill the vacancy in the County myself, but happy to have one of your family stand. Precedents for applying directly to the County or for taking the previous sense of the gentlemen: practicalities.
Note: Reply to Cc:8
Signed "W.L." "Copy". 2p & d (1 piece)
3. 1779 Sep 30  
    TO: Grenville, George Nugent "Lord Temple"
    SUBJECT: Don't bother; I'll see Mr Grenville Monday and discuss measures for the satisfaction of the County and the quiet of that Day. Mr Webb of Stoke [?] wishes to remind you of his application backing the promotion of John Fellows, a drill-sergeant at Madras. Best from Lady Eliz. to Lady Temple.            
    Note: Reply to Co:9  
    Signed "W Lee" "Copy"  
    2p (1 piece)  
    Old no.: 5:22

4. 1780 Sep 2  
    TO: Grenville, Thomas, 1755-1846.  
    SUBJECT: Sorry to keep your servant waiting. I am indeed well-disposed to your family and your pretensions with the public. Will not take rash step before meeting you and Lord Temple (thank him for the venison). Best from Lady Elizabeth to Lord Temple, Lord Cobham, & the young ladies.  
    Note: Reply to Cd:2?  
    Unsigned. Marked "Copy".  
    1p (1 piece)  
    Old no.: 5:27

[1780 Sep?] Note of assent jotted on a letter from Thomas Grenville dated "Sunday morn" and proposing a political visit (Cd:3).

5. [1780 Sep 3??] Sunday  
    TO: [Chesterfield, 5th earl?] "My Lord"  
    INCIPIT: My Lord give me leave to say I hope your difficulties of last night were surmounted...  
    Signed: W. Lee  
    DATE: inferred from Dc:2-5.  
    1p (1 piece)  
    Old no.: 23:6

6. [1780 Sep 4??] Monday  
    TO: [Chesterfield, 5th earl?] "My Lord"  
    SUBJECT: Sorry to hear of your difficulty. Cannot be serviceable since the people would take offense at a conduct the opposite of my declaration.  
    INCIPIT: I am very sorry you met...  
    Unsigned. Marked "Copy to Ld Chesterfield".  
    DATE: inferred from Dc:2-5.  
    1p (1 piece)  
    Old no.: 23:7

7. [1782] Apr 6  
    TO: [Chesterfield, 5th earl] "My Lord"  
    SUBJECT: Reply to letter of 1782 April 6 (Dc:7): when Cap. [or Cass.] Harness requested the discharge through the interest of Sr Edward Astley, I decided to leave it up to Minshull.  
    Signed: W. Lee  
    2p (1 piece)  
    Old no.: 23:10

8. 1790 Oct 19  
    TO: "Dear Sir" "Mr Secretary Grenvill [?]"  
    [Recipient may be Buckingham's 3rd brother, William Wyndham N-T Grenville, 1759-1834, who was Home Secretary 1789-91.]  
    SUBJECT: Gen Harcourt told my son (who is raising a company of foot) to borrow the drummers belonging to the militia of the Marquis of Buckingham to help enlistment. But B. in Cornwall; can you drop a word to the Major?  
    Signed: W Lee. "Copy"  
    1p & d (1 piece)  
    Old no.: 5:29
Ac. LEE, Sir WILLIAM, 1726-1799.
Letters concerning Lady Tynte's estate. To Lord Macclesfield and Joseph Hill; also
a receipt, probably by Lady Tynte.

1. 1798 Mar 22  [Bucks:] Hartwell
   TO: [Macclesfield?] "My Lord".
   SUBJECT: Regret death of our common friend Lady Tynte; grateful for the
   notice she took of me and my second son (though not likely to be of profit). Lady Har­
   court told me of the entail, but I need more authentic information. Trying to discuss
   the Bond with Mr Mullins; paid yearly 1789-92 but payments since 92 waived; must ask the
   executors for lenience since "no one will now lend money on Mortgage." My considerable
   loss of income by the death of Mr Wilkes, & the public Exiquencies [?]. Best from Lady
   Eliz to you and Lady Macclesfield, the Dowager, and Lady Mary. Age prevents me from
   visiting you at Sherborne.
   Signed: "W Lee"
   Incipit: "I have the hon' of yrs, and sincerely lament...
   Docketed "Tyntes Execu's Sr W Lee"
   [Receipt below found between pp 2 and 3]

2. 1789 May 14.
   SIGNED (?): "I" [or "J"].
   SUBJECT: Receipt to Sir William Lee for 1 year's interest (75/-/-) "have
   wrote it on the back side of the Bond." "I never want any." Sorry can't visit you &
   Lady Eliza on my way to Halswell; please visit me. 1p (1 half-sheet)
   [Presumably from Lady Tynte? but her name was Anne.]
   [Haleswell, Somerset, was one of the seats of Sir Charles Kemys - Tynte, her
   late husband.]

Items 3-5 to Joseph Hill, Esq., Saville Rowe, New Bond St., London, as agent for the
executors of the late Lady Tynte; signed "W Lee".

   SUBJECT: My capital is not liquid enough to pay the executors in time; will
   you confer with me? 1p & add & d (1 piece)
   SEAL (red; featureless). Postmarked.
   TEARING.
   "1799 Mar 14". See item Ad:1.

4. 1799 Mar 15.  [Bucks]: Hartwell.
   SUBJECT: Gratitude for accommodation made by executors, and your civility.
   SEAL (black armorial: Lee impaled by Harcourt; baronet-hand; no crest.
   Postmarked.
   Folded so address is now p.3. 1p & add & d (1 piece)

5. 1799 May 16.  [Bucks]: Hartwell.
   SUBJECT: Enclosing the remainder of half notes 450/-/-.
   I will let you know of any land to be sold. "It will forward Lady Tynte's Design & be beneficial to those
   that follow, as to myself I cannot entertain any expectation of benefit from her Lady­
   ships kind intentions 73 & very infirm is not promising." 1p & add & d (1 piece)
   Seal cut away. Postmarked.
   Folded so address is now p.3.
   TEARING.
Ad: 1.

LEE, Sir WILLIAM, 1764-1801, 5th bart. [?]
TO: Hill, Joseph, as in Ac: 3-5.
SUBJECT: Please notify the executors of the late Lady Tynte that I will see you in town in a few weeks. 1p & add (1 piece)
SIGNED: "W Lee" or "Wm Lee"
SEAL (black armorial: Lee with bear crest and baronet-hand).
Postmarked.
HAND differs from the letters in Ac, with which it was found. If the letter can be dated by the postmark, it is probably the hand of Sir William's son William who succeeded him as 5th baronet in July 1799.
Badly discoloured on p 4 after folding for filing.

Ae. LEE, Sir GEORGE, 1767-1827.
Ae: 1-3 together in a single folder.
1. 1823 March 8. [Bucks]: Hartwell.
SUBJECT: Pay Edward Foster (Treasurer of Society for Refuge to the Destitute) 2 guineas yearly. 1p & add (1 piece)
Wafer; postmarked. Struck through.

2. 1823 Aug 20. [Bucks]: Beachampton.
SUBJECT: Pay Joshua Watson (Treasurer of the National Society for the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church, Bartletts Buildings) 3/2/- collected in the parish of Beachampton today. George Lee Rector of Beachampton.
Wafer; postmarked. Struck through. 1p & add (1 piece)

SUBJECT: Pay 1) Messrs Parrott & Co 1 year's Fee Farm Rent (105/8/10); 2) Rev. Thomas Whitfield (at Messrs Willis & Co., Lombard St) 78/-/-.
[Addressed to "Messrs Morlands & Co..."]
Wafer; postmarked. Checked.

END OF SECTION A (LEE FAMILY)
B. HARCOURT FAMILY.

Ba. HARCOURT, SIMON, 1st earl, 1714-1777.

Letters to Sir William Lee. Written between 1763 (when Lee m. his daughter Elizabeth) and 1777 (his death); most before his lord-lieutenancy in Ireland, 1772-1777. All signed "Harcourt". Most do not give Lee's name, but it is obvious from text. Some political details. "Lord Nuneham" is his eldest son George Simon; "the Captain" and "the Colonel" is probably his second son William, a Lt. Col. from 1759, and a Colonel from 1777.

1. 1763 Sep 9
   [Oxfordshire: Stanton Harcourt::] Cockthorp [now Cokethorp]
   TO: "Dear Sir" Hartwell
   SUBJECT: Friendly family letter. Weather. Hope horse pleases his mistress. Lady Harcourt better. Going to town for the Christening; will look for a town house for you. The Junto has almost ruined the country. Invitation to you, my daughter, and Miss Fauquier. Best from Col Evelyn and Mrs Northoe (?).
   Annotated in ink at head "Lord Harcourt"
   4p (1 piece)

2. [1763?] Sep 17
   [London::] Cavendish Square
   TO: "Dear Sir" Hartwell
   SUBJECT: Shall discuss the late political transactions with you on my return: fortunate that the terms insisted upon by the Opposition were too unreasonable to be complied with. Best to my dau & Miss Fauquier. Visit us at Newnham.
   INCIPIT: I set out for Cockthorp to morrow...
   Annotated in ink at head "Lord Harcourt quere 1763?"
   2p (1 piece)

3. 1763 Oct 8
   [London::] Cavendish Square
   TO: "Dear Sir" Hartwell
   SUBJECT: Up from Newnham; will return when Drawing Room is over. Parliament called: good. Arrogant terms of Mr P_t convinces many of his impracticality. Your Newnham apartment will be ready. Weather. Lady Betty's horse. Mrs Schutz. Best to Lady Betty & Miss Fauquier. Ld Vernon taking the waters at Buckston. 3p (1 piece)

4. 1763 Oct 27
   [London::]
   TO: "Dear Sir"
   SUBJECT: Detailed description of the house in Grosvenor St belonging to Portuga- gal merchant Mr Leaves: if improved might suit. Love to my daughter. Mrs Northoe (?)
   NOTES: Annotated in ink at head. Also annotated in ink at end "See the letter of Mr William Cowden London November 1 1763 to Mr W. Lee on the House in Grosvenor Street".
   3p (1 piece)

5. [1763] Nov 22
   [London::] Cavendish Square
   TO: "Dear Sir"
   SUBJECT: When Wilkes is expelled from Parliament, will you support Mr Child as his successor for Aylesbury (I think you don't want it yourself). The forthcoming debate on privilege: Prat, York, Pitt. London Common Council angry that the Cyder Counties have withdrawn their petitions: plans for the tax.
   Miss Car's (?) house; Lady Ann Jekyll's house. Severe weather; my piles. Glad Lady Betty goes on so well; Miss Fauquier's father sat with me. The French Ambassador and his Lady (dau of Duke de Harcourt). Ld Newnham and the Captain.
   INCIPIT p.1: Mr Wilkes Expulsion from the House...
   5: be very anxious about the success of your negociation with that shuffling Lady...
   Date: Wilkes was expelled as MP for Aylesbury in Jan 1764, and as MP for Middlesex in 1769.
   6p (2 pieces)
6. [1764] Jul 8  [Oxfordshire:] Nuneham  
TO: "Dear Sir"  
SUBJECT: Glad Lady Betty and the boy well; her mother Lady Harcourt will be godmother. Lady Harcourt better. Mr Schutz of Shotover. Love to Lord Nuneham and the Captain. "Let Ld Nuneham know that I have wrote to Mme de Guerchy & the Count de Harcourt & that I have made use of black paper & black wax, which I think ridiculous enough."

INCIPIT: Your letter gave us a great deal...  
Date: Sir William's eldest son William b. in June 1764.  
3p (1 piece)  
Old no.: 6:7

7. [1765] Jan 17  [London]: Cadnish Square  
TO: "Dear Sr William"  
SUBJECT: Mourning wife deeply; break the news gently to my daughter.  
Date: Annotated in pencil at head: "Lady Harcourt d. suddenly Jan 16 1765."  
Scribbled pencil sketches on p.4.  
2p & scribbles (1 piece)  
Old no.: 6:8

TO: "Dear Sir"  
SUBJECT: Apology for distressing you. I agreed with you last year that if your expenses continued high you should part with the London house; I merely did not agree with how you did it. Don't worry about public opinion. You have treated my daughter and her friends well. Every man who has a landed estate knows that there is a wide difference between a real & a nominal income (except in Scotland). Of course building at Hartwell cost more than you expected, but you now have an enjoyable house. With envelope-wraper DIRECTED TO Sr William Lee at Hartwell. SEAL (armorrial) in black wax  
Franked Harcourt  
Postmark: 29 AV  
Presumably a reply to Ab:1 above.  
INCIPIT: p.1. I am very sorry that what dropped from me...  
2p (1 piece)  
Old no.: 6:11

9. 1765 Oct 12  
TO: "Dear Sir"  
SUBJECT: On way to Nuneham, where I hope you and my daughter will visit us. Lord & Lady Nuneham. I've been asking about houses. The Great Men are at Newmarket. Mr Cowden conferring with Mr Langford; wishes to be of service and will employ Mr Crompton to bid for the houses lest he be smoaked. Love to Lady Betty and the young ones.  
Faint pencil marks on back: shopping list?  
2p (1 piece)  
Old no.: 6:12

NOTE: BRO (E.3:1-12) has correspondence between Lady Lee and William Cowden (both senior and junior) about finances, 1783-1785.

10. [1765x1772] Dec 19  
TO: "Dear Sir"  
SUBJECT: Enclose letter wrongly sent to me. We all (I, Lord and Lady Nuneham, and the Colonel) hope to be with you next week. If Prince Frederick dies this week I will not need to attend at St James. Love to my daughter and the little ones.  
INCIPIT: I received the inclosed letter...  
Dating: Prince Frederick was born in Aug 1763 (DNB mentions no childhood illnesses.) Nuneham married on 26 Sept 1765; Napier says that he went immediately abroad until the end of 1766 (no children noted). "The little ones" -- Sir William's dau Elizabeth was born August 1765 and d. Mar 1767; 2nd son George was born July 1767. (Playfair). So the Lee family had 2 children living in December from 1765 on. Harcourt's son William became Lt-Colonel 1764, Colonel 1779.  
Pencilled modern annotation p.1: "[1765]"
No enclosure.  
2p (1 piece)  
Old no.: 6:12
11. [1765x1772] Dec 21 [London:] Candish Square
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: As Ba:10. Court life arrangements. Expect Lord & Lady Nuneham, & I believe the Tormentor, and the Colonel. Hope the little ones are well.

INCIPIIT: I will, if I can, set out on Monday...
Pencilled modern annotation p.1 "[Dec 21 1765]". 1p (1 piece)
Old no.: 6:13

12. 1766 Jul 31 [London:] Candish Square
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Just back from the family at Sudbury; plans to stay at Hartwell before the Lees visit Sir Charles and Lady Tynte at Bath; the chaise. Hasty visit to Ireland; thanks for Irish errand. Changes and rumored changes in office-holders. Letters from Lord Nuneham and from the Colonel. Love to my daughter and the young ones.

3p (1 piece)
Old no.: 6:14

13. [1765x1772] Jan 20 [London:] Cavendish Square
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Thanks for tasty present. Lady Nuneham's chair attacked. Having the house in Poland St warmed against your arrival. Best from Lady Nuneham, Lord Nuneham, and his brother. Love to my daughter and the children.

INCIPIIT: I was unwilling to thank you...
Pencilled modern annotation p. 1: "[after 1765]" 2p (1 piece)
Old no.: 6:15

14. 1767 Sep 18 [London:] Cavendish Square
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Politics: techniques and drawbacks of your deciding to stand for your County. Enormous expenses of our late Oxfordshire elections. Shall try to discover if Mr G. (back from his expedition) wishes to declare. Best to Mss Martin & my daughter.

INCIPIITS: p.1: I came to Town yesterday, but had not time...;
p.5: Object is certainly a most desirable one... Annotated in ink p. 1: "Lord Harcourt"; p.5: "Lord Harcourt to Sr W. Lee September 18 1767."

Note: "Mr G." perhaps a Grenville?
Scribbled pencil ovals on p. 6: garden or room layout perhaps? 5p & scribbles (2 pieces)
Old no.: 6:16

15. 1767 Oct 5 [London:] Fulham
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Detained in Town till Thursday at court rituals. Then Lord Hyde's at Stow Fri and Sat. I conjecture your neighbors avoid conversation because no resolution is yet formed. Love to my daughter and grandsons; compliments to the Tormentor.

2p (1 piece)
Old no.: 6:17

16. 1767 Dec 10
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Plan to meet you at Hartwell unless you go to Sherburn. Your last letter on enclosures, and tythes depending on proportion of arable acres to pasture. Lord and Lady Nuneham not at home; the Colonel will come down with me. DIRECTED TO Sir William Lee at Hartwell.

SEAL: As Ba:8, but broken.
POSTMARKS: 12/DE J.B Free
Franked Harcourt 2p & a (1 piece)
Old no.: 6:18
17. 1773 Feb 22  [Ireland: Dublin:] Dublin Castle
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: I hear William is better. Happy to have helped you; duty to relieve relations and friends. Preparing my country house here; mild winter. Remember me to my daughter, William, and George.
Politics: The trying time is yet to come -- the demands of individuals are most peremptory after the Parliament has sate about a fortnight.
Faint pencil on p.4 (accounts?)
TORN: 2x3 inch blank corner torn away.

18. 1773 Jul 11  [Ireland: Kildare: Celbridge::] St Woolstans
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Difficulties in selling Lt. Lundin's commission (35th Regt). Glad the children are better and that they have a tutor. Now that you've finished your Works at Hartwell, should extend your farming. Have made my hay. Shall visit the Primate.
Love to my daughter and the children.

P.4 scribbles in ink: "Guns Mules Horses Faggots Pavements Haycocks";
also pencilled faint couplet: "Love is..."
TORN: 1x5 inch blank corner torn away.

19. [1773x1777]  [Ireland]
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: You wished to know what titles were proper for the nearly finished Print: ...Gen Gov of Ireland... I'll take as many prints as you like to encourage the work. Wettest since I came to Ireland: only a trifle of snow (for Desart). Is your Ice House finished and the Hill planted? Glad the children are beginning to recover. Lord Vernon returned to Bath since his stroke. Busy though Parl not in Session; look forward to the comforts of my family hereafter. Love to my daughter and the little boys.

4p (1 piece)
Old no.: 6:22
Bb. HARcourt, George Simon, 2nd earl, 1736-1809.

Letters to Sir William Lee, his sister's husband. Undated, but written between Sept 1777, when he succeeded his father, and 6 July 1799, when Sir William died. Unsigned; context indicates fairly clearly that Harcourt is the writer: uses letter-forms resembling the first earl's, but in a close-set hand.

1. [1780 (shortly after Aug 21)] Sunday [Oxfordshire:] Nuneham [Courtney] TO: "...Dear Sir William..."

SUBJECT: Enclosing a letter to Lady H: from Mr Pitt to show you how he complies with your request.

Family arrangements after death [apparently of his father-in-law, George Venables-Vernon, baron Vernon, 1710-1780 Aug 21, of Sudbury, Derbyshire:]

Lady H: [Harcourt's wife, Elizabeth V-V] will attend Lady Vernon [V-V's 3rd wife, Martha Harcourt, sister of 1st earl Harcourt, and mother of Eliz. V-V] at Nuttal; Lady H's estimate of her mother's income. The present Lord Vernon [George V-V, 1735-1813, son by 1st wife] has arrived at Sudbury; his behaviour. Miss Fauquier wrote to Miss Hay, who came yesterday from Mrs Boscawen's Lodge. I will either stay here the whole summer (except for a visit at Middleton), or take a long Northern tour, accompanying Lady H: to Nuttal, passing a day with the family, thence to Mr. Mason's. My visit to Hartwell. Love to my sister and my nephews; respects to Mrs Lee and your young cousins.

INCIPIT: At any other time than the present...

Annotated p. 1 in ink: "Lord Harcourt brother of Lady Elizabeth Lee to Sir W. Lee"; in pencil "after 1777".

NOTE: The wife of the new Lord Vernon died in Feb 1786, and in May 1786 he married Jane Georgiana, daughter of William Fauquier of Hanover, of whom Horace Walpole wrote in Nov 1780 "How I delight to see her Throw her broad black exterminating eye, And crush some new gilt courtier's loyal lie." [Cokayne] BRO (E.4:7) has a pantomime composed by Miss Fauquier and performed at Sudbury by Miss Vernon [a child] in 1798, and notes that Miss Fauquier was the aunt of Miss Vernon.

NOTE: The second wife of the late lord had been Anne Lee, sister to our Sir William Lee.

2. [1778x1787]

TO: "Dear Sir William"

SUBJECT: We'll visit you (unless your alterations interfere) now; rest of year taken up by our northern tour, the harvest, and the beginning of the garden plantations. Glad you think my brother's complaint curable; I hope Sir R. Jebb will consent to the trial of the remedy you propose; your medical skill. Your messenger. Lady H: unites with me in love to the House of Lee.

Annotated p. 1 in ink: "Lord Harcourt, brother of Lady Elizabeth Lee to Sir William"; in pencil: "after 1777".

Date: Jebb was made a baronet Sep 1778 and died July 1787. (Elizabeth Harcourt was alive for the entire period.)

INCIPIT: Accept our acknowledgements for...

Annotated p. 1 in ink: "[Jan.20.1770]"

Date: Yorke died 20 Jan 1770.

NOTE: General William Harcourt did not succeed his brother until 1809.

Bo. HARcourt, William, 3rd earl, 1743-1830.

Bo:1 "William Harcourt".

[1770 Jan 20] Saturday evening. [London?:] Leicester House TO: "Dear Sir William"

SUBJECT: I will notify you when the petition for enclosing Aylesbury Field is presented; my being named a Commissioner. This morning's death of Chancellor Yorke may mean that Sir Fletch Norton will not be Speaker. Love to my sister.

Date: Yorke died 20 Jan 1770.

NOTE: General William Harcourt did not succeed his brother until 1809.

Modern pencil annotation p. 1: "[Jan.20.1770]"
Bd. Harcourt, Elizabeth Venables-Vernon, wife of 2nd Earl, 1746-1826 [?]
Bd:1 "EH" [?]
[1765x1776? Dec 2?] Tuesday
TO: "My dear Sr Will"
SUBJECT: Your kind letter: Mr Westerns [?] ready compliance leads to a speedy conclusion of our business; meeting of Barnard, Ryder, and Harforth [?]. [We are?] willing to take either Chatsey [?] or Mr Pitts Mortgage, but would rather make over the former to you to help discharge Lady Eliz's fortune. Love to all at Hartwell.
Date: postmark 12 or 2 DE; if "Lady Eliz" is Lee's wife, Eliz Harcourt, it must be 1763 or later for her to be called Lady. Before Sir William's death in 1799.
Watermark: "J Whatman" (no other mark).
WRITER: Initials appear to read "EH", but may not. Pencil annotation (modern) at foot of p.3 "Quer Lady Harcourt"; seal shows two shields together on ermine; frank (not in same hand) "Harcourt". There are no male E. Harcourts at this time.
The 1st Earl's mother Elizabeth Evelyn had married by 1714, and may well have been dead by 1763; his sister Elizabeth died unmarried in 1765; his wife's name was Rebecca (d. 1765). The 2nd Earl's wife was Elizabeth Venables-Vernon, m. 1765, and died 1826. William Harcourt wife's name was Mary.
The Seal consists of 2 shields marshalled side by side. It is difficult to see, but I think the dexter shield is Harcourt (perhaps with a mullet in the top bar), and the sinister one may bear Venables in the 1st and 4th quarters and Vernon of Sudbury's fret in the 2nd and 3rd. The mullet may be a label indicating arms borne by the (eldest?) son in the lifetime of his father. The red wax should indicate that there has been no recent family death.
The Frank is very like the 1st Earl's frank; but it is possible that his sons would use the same style.
The seal and the initials indicate therefore that the writer is Elizabeth (V-V) Harcourt, after her marriage in 1765. The mullet and the frank may indicate a date before the 1st Earl's death in Sept 1777; the frank may possibly indicate that the Earl was at home to sign it, not in Ireland (but he may have left a supply of franks). But it is curious that the writer makes no polite reference to the members of her family, and seems to be an independent master of the legal/financial situation. (But according to BRO (D.5:1-32) it was she, not her husband, who handled the payment of Lady Elizabeth Lee's dowry, ca 1778-1784.). Before her husband succeeded she was known as "Lady Nuneham"; would she have used "E.H." or "E.N." as her initials before becoming the Countess?
C. GRENVILLE FAMILY (TEMPLE, BUCKINGHAM, NUGENT, CHANDOS)
Ca. GRENVILLE, GEORGE, 1712-1770.

Letters to Sir William Lee. Brief notes on political business; some family or neighborly politenesses.

1. 1763 Dec 6 [?] [London:] Downing Street
   TO: "Sir" "Sir Wm Lee Bart."
   SUBJECT: Public business delayed a reply to your letter of Dec 1st. I am obliged to your own partiality and Lord Harcourt's friendship on this occasion. Patronage of Rt [?] or Mr] Child by you and Sir Herbert Packington. Mrs Grenville and I will visit you and Lady Betty at Hartwell.
   NOTE: Grenville had become Prime Minister in April.
   NOTE: Robert Child, 1739-82, of the banking family, was elected to Parliament for Wells in 1766 with the support of the Grenvilles. [Valentine] (Cf. Ba:5).

2. 1764 Jul 23 [London:] Downing Street
   TO: Sir Wm Lee (third person)
   SUBJECT: Making appointment. DIRECTED TO: Sir Wm Lee Bart.
   SCRIBE: In clerk's hand.
   SEAL (armorial): center illegible (personal?)
   Franked: George Grenville

3. 1765 Mar 19 [London:] Downing Street
   TO: Sir William Lee (third person)
   SUBJECT: Enclosing the Ld Chancellor's answer to the application for the Prebend of Rochester; please return.
   SCRIBE: In clerk's hand ?
   NOTE: No enclosure. (Chancellor was Henley.)

4. 1767 Sep 9 [Bucks.:] Aylesbury "Ailesbury"
   TO: "Sir" "Sr Wm Lee Bart"
   SUBJECT: Here coming from Lord Hyde's to Stowe. Thanks for letter about Mr Bacon. Reserve your interest at this place till you see who offer themselves. Parliament may be dissolved. Family wishes.
   NOTE: Anthony Bacon, d. 1786, was a rich Government contractor and American merchant, MP for Aylesbury 1764-1784, who paid an exorbitant price for election. [Namier]

5. 1767 Nov 28 [London:] Bolton Street
   TO: [Lee, William] "Sir"
   SUBJECT: Thanks for info in your letter. Your answer to your correspondent proper. No more has happened about the subject we last discussed. Family wishes.
CB. GRENVILLE, MR & MRS (GEORGE)

Letters to Sir William and Lady Elizabeth Lee: 3rd-person invitations, neighborly wishes, etc. Usually undated: between June 1763 when Sir William married, and Dec 1769 when Mrs Grenville died.

1. [1764] Jul 10 Tuesday
   SUBJECT: Glad to hear that Lady Eliz. and the Child are well. DIRECTED TO: The Right Honourable Sir William Lee Bart.
   Date: Tuesday July 10 could be 1764 or 1770. The Lees' oldest son William was born in June 1764.
   Scribe: Clerk? Grenville?
   Seal fragment

2. [1764] Aug 5 Sunday
   SUBJECT: Invites family to dinner.
   Scribe: Accompanied by modern note on yellow paper: "handwriting of THOMAS ASTLE" (Astle, 1735-1803, was an antiquarian and palaeographer; in July 1764 Grenville created the office of "Methodiser of State Papers" and appointed him to it, where he continued until 1800. [See DNB; Sainty's Officials of the Sec. of State.])
   Date: Sunday Aug 5 was 1764 or 1770.
   Scribe: Accompanied by modern note on yellow paper: "Mrs Grenville's handwriting?" "1765".

3. [1765] Jun 16 Sunday [Bucks:] Wotton
   SUBJECT: Going to Stowe so cannot call until Saturday.
   Thanks for information about Heathrop Bridge. DIRECTED TO: Sir William Lee Bart.
   Scribe: Accompanied by modern note on yellow paper: "Mrs Grenville's handwriting?" "1765."
   Date: Sunday June 16 could be 1754, 1765, 1771.

4. 1766 Sep 9 [Bucks:] Wotton
   SUBJECT: Dine with us tomorrow to meet Lord Harcourt; come early for a pre-dinner walk; best from Lord and Lady Hyde. DIRECTED TO: Sir William Lee Bart.
   Scribe: Clerk? Grenville?
   Mark of wafer.
   Note: "Lord Hyde" was Thomas Villiers, 1709-1786, who became 5th earl Clarendon.

5. [1763x1769] Jul 30 [Bucks:] Wotton
   SUBJECT: Inviting selves to dinner. DIRECTED TO: Sir William Lee Bart
   Scribe: Clerk? Grenville?
   Franked: George Grenville.
   Torn: hole.

6. "Mr & Mrs Grenville & Miss Stapleton"
   [1763x1769] Monday [Bucks:] Wotton
   SUBJECT: Miss Elizabeth Grenville better; glad you got home safe. DIRECTED TO: Sir William Lee Bart.
   Scribe: Clerk? Grenville?

7. [1763x1769] Sunday [Bucks:] Wotton
   SUBJECT: Glad that the young gentlemen have found benefit from the sea bathing. Mrs Grenville continues out of order. Mutual visits.
   Scribe: Clerk? Grenville?
   Faint calculations in red chalk at top of text.
   3/4 leaf -- head torn off.

END OF MR GEORGE GRENVILLE, 1712-1770.
Co. GRENVILLE, GEORGE, son of the above, later Marquis of BUCKINGHAM, 1753-1813.
"George Grenville" 1753-?.
"George Nugent Grenville" [Not given in the genealogical tools; used in these letters in early 1779 and n.d.; perhaps unofficially assumed when he married Mary Elizabeth Nugent in 1775 Apr 16?].
George Nugent-Temple Grenville, Marquess of Buckingham, or "Nugent-Buckingham", 1784-1813.

Letters to Sir William Lee of Hartwell, and to "Dear Sir" (probably the same):
political, social, enclosure-tithes arrangement.

1. "George Grenville" 1774 Nov 7 [Bucks:] Wotton
TO: "Dear Sir".
SUBJECT: Your goodness to me throughout the [Bucks?] election business. On way to London. DIRECTED TO: "Sr W. Lee Bart, Hartwell"
INCIPIT: It was my intention...
SEAL (armorial): clear but broken
1p & a (1 piece) Old no.: 5:13

2. "George Grenville" 1775 Apr 3 [London:] Bolton St
TO: "Dear Sir" [Sir William Lee, Hartwell]
SUBJECT: Lord Temple was very ill, but thanks you for the trouble you've taken over the Winchenden [Bucks?] estate. We should recess soon. Hope to visit you soon at Hartwell; best to Lady Elizabeth.
NOTE: Richard Grenville, 1711-1779, son of Hester Temple, and eldest brother of George Grenville (Ca above), became Earl Temple in 1752, d. at Stowe Sep 1779. He was succeeded by his nephew (this writer).
1p (1 piece) Old no.: 5:14

3. "George Nugent Grenville" [1775x1776?] Thursday night
TO: "My dear Sir" [Sir William Lee, Hartwell]
SUBJECT: On return from Newport Pagnell I hear of your son's dreadful accident; is there anything that Mrs Grenville or I can do, here or at Hartwell for you or Lady Elizabeth?
Date: from form of signature and style of "Mrs Grenville": his wife's father was created Earl Nugent on 1776 July 21, and probably she was styled "Lady Mary" thereafter.
SEAL (armorial): fine
TORN: outer 2/3 of leaf 2 torn away
1p (1 piece) Old no.: 5:26

4. "George Nugent Grenville" [1775x1776?] Sunday morn [Bucks:] Wotton
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Invitation to dinner. Best from Mrs Grenville to Lady Elizabeth.
DIRECTED TO: Sir Wm Lee Bar:t Hartwell.
Date: from form of signature and style of "Mrs Grenville".
SEAL fragment (black wax)
1p & a (1 piece) Old no.: 5:18
5. "George Nugent Grenville"
1779 Jan 28 [London:] Bolton St
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: The proprietors of the open fields of Bierton with Broughton & of Hulcott agree to an enclosure; do you (as lessee of the Chapter of Lincoln of the tithes in the upper field)? Same terms which you accepted in the Aylesbury enclosure; Burnham will give you details. Happy that you've taken a house in London; our best to Lady Elizabeth.

NOTE: Both parishes are in Bucks: Bierton 1 1/2 mi N of Aylesbury; Hulcott 3 mi NE of Aylesbury.

NOTE: A Joseph Burnham appears in BRO D.12:47.

6. "George Nugent Grenville"
1779 Feb 9 London
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Thanks for your acquiescence. Sorry to have been ignorant of your property there (Burnham's fault); rushed the petition because the time was expiring. Best from Lady Mary to Lady Elizabeth.

7. "George Nugent Grenville"
1779 Apr 8 [Bucks:] Wotton
TO: "Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Mr Burnham is preparing a clause to compensate you for tithes (details). The Church of Lincoln do not accept Mr Grace, but many consents (Free-School at Aylesbury, Church of Lincoln, the Mercers) have been given to Mr Taylor of Swanbourne; do you give your consent? Tithes and the rights of vicars of Bierton and Aylesbury (adjusted at the Aylesbury enclosure). Staying until Sunday the 18th. Best from Lady Mary to Lady Elizabeth.

8. "Temple"
1779 Sep 13 [Bucks:] Stowe
TO: "My Dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Your long kindness to our family. Have you plans for the [Buckinghamshire] seat vacated [by my elevation to the peerage]? Would you support my brother [Thomas]? Best to Lady Elizabeth.

NOTE: With this was found Lee's reply, Ab:2 above.

9. "Temple"
[1779 Sep] Wed [Bucks:] Stowe
TO: "My dear Sir"
SUBJECT: Apology for my brother's being so busy canvassing that he hasn't called on you; hopes to return to Aylesbury Sat. Would you like to talk over the nominating meeting with me? Every branch of the family feels your goodness.

NOTE: With this was found Lee's reply, Ab:3 above.

END OF GEORGE NUGENT GRENVILLE, MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM, 1753-1813.
COLLECTION NAME: Guttridge-Lee collection.

DETAILED CONTENTS (cont.)

Cd. GRENVILLE, THOMAS, brother of Cc, 1755-1846.
Letters to Sir William Lee: cavalry and politics.

1. [1778x1780?] [Bucks:] Aylesbury
   TO: "Dear Sir William"
   SUBJECT: Thanks for letter, and for the assistance you sent the Troop --
details of horses required. DIRECTED TO: Sir William Lee Bart.
   NOTE: Wafer shows method of folding.
   Date: Thomas was appointed ensign in the Coldstream Guards May 1778, Lt. in
   the 80th foot Oct 1779 but was "ultimately driven to resign" (DNB intimates soon after
   being elected to Parliament in 1780).
   Wafer.

2. 1780 Sep 2 [Bucks:] Stowe
   TO: "Dear Sir", Hartwell
   SUBJECT: The sudden dissolution of Parliament leads me to seek election for
   [Buckinghamshire]; hope you will support me in elections. Your kind protection. My
   brother will visit you soon.
   NOTE: Annotation (modern) in pencil at head: "Book collector"

3. [1780?] Sunday morn
   TO: "Dear Sir" [Sir William Lee, Hartwell]
   SUBJECT: Brother and I will visit Hartwell before the meeting; thanks for
   support.
   ON VERSO OF P.1: Copy of Lee's brief reply (3rd person): certainly.

END OF THOMAS GRENVILLE, 1755-1846.
END OF SECTION C (GRENVILLE FAMILY)
D. STANHOPE FAMILY (CHESTERFIELD)
Da. STANHOPE, WILLIAM, 1702-1772, brother of 4th Earl of Chesterfield; of Eythrope near Aylesbury, MP for Buckinghamshire 1727-1768; then retired to Italy.

Letters probably to Sir William Lee. Political (primarily Aylesbury and Buckinghamshire elections 1760-1768, and possibly 1753 [item 2]). All signed "W. Stanhope."

1. [1760 or 1762] Nov 27 London
TO: "My Dear Sr Wm" [Sir William Lee?]
SUBJECT: Please support Mr Ellis who is offering himself for Aylesbury. I'll be at "Etherup" on Sat and call on you Sunday; Ellis will walk the town Monday next.

INCIPIT: I take the first opportunity to... Date: Welbore Ellis, 1713-1802 (later Baron Mendip), son-in-law of WS, had been in Parliament since 1741; a friend of Henry Fox. 1761 general election returned for the expensive seat of Aylesbury along with Wilkes. In December 1762 had to stand again, since he had accepted a government office; elected Dec 22. (Wilkes was expelled Jan 1764.) (1765 W.E. said he'd pay the electors no more.) At the general election of 1768 he gave up his seat for Petersfield. The preliminary county meeting and canvassing before a general election would take about a year. [Namier, DNB] It seems slightly more likely that this note was written during the canvassing for the 1761 election than for the 1762 by-election.

NOTE: Annotated in modern pencil at head "Quaere 1760 to Sir W Lee".

2. [1760? or 1753?] Dec 11 [London:] Dover St
TO: "Dear Sr Wm" [Sir William Lee?]
SUBJECT: Thanks for offering to write to Sr J: Packington, but he has declared for Willes. So we must make sure the sheriff will deliver the precepts to our returning officers, and not to J.P. Would Mr Vanhattem therefore serve as sheriff next year? I'll lend him the money if necessary. Reassure his mother. We want Mr Price under-sheriff. Can Mr Smith persuade his brother Hill not to canvass for any candidate?

INCIPIT: I am extremly oblig'd to you...

Date: Sir John Pakington (1722?-1762), of Westwood (Worc.) and Aylesbury, succeeded Sir Herbert P. in 1748; he d. 30 Nov 1762, and was succeeded by Sir Herbert. [Burke's Baronetage] John Willes (1721?-1784) stood for Aylesbury in 1754 and was returned unopposed; in 1761 he contested Bridgewater (Somerset), but was defeated. [Namier]; on 29 Nov 1760 John Willis of Albemarle St asked Sir William for his second vote at forthcoming Borough election [BRO D.11:58].

NOTES: Annotated in ink at head.

NOTES: Sir John Vanhattem of Dinton Hall (Lee's neighbour) in correspondence with him 1784 and 1786 [BRO D.1:53 and D.11:32].

3. [1763?] Dec 6 London
TO: "Sr" [Sir William Lee?]
SUBJECT: Though you dislike the Opposition, and I the Administration, yet we remain friends -- I oppose measures not men. When my Brother was in place I never gave him a vote; Mr Ellis and I are friends. "Mr Walsh has inform'd you of my agreement wth Mr Wilks, made at Mr Ellis's first Election, therefore if Mr Wilkes recommends any one in his room, I must do my utmost to serve him. But as you have recommended, so rich a purchaser, I think Mr Wilks will find it difficult to find one tht will bid against him." I never said you wanted a vacancy.

INCIPIT: You can't be more concern'd than I am...

Date: See Da:1 "Date". Perhaps preparing for the 1764 by-election.

ANNOTATION: Pencil scribbles on p.4.
4. [1763x1768?] Saturday Morning  London: Dover Street  
TO: "Dear Sir" "Sr Wm Lee Bart"  
SUBJECT: I missed you in Poland Street; come to dine; my niece Hotham will welcome Lady Elizabeth.  
Date: After Sir William's marriage; before WS's death; probably before WS's retirement to Italy in 1768.  
Folded cornerwise. Wafer and its hole.  

5. [1752x1768?] Wensday [Bucks: Aylesbury:] "Ether"  
TO: "Dear Sr" [Sir William Lee?]  
SUBJECT: This unhappy occasion. Waited for Mr Argyle's evidence, but he has not come, and I must go to Ld Temple's.  
INCIPIT: Being engag'd to be at Lord Temple's...  
Date: After Grenville became Temple; before WS's death in 1772; probably before WS retired to Italy in 1768.  
NOTE: Annotation in blue ink: "To Sir W. Lee"  

6. 1767 Aug 19  [London?]  
TO: "Dr Sr" [Sir William Lee]  
SUBJECT: My brother's illness; if it means a by-election you should have no trouble. If you should be a candidate at the General Election Mr Green has my orders to do the same as if I stood myself. Sorry to decline, but my health requires me to spend winters abroad; and I hate Parliament. Leaving for Spa. Best to Lady Elizabeth.  
INCIPIT: Although my Brother is reliev'd...  

7. 1767 Sep 17  [Belgium:] Spa  
TO: "Dear Sir" [Sir William Lee]  
SUBJECT: Glad you're thinking of standing for the County: join Mr Lowndes. Green and Walsh will serve you. Ld Harcourt can influence the Courtiers Interest in the Chilterns; Ld Shelburne, the Ld. Lt.; you the D. of Portland, Ld Trevor. Details of vote-getting. Brother better; my gamekeeper. Best to Lady Elizabeth.  
INCIPIT: I receiv'd the favor of yrs last...  

8. 1767 Sep 23  [Belgium:] Spa  
TO: "Dear Sir" [Sir William Lee?]  
SUBJECT: Enclosing my letter to Ld Delespencer & my declaration to the County [Da:9] (have Mr Green print 300 copies, and insert in the newspapers). Instructions for canvassing; perhaps Lowndes or a Burnham will take you round; Mr Scawen of Colebroke might be helpful if still alive (he was most furious for the whig interest when I first stood [in 1727]). Ld Winchelsea.  
INCIPIT: I enclose you my letter...  
NOTE: Sir Thomas Scawen, 1650-1730, of Horton (Bucks) near Colnbrooke, had been an MP [v. Sedgwick]; perhaps his son was the furious Whig.  

9. 1767 Sep 23  [Belgium:] Spa  
TO: "To The Gentlemen Clergy and Freeholders of the County of Bucks"  
SUBJECT: Thanks for electing me so often; health deters me from continuing. I recommend Sir Wm Lee.  
NOTE: Presumably enclosed in Da:8.  
SCRIBE: Probably not WS.  
Pencil scribbled botanical sketch on verso.
COLLECTION NAME: Guttridge-Lee collection.

DETAILED CONTENTS Da [cont.]:

10. 1767 Nov 11  [France:] Nice  
TO: "My Dear Sir"  [Sir William Lee?]
SUBJECT: Instructions for canvassing. Two letters from me for Delespencer to read at the dinner dependent on your decision to declare or not. "I don't think either Verney or Greenville cou'd have the face to offer." My brother's approaching death may get you into Parliament with ease. My health much improved.

2p (1 piece)  
Old no.: 21:10

11. 1768 Feb 6  [France:] Nice  
TO: "Dear Sir"  "Sir Wm Lee..."
SUBJECT: Sorry about the Quarter Sessions. If you had joined Lowndes I think you would both have been chose for less than 1500 pounds each, in spite of Ld Verney had he spent ten thousand. Cannot understand Lord De's actions. Mr Greenville may stand for Bucks to oblige his brother. Your bad weather; my freedom from pain. Best to Lady Eliz.  
DIRECTED TO: Sir Wm Lee Bart at Heartwell...
FRAGILE: both leaves torn on folds.
SEAL (armorial)

END OF WILLIAM STANHOPE

Db. STANHOPE, EUGENIA, d. 1783, wife of Philip Stanhope (d. 1768), natural son of Philip Dormer Stanhope, 4th Earl of Chesterfield. Namier says he "m. secretly c. 1759 Eugenia Peeters, illeg. dau. of one Domville of Ireland."

1. 1773 Jul 17  London  
TO: "Sir"  "Sir Willm Lee Baronet..."  
SUBJECT: "Although unknown to you" I ask you to give the enclosed to Rev. Dr. Domville* when he is alone, or forward it.
Signed: Eugenia Stanhope
No enclosure.
Pencil list of cities and sums on verso.
Seal fragment.

END OF EUGENIA STANHOPE
Do. CHESTERFIELD, PHILIP STANHOPE, 5th earl of, 1755-1815.

Letters, probably to Sir William Lee. Most political (arranging the Aylesbury 1780 elections); others formally social, American war news, military patronage. Nos 2-5, 7 signed "Chesterfield". (Although most are dated from Eythrope, it was not one of his principal seats.)

1. "Lord & Lady Chesterfield and Miss Thistlethwayte" (3rd person; unsigned) 1780 Feb 10 [Bucks: Aylesbury ::] Eythrope

TO: "Sir Wm and Lady Elizth Lee"
SUBJECT: May we come to dinner and bring Mr Tuttridge?

NOTE: Chesterfield had m. his first wife, Anne (or Selina) Thistlethwayte (1759-1798), in 1777. In 1784 Anne's sister Eliza(beth) m. Chesterfield's cousin Philip Stanhope. See Burke's Peerage, and 1952 Landed Gentry under Borthwick-Norton.

SCRIBE: Probably Chesterfield.
SEAL: (armorial) fragment

2. 1780 Sep 1

TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee?]
SUBJECT: Capt. Edwards is dead; my friend Mr Ord wishes to succeed him in Aylesbury; will you attend him on his canvass tomorrow?

NOTE: Thomas Orde, 1746-1807 (later Thomas Orde-Powlett, Baron Bolton) was MP for Aylesbury 1780-1784. [DNB, Namier]

3. 1780 Sep 2

TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee?]
SUBJECT: Will you and Mr Jones breakfast with Ord here and accompany him to Aylesbury?

INCIPIT: I hope you have received the Express...

4. [1780 Sep 3?] Sunday [Bucks: Aylesbury::] Eythrope

TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee?]
SUBJECT: Problems with Mr Ord's nomination. Yesterday's difficulties arose from very venal principles. They set Mr Bacon and Ord at defiance. Need not trouble you further.

Date: The election must come Friday or Saturday. [From letter] Date of the poll was 7 Sept 1780 (a Thursday). [Namier] Parl. was dissolved 1 Sept 1780, new parl. summoned for 31 Oct. In 1780 3 Sep and 10 Sep were Sundays.

INCIPIT: I am infinitely flattered by the kind letter...

WITH THIS WAS FOUND: MS 90 Ab:5 "Sunday" and :6 "Monday": replies from Lee to "My Lord", regretting inability to help.

5. 1780 Sep 4 [Bucks: Aylesbury::] Eythrope

TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee?]
SUBJECT: Please support Mr Ord, since an opposition is begun.

INCIPIT: Though you did not originally intend interfering...

6. "Lord Chesterfield" (3rd person; unsigned) [1780] Oct 9

TO: "Sir William Lee"
SUBJECT: An express from Lord Sandwich brings news of Cornwallis' victory at Cambden, S. Carolina: some details.

Date: The battle at Camden, S. Carolina, occurred on 1780 Aug 16.
SCRIBE: Not Chesterfield.
7. 1782 Apr 6

[Bucks: Aylesbury:; Eythrope]

TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee?]

SUBJECT: Mrs Alt's housekeeper is your coachman's wife and has enough money to purchase his discharge from the 65th Regt; will you consent?

WITH THIS WAS FOUND: MS 90 Ab:7: reply from Lee to "My Lord". 1p (1 piece) Old no.: 23:9

END OF 5TH EARL CHESTERFIELD

Dd. CHESTERFIELD, PHILIP DORMER STANHOPE, 4th earl, 1694-1773.

1. [Clerk's hand]

[1746 Nov 14 or later].

"An Abstract of the produce of Wool-Licenses to ... Philip, Earl of Chesterfield

STATUS: Appears to be governmental fair copy.

NOTE: Pencil annotation on p.4 "Trade/Wool 1746"

Watermark: HR.

Found with section Dc.

1p & d (1 piece) Old no.: 22:1

END OF 4TH EARL CHESTERFIELD

END OF SECTION D (STANHOPE FAMILY)
E. PARKER FAMILY (MACCLESFIELD)

Ea. MACCLESFIELD, Thomas Parker, 3rd earl of, 1723-1795.
1. 1776 Oct 30 [Oxon: Tetsworth:] Shirburn Castle
   TO: "Sir" [Lee]
   SUBJECT: Your trouble with the Ox; glad that the horses answer; laurel berries
   from Thame; Powell. Can't come to Hartwell, so please have the money paid. Best
   to Lady Elizabeth Lee.
   Signed: "Macclesfield"
   2p (1 piece)
   Old no.: 15:1

Eb. MACCLESFIELD, Mary (Heathcote) Parker, Lady, 1726-1812, wife of TP above.
1. [1776 Nov 5] Tuesday noon [Oxon: Tetsworth:] Shirburn Castle
   TO: "Sir" [Lee]
   SUBJECT: My Lord is from home, so I am receipting your payment — don't
   apologise, I'm sorry we couldn't manage to come to Hartwell. Met you and Lady Elizabeth
   at Brill. If you don't come to town this winter we will visit Hartwell in the spring.
   My daughter's best to Lady Elizabeth and Miss Claxton.
   Signed: "M. Macclesfield"
   Date: from receipt
   RECEIPT on p. 3: 1776 Nov 5, signed "M. Macclesfield", for draught on Brown,
   Colinson, & Tritton.
   Docketed: "Lady Macclesfield's Rect ..."
   3p & d (1 piece)
   Old no.: 16:2

Bo. MACCLESFIELD, George Parker, 4th earl of, 1755-1842.
1. 1798 Mar 21 [London:] Wimpole Street
   TO: "Sir" [Lee?]
   SUBJECT: I told Lady Harcourt that our old friend Lady Tynte is dead, and I am
   an executor: a legacy to you after the death of her sister. Interest on your bond to
   her of 21 May 1788 appears not to have been paid; you may have to pay it off.
   Your second son is in the entail after Mr Poulett Mr Parkhurst Lord H. Poulett my Brother &
   their issue male. Best to Lady Elizabeth.
   TYNTE: Sir Charles Kemys Tynte, 5th bart., of Somerset and Wales, m. Anne
   Busby of Addington, Bucks, in 1738; she was buried 24 Mar 1798. [Cokayne's Baronetage]
   Signed: "Macclesfield"
   3p & d (1 piece)
   Old no.: 16:3

2. 1798 Dec 3 [Oxon: Tetsworth:] Shirburn Castle
   TO: "Sir" [Lee]
   SUBJECT: The account will be sent to you as soon as Sr P. Hales & Sr J.
   Mordaunt are settled in Town; don't worry about interest till then. Doubt assets will
   cover legacies. Everybody is now become very military so I probably will have no time
   to visit you at Hartwell. Best from Lady M. to Lady Elizabeth.
   Signed: "Macclesfield"
   3p & d (1 piece)
   Old no.: 16:4

3. 1803 May 20 [Oxon:] Tetsworth:: Shirburn Castle
   TO: "Sir" "The Revd Sr GEORGE LEE Bart., Stone, Aylesbury."
   SUBJECT: In reply, the interest on your father's bond to Lady Tynte was in
   arrears at his death: our agent (Mr Hill)'s letters; Mr Poulett. Will consult the
   records when I return to London.
   Signed: "Macclesfield"
   SEAL: (armorial) black, entire
   Franked and postmarked Free.
   TORN: 4 x 1 inch torn from margin.
   2p & a (1 piece)
   Old no.: 16:5

END OF SECTION E (EARLS OF MACCLESFIELD)
F. PAULET FAMILY (WINCHESTER)

FATHER WINCHESTER, George Paulet, 12th marquess of, 1722-1800.

Letters to Lee requesting interest; ill-health. All signed "Winchester".

1. 1795 Mar 6 [Hants:] Amport House near Andover
   TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee]
   SUBJECT: Ill-health of myself and Lady Winchester. Please send the interest
due. Best to Lady Elizabeth Lee. 1p (1 piece)
   Old no.: 29:1

2. 1795 Dec 1 [Hants: Andover::] Amport House
   TO: "Dear Sir" "Sr Wm Lee Bart..."
   SUBJECT: Thanks for the Draft; apology for mistake. Lady Winchester's ill
   health.
   NOTE: Direction may be marked in another hand "Receipt"
   SEAL (monogram): broken fragment kept loose inside letter.
   Franked. Postmarked FREE. 1p & a (1 piece)
   Old no.: 29:2

3. 1798 Nov 14 [Hants: Andover::] Amport House
   TO: "My Dear Sir" [Lee?]
   SUBJECT: Please send interest: the last I received was Nov 1791. Best to Lady
   Elizabeth.
   1p & d (1 piece)
   Old no.: 29:3

FATHER WINCHESTER, Charles Ingoldsby Paulet, 13th marquess of, 1764-1843. (3rd person)

1. 1803 May 14 [London]: 54 Baker Street
   TO: Sir George Lee.
   SUBJECT: Thanks for paying off the bond & interest on the late Sir Wm Lee.
   Enclosing Mr Munnings' memo (concerning changing the pay-date in 1780 from 29 May to 1
   Nov) by request of Mr Scrope Barnard. (See Fb:2).
   NOTE: For Scrope Barnard see NOTE for Ae:1.
   1p (1 piece)
   Old no.: 29:4

2. MUNNINGS, J.[or I.]S.
   1803 May 13
   MEMORANDUM: Was the interest date changed on the bond from Sir William Lee to the
   Marquess of Winchester?
   Leaf torn in half.
   1p (1 piece)
   Old no.: 29:5

END OF SECTION F (MARQUESS OF WINCHESTER)
G. Miscellaneous letters written to Sir William Lee, or to "Sir" (possibly Lee). Arranged roughly chronologically.

1. JELFE, William
   1760 Apr 16 [or 1765] [London: Westminster:] New Palace Yard
   TO: Sir William Lee Bart at Hartwell...
   SUBJECT: Advice on masonry: you say that your workmen find the plinth too thin for the chain-bar. If they have set the plinth have them make the next course very sturdy.
   NOTE: Signature doubtful.
   SEAL (monogram)
   Postmarks
   2p & a (1 piece)
   Old no.: 10:1

2. CARDIGAN, George Brudenell (later Montagu), 4th earl of, 1712-1790.
   1762 Sep 27 [Berkshire:] Windsor Castle
   TO: "Sir"
   SUBJECT: Apology for the accident arising from the rubbish left at Cardigan's door [apparently at Richmond] by the builder, Mr Edmead.
   NOTE ON WRITER: Cardigan was Constable of Windsor Castle 1752-1790. From 1766 titled Duke of Montagu. [Cokayne]
   Signed: Cardigan
   INCIPIT: I was not favord with Your Letter...
   3p & sum (1 piece)
   Old no.: 2:1

3. LELAND, John, 1691-1766.
   1763 Jul 26 [Ireland:] Dublin
   TO: Sir William Lee Baronet at Richmond
   SUBJECT: Request for your annual contribution. I understood you will be at Richmond until your House near Aylesbury is finished; is it now completed? If you approve of the work now in the press please recommend it. Congratulations on your marriage (unless previously married).
   NOTE ON WRITER: Irish nonconformist divine. [DNB]
   SEAL: male profile
   2p & annotation & a (1 piece)
   Old no.: 13:1

4. [WARBURTON, William, bp. of Gloucester, 1698-1779]
   1763 Oct 2 [Somerset: Bath::] Prior Park
   TO: "Sir"
   SUBJECT: Recommends William Handy [or Hardy] as a footman.
   NOTE ON PRIOR PARK: John Allen, 1694-1764, efficient amender of postal system, and quarry-master, was known for lavishly entertaining notables (including Pitt, Pope, Fielding, and several bishops) at his seat, Prior Park. Warburton, a religious and literary controversialist, m. Allen's niece and heir in 1745; in 1760 Allen persuaded Pitt to make W. bishop of Gloucester. W. lived at Prior Park until 1769. [DNB]
   Signed: W. Gloucester.
   1p (1 piece).
   Old no.: 27:1

5. JENNINGS, Ross
   1772 Aug 1 Newnham
   TO: Sir William Lee Bart at Hartwell...
   SUBJECT: My sister still too ill to return to Lady Elizabeth Lee's service, and remains at my brother's in Bishopsgate-within. Drs James and Pitcairn. Will have your chaise sent to you; my horse.
   PLACE: There are Newnhams in several counties; but this may be an alternative spelling for the Earl of Harcourt's seat, Nuneham Courtenay in Oxfordshire.
   HANDLE WITH CARE: some holes and tears.
   SEAL (monogram)
   2p & a (1 piece)
   Old no.: 11:1
6. STAINFORTH, Elizabeth, Mrs, housekeeper for Queen Charlotte.
   TO: "Sir" "Sir Willm Lee"
   SUBJECT: Her Majesty liked the pig; another would be acceptable. Must allow
   the Clerks of the Kitchen to pay the customary guinea to your servant. The Queen
   would like the bread much browner. Servant to Lady Elizabeth.
   INCIPIT: I s:d have wrote last night...
   DATE AND PLACE: 1763x1801. Sir William married in 1763; his son Sir William
died in 1801. "Mrs Stainforth" is housekeeper of "The Queen's Palace" in our issues
of the Royal Kalendar, 1782-1799, but not in 1806. Fanny Burney's Journal mentions
Mrs Stainforth in 1787, 1789, and 1791, but does not identify her except as one of the
women about Queen Charlotte. Calendar of Home Office Papers 1773-1775 no. 1386
includes "Mrs Eliz. Stainforth Housekeeper to Her Majesty" among those with passes to St. James
Park in March 1775. BRO D.10:75-76 contains two letters from her "N.D. but 1771", one
thanking him for the pig.
   George III bought the lease of Buckingham House in 1762 with 11 years to run; in
June 1762 the royal family moved in; he settled it on Queen Charlotte in 1775, from
which time it was known as "The Queen's House" until her death in 1818. [Bruce Graeme,
the Story of Buckingham Palace, 1970; Goring, O. G. From Goring House to Buckingham
866, to an assembly of protestors "at the Queen's House" in May 1768.
   Signed: "E. Stainforth".
   NOTE: Ill-spelt. 2p & a (1 piece)

7. STAINFORTH, E., Mrs, housekeeper for Queen Charlotte.
   [1763 x 1801] ye 22 The Queen's House
   TO: "Sir Willm Lee, Bart, Hartwell near Ailsbury Berks" (third person)
   SUBJECT: Do not worry, the bread never comes too late for the Queen's
   breakfast, though the basket may not catch the coach back. Miss Stainforth's best to
   Lady Elizabeth.
   INCIPIT: Mrs Stainforth is sorry Sir...
   Postmark: 2 letters in circle: EK?.
   1p & a (1 piece)

8. HYDE, West, colonel
   1781 Mar 16 [London:] Bruton Street
   TO: "Sir" [Lee?]
   SUBJECT: Close questioning as to the character of John Simmonds, who left your
   service June last; his physical description.
   Recipient: probably Lee, because part of Halliday-Lee collection.
   2p (1 piece)

9. VERNEY, Ralph Verney, 2nd earl, 1712-1791.
   1784 Apr 5
   TO: "Sir" "Sr Wm Lee Bart Hartwell..."
   SUBJECT: Formal letter of thanks for support in Bucks election.
   Signed: Verney.
   SEAL fragment
   1p & a (1 piece)

10. GREENHILL, John Russell, b. ca. 1730, rector of Cottisford.
    1784 Apr 6 [Oxon:] Cottisford [SW of Buckingham]
    TO: "Sir" [Lee]
    SUBJECT: My votes in Bucks election will be for Lord Verney (vs Mr Aubrey) and
    Mr Grenville. I have instructed my agent at Checkers [Bucks], Samuel Webb of Little
    Hampden, to give you advice, and to see that the tenants there vote for V. But
    canvassing is inconsistent with my profession. My friend Mr Bullock. Best to Lady
    Elisabeth Lee.
    NOTE: BRO D.1:54 has a Joseph Bullock of Liscombe House, 1784.
    3p (1 piece)
11. NEWCOME, Peter, 1727-1797?
[1763 x 1797 ??] Aug 30
[Herts: Shenley]
TO: "Dear Sir" [Lee?]
SUBJECT: Could not accept your invitation since busy with the harvest; next week? Respects to "the Lady of Hartwell"
WRITER: Two Peter Newcomes were rectors of Shenley in the 18th century: the father d. 1744; the son, an antiquary, became rector in 1752. [DNB]. BRO D.8:32-43
NOTES: Notes personal correspondence with Sir William 1763-1779.
INCIPIT: I Recd your agreeable invitation...
Date: Probably after WL's marriage; before Newcome's death.
2p (1 piece)
Old no.: 17:1

12. "Solicitor-General" (third person)
[1749 x 1801 Jun 3] post 4 Lincolns Inn fields
TO: Sir Wm Lee.
SUBJECT: Cannot get at the papers until 9 (reasons). Cannot resolve the query about the 32000 without referring to the settlement. DIRECTED TO: Sir Wm Lee Bt.
INCIPIT: The Solr Genl presents his compliments to Sir Wm Lee...
Date: After Sir William succeeded to the baronetcy in 1749; before his son William d. in 1801.
Watermark: "J. Whatman"
Solicitors General 1749-1801: Hon. Wm Murray; Sir Richard Lloyd; Hon. Charles Yorke; Fletcher Norton; Wm de Grey; Edward Willes; John Dunning; Edward Thurlow; Alexander Wedderburn; James Wallace; James Mansfield; John Lee; Richard Pepper Arden; Archibald Macdonald; Sir John Scott; Sir John Mitford; Sir Wm Grant; Hon. Spencer Perceval [Haydn's Book of Dignities].
Docketed: Mr Solicitor General's note June 3d.
Wafer.
1p & d (1 piece)
Old no.: 30:1

H. Letter possibly written to Sir George Lee, 1700-1758, MP, Dean of the Arches; Sir William's uncle.

1. FOX, Henry, 1st baron Holland, 1703-1774.
[1755] Sep 30
TO: "Sir" [?Sir George Lee]
SUBJECT: Please attend Commons to show support for the King's appointment of Fox as Secretary of State.
INCIPIT: The King has declared His intentions...
STATUS: Contemporary copy, marked "Copy", signed "(sign'd) H. Fox".
Form letter, or copy of a form letter.
Annotation (modern) in pencil at head of MS: "To the Rt Hon Sir G. Lee MP probably as a MP."
See NOTES below.
1p (1 piece)
Old no.: 4:1

Z. Descriptions by former owners.

Recto: fragment of text numbered 44, dated "...21 1916", signed Fenwick.
[Thomas Fitzroy Fenwick, 1856-1938, inherited and administered Sir Thomas Phillips' library 1885-1938.]
1 piece

14 pieces
NOTES.

Aa.2. Queen's Light Dragoons is the only obvious military expansion. There are two
Queen's Dragoons in Beatson in this period; the 16th's second Colonel was The
Hon. Wm. Harcourt, appointed 1779 Oct 20, no successor shown. The other regiment was
the Queen's Own; probably "Q.L.D." would not have been used to signify it. BRO F says
that William entered the army in 1785 in the regiment of his uncle Gen. William
Harcourt.

DNB says that in Oct 1759 Harcourt had "a troop in the 16th light dragoons, the
latter raised entirely at his father's expense, and called 'Harcourt's Black Horse'". He
passed through other regiments, and became Lt.-Colonel of the 16th Light Dragoons
(later Lancers) in 1768. (The new dragoon regiments were numbered separately for a
time: the 1768 Army List calls it "2nd or queen's light dragoons"). He accompanied the
regiment to America, and in 1776 he captured Gen. Charles Lee. Much was made of this,
and when Burgoyne resigned Harcourt was made Colonel of the 16th Light Dragoons.
[Cokaigne says "16th Light Dragoons (Lancers 1815)"] He remained
Colonel until his
death in 1830.

White's Bibliography of Regimental Histories... 1965 has a section "16th/5th The
Queen's Lancers" (i.e. an amalgamation between the 16th and the 5th Royal Irish Lancers
which apparently took place in 1925), with a subsection "16th The Queen's Lancers" which
contains titles "... the Sixteenth, or The Queen's Regiment of Light Dragoons,
Lancers... Formation in 1759... Services to 1841"; "... The Queen's Light Dragoons
(Lancers)..."; "...the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, 1925-1961." BM uses as a
heading "The 16th (Queen's) Lancers".

Ba.1. Colonel Evelyn. Simon Harcourt's mother was Elizabeth Evelyn, sister of John
(1st bart., 1682-1753) and granddaughter of John Evelyn the diarist. The Colonel may be
William Evelyn, 1723-1783, a son of the 1st bart., captain in the 2nd footguards from
1754; colonel from 1762, colonel of 29th foot 1769 to death. He was Major-General 1770,
Lt-General 1777, MP for Helston 1767-1774. [Source: Namier.]

Ba:3. Mrs Schutz. Colonel John Lee, d. 1760, was the 3rd son of Thomas Lee (the 2nd
bart.) His second wife was Mary Browne. After his death she m. Colonel Schutz. Her
sons were Thomas Lee (an equerry at court), and John Lee (an ensign). [Source:
Playfair.] Perhaps she is this Mrs Schutz. BRO mentions "Col. and Mrs Schutz" in 1762.

Db.1 Dr Domvile. A relation of hers? perhaps her father? The only Dr Domvile found in
reference sources is Benjamin Barrington, who entered Trinity College Dublin in 1726 aged
15; B.D. and D.D. Dublin; 1747 Dean of Armagh; 1769 changed name to Domville; 1769
entered Cambridge. [Venn Alum Cant]. BRO D.3:24-39 shows him at Oxford/Cambridge, Bath,
and returning to Ireland 1770 Oct 6 - 1773 July 29.
NOTES [cont.]

0:1. This political letter shocked some of its recipients, including Sir George Lee. See LB Namier "The Circular Letters: an 18th-century Whip to Members of Parliament" in EHR XLIV (Oct 1929) pp 588-611. (It had been customary for the head of the government to send round a "circular letter" to the friends of the administration inviting them to a pre-Parliament meeting. But Fox was not entitled to issue this letter, and moreover his letter was personal, not governmental. On 18 October Sir George Lee, enraged by Fox's "presumptuous letter", refused to disgrace himself by taking office with him. In November Fox explained that his copyist had omitted some words from some copies.)
**DATE-INDEX**

D = year doubtful; U = no date at all

Years in brackets show the span of years within which the undated letter must fall.

It seems likely that no item precedes 1760 except Dd:1 and H:1.

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[1771ca]D G:6-7 Stainforth, Elizabeth, housekeeper for the Queen.

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[1779x1780]

Grenville, Thomas

1780

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Sep 1 Dc:2 Chesterfield, Philip Stanhope, 5th Earl of
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[1781]

Mar 16 G:8 Hyde, West. To "Sir"

[1782]

Apr 6 Dc:7 Chesterfield, Philip Stanhope, 5th Earl of

1784

Apr 5 G:9 Verney, Ralph Verney, 2nd earl.

[1786]

Jan 26 Aa:1 Lee, William, 4th bart. To son William.
May 14 Ac:2 [Lady Tynte?] Receipt to Sir William Lee.

[1789]

Oct 19 Ab:8 Lee, William, 4th bart. To "Mr Secretary Grenvill"

1790


1795

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