

COLLECTION NAME: Guttridge-Holland collection

CONTENTS:

ARRANGED in apparent chronological order by cataloguer.

SIGNED: M. Fox 1-2; Mary Fox 3-9; Mary Holland 10, 12, 14; M.H. 11, 15, 17, 19; M. Holland 13, 16, 18, 20.

1. [1769 x 1771 Feb] Thursday Burlington Street.

SUBJECT: Getting ticket; invitation to the Opera; congratulations on the figure Mr Payne made yesterday in Commons.

SALUTATION: Dear Mrs Payne

DATE: After Payne's maiden speech; before he was knighted.

INCIPIT: I am very much obliged to you...

NOTE: Modern pencil annotation p.1: "(? Feb 2 1769)"

PHYS: 2p (1 piece)

FRAGILE! tearing at folds.

2. 1772 Jan 11 Winterslow

Jan 27 London

Feb 3 [London]

SUBJECT: Saddened by your departure for Antigua; Mrs Moore tells me you cleared Madeira (Mr George's ship in danger). Lady Di Beauclerk's stillbirth at Blenheim; Lady Pembroke; the Marlboroughs. I'm expecting to lie-in any day. Mr Crawford, Mr Hare, Lady Carlisle, Mr Conway, Mrs Crewe. Madame Henel [?], the new dancer at the Opera. If Mr Humphries has finished my picture I will enclose it. I see my brother Richard but little of Charles.

INCIPITS p1: I may as well begin a letter to you... p5: very much -- the Pantheon opens tonight...

PHYS: 8p (2 pieces)

RATHER FRAGILE: tearing slightly at folds.

3. [1772] Mar 31 Cavendish Square

Apr 17 [London]

SUBJECT: Had your letter from the Madeiras; Mrs Moore says that Sir Ralph's agent says you have now arrived in Antigua. My lying-in over a fortnight ago. Shall send this (and a work box from Mr Crawford -- designs from Sir Wm Hamilton's book) by Admiral Parry. Leaving tomorrow (Apr 18) for Winterslow; Charles and my brother promise to accompany me. Your nice nephew George visited me. Is it true that le cher petit Coquin is dead? if so I forgive him his faults. My sister and Lady Ossory; Mr Crew & M^{de} Bouverie. Mr Fox sending you a Queen Anne crown; I'm sending you a Staffordshire cameo.

SALUTATION: ...my dearest Lady Payne...

DATE: Follows 7:2 in subject.

INCIPITS: p.1: I should have thank'd you long before...; p.5: avant que j'aurois le plaisir de vous...

NOTES: 17 April letter in French

Modern pencil annotation p.1: "[1772]"

PHYS: 5p (2 pieces)

4. 1772 May 31 Cavendish Square

SUBJECT: Your letter from Antigua has come. Admiral Parry has not yet left so I add this to the previous one. Leaving for Winterslow (which is being painted). Rage for amusement as if there would never be another opportunity. Lord Gower & Miss Lloyd's breakfasts. Mr Fox admires Sir Ralph's speech. [My daughter] Caroline can point out the Leeward Islands on the map; Emily will be as pretty as her sister. Our ball: quadrille by Mr Horer, Ly Carlisle, Mr Boothby, Ly Harriot Stanley, Ld Carlisle, Mrs Damier, brother Richard, Ly Julia Howard. Saw Garrick's Richard III.

SALUTATION: ...my Dearest Ly Payne...

INCIPITS: p.1: I cannot tell you my Dearest Ly Payne...; p.5: introducing Emily to you when you...

PHYS: 6p (2 pieces)

RATHER FRAGILE: tearing at folds; HANDLE pp 5-6 WITH CARE (badly torn).

CONTENTS [cont.]:

5. [1771 x 1774]

SUBJECT: I'm becoming too old for such follies -- in a year or two Caroline will take my place. She remembers you well. Glad Coquin is well. Shall write from London.

SALUTATION: [none] ...Adieu ma chere Ly Payne.

DATE: After Payne became Lady but before writer did.

INCIPIIT: & ne m'inquiette pas....

NOTE: In French

Contemporary note at head (perhaps scribble in writer's hand?)

PHYS: 2p (1 piece)

FRAGMENT: end of letter only.

6. 1773 Jan 31 Cavendish Square

SUBJECT: Mr Waldegrave (vastly improved) has given me all your news; sending this by him. He says I may write you in English. Just arrived from Winterslow: our amateur theatricals at Xmas (Charles Fox's eyes too bad): am sending you the farce [High Life?]; theatricals at Blenheim and Cashbury; Lady Craven's Muse. The Opera. Gossip about the Pembrokes, Mr Conway, Ly Villers, Lord Lincoln courting Lady Frances, Mrs Keene, Mr Crawford (who reports you ill).

INCIPIITS: p.1: I have seen Mr Waldegrave...; p. 5 Frances I fancy will soon be married.

PHYS: 6p (2 pieces)

FRAGILE: pp 5-6 tearing badly.

7. [1773?] "1774" Jun 23 Winterslow House

SUBJECT: Your May letter says you're better; Adm Parry writes that you intend to come back with him next June. Mr Fox, Richard, and Charles have gone with all the world to the fine sight at Portsmouth. Charles' affairs at a crisis. This winter's new Irish beauties were Lady Townsend and Lady Stavo[r]dale; Mr Dickson's romance in Ireland (I think they can live comfortably on little money and a great deal of love). Mrs Crewe and Mrs Greville in Paris; Mrs Bouverie; Lady Pembroke to lie in next month.

DIRECTED "To Lady Payne"

DATE: Reads 1774, but the 4 appears deliberately smudged, and Winterslow was burnt in Jan 1774. Other references indicate 1773, but are not incontrovertible:

1. William Dickson, 1745-1804 (later bishop of Down & Connor), a friend of CJA. Fox's, married Henrietta Symes in June 1773 (DNB; Eton College Register).

2. Henry Thomas Fox-Strangways (Stephen Fox's father's brother's son), styled Lord STAVORDALE (later 2nd Earl Ilchester), 1756-76, married Mary O'Grady 26 Aug 1772 (Cokaigne).

3. But George Viscount Townshend, 1724-1807 (later Marquess Townshend) married the Irish beauty Anne Montgomery in May 1773. (DNB; Cok; Comp Bart: Montgomery). (Perhaps she had been a belle in London society before marriage?)

INCIPIITS: p.1: Your letter dated the 6th of last month...; p.5: upon her account who would not consent...

PHYS: 7p & a (2 pieces)

Seal torn away.

8. 1773 Sep 9 Cavendish Square

SUBJECT: Just arrived; from here to Ampthill and Winterslow. Mr Selwyn, Mr Hare, Mr Conway dined. Mr Otley back to school, loves you much. Mr & Mrs George.

PHYS: 2p (1 piece)

Margin at foot tearing.

9. 1774 Jan 23 Bath

SUBJECT: It would distress me too much to give details of the Winterslow fire of which Lady Pembroke has probably written you: house, library, wardrobe destroyed, no deaths, much furniture saved. Consolation. We intend to hire some small place thereabouts until we can rebuild. Lady Holland ill. Mr Fox, Caroline and I will be glad to leave here for Wilton (where my son is with the Pembrokes) and Holland House. Hope

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CONTENTS [cont.]:

9 [cont.]

you'll come back soon.

INCIPITS: p.1: You have certainly heard... ; p.5: that complaint to make much...

DIRECTED "To Lady Payne Antigua"

PHYS: 5p & a (2 pieces)

FRAGILE: pp 5-6 tearing

Seal torn away.

10. 1775 Jan 6 Upper Brook Street

SUBJECT: My latest misfortune [presumably her husband's death]; would die was my life not necessary to my two children and precious to my two amiable brothers. I did not answer your letter of 8 Oct because you would have left the Indies before the reply arrived.

SALUTATION: Je n'ai pas en la force de vous mander Ma Chere Ly Payne...

NOTE: In French

PHYS: 4p (1 piece)

11. 1775 Sep 9 Tunbridge

SUBJECT: Returning poor Mrs Crewe's letter to you. Glad you will return here soon. Mr Head has been told that Lady Di called him an exact cube -- the immense tulips which will adorn his waistcoat. I have seen since you went Roast Beef with Lamb sauce, & Parson Hervey dancing. Mr Lever's note about the bird. Henry & Caroline.

SALUTATION: You are too severe, my Dearest Ly Payne...

PHYS: 3p (1 piece)

12. [1775 x 1776] Oct 12 Ampthill Park

SUBJECT: Sharing of our Opera box now settled. Glad you've gone to Bath. Lord Ossory will have me stay here among this large family party until Parliament opens, so will miss Ly Pembroke in London. Richard's sporadic Guards duty; Dss of Bedford to London; Louisa here.

DATE: After father-in-law's death; after P's return to England; before writer's death (6 Oct 1778). Richard was ordered to US where he arrived March 1777, and returned to England May 1778 (DNB); therefore this letter is not dated Oct 1777.

SALUTATION: I am vastly glad my Dearest Lady Payn...

DOCKETED IN INK: "Letters from Lady Holland"-[cf hand of note on 7:5]. - .

PHYS: 3p & d (1 piece)

13. 1775 Nov 13 Upr Brook Street

SUBJECT: Bath will keep you safe from the London influenza (only the Dss of Bedford has escaped it). Now convalescent, but in no spirits to go out. "There is something quite comfortable in being sixty before one is thirty." Ly Pembroke. Caroline and Henry.

PHYS: 4p (1 piece)

14. 1775 Dec 27 Upr Brook Street

SUBJECT: Please buy a pair of Salisbury scissors for me to give Mrs Legge. Is all well at Wilton (best to the Pembrokes). Dss of B says you must come to Court for New Years day. I had a relapse since you went out of Town.

NOTE: Date at end of letter.

PHYS: 3p (1 piece)

15. [1775 x 1778] Wednesday four o'clock "this Hill"

SUBJECT: The Beauclerk's party; about to dine with his Honor's. I will look for a lodging for you, but why do you not stay again with me and Caroline?

SALUTATION: [none]...Adieu Sweet Ly Payne...

INCIPIT: I am but this instant come home...

DATE: After father-in-law's death; after recipient's return to England; before writer's death.

PHYS: 3p (1 piece)

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CONTENTS [cont.]:

16. [1775 x 1778] Tuesday Night

SUBJECT: Mr Selwyn brings herewith my present to you of a work-box. Hope to see you at Tunbridge.

SALUTATION: Here is the Work Box my Dearest Lady Payne...

DATE: After father-in-law's death; after recipient's return to England; before writer's death.

DOCKETED: Lady Pembroke Holland Upper Ossory Mary Fox.

PHYS: 1p & d (1 piece)

17. 1777 May 29 Staines

SUBJECT: Difficult for me to choose between two houses being let: Lord Mulgrave's, and the Duke of Gloucester's. My brothers and Lord Ossory inspected them with me. Mr Selwyn did not come I suppose because of the "old reason...the difficulty of bringing or of leaving Mie Mie". Caroline was tired, so I will not return her to Gatton until tomorrow. Pray stop at Gatton on your way to B:Helmstone.

INCIPITS: p.1: I was very much oblig'd... p.5: I thought it better for her to stay...

DIRECTED: "Lady Payne" and illegible word.

PHYS: 5p & a (2 pieces)

SEAL: Very small fragment.

18. [1777?] Saturday night Old Windsor

SUBJECT: Sorry to miss saying farewell when I left B:Helmstone. My disagreeable journey with my children: broiled in the Cabriole to Cuckfield, suffocated in the coach. Lady Di; "Otto of Roses". Mr Crawford ill. Mrs Banister's smuggled goods. Mrs Greville. This place is enchanting, but the furniture (Mr Moore's choice) is still packed. To Amptill next.

SALUTATION: Cast your bright eyes, my Dearest Ly Payne...

NOTE: Modern pencil note at head "[May-Aug 1777]".

PHYS: 4p (1 piece)

Long paper.

DATE: Matter appears to follow item 17 and precede item 19.

19. 1777 Aug 26 Old Windsor

SUBJECT: My unsettled life -- returned a week from Amptill and put my House in order: please visit. Stayed at delightful Warwick Castle ten days. Stopped at Blenheim for an hour -- luckily the Dss could not see me. Stopped for a day & half at Delapre. Has Mrs C__ had more odd freaks? you and Lady Di oppress her. Richard in battle: news via Ld Chewton, Ly Waldegrave, Louisa. Best from Henry and Caroline.

SALUTATION: I don't know how to begin or what excuse to make you, my Dearest Ly Payne...

PHYS: 4p (1 piece)

20. 1777 Dec 30 Upr Brook Street

SUBJECT: My spirits have been much oppressed although I am otherwise better; I need your company. Have been going to "little stupid parties" (Miss Monckton's, Mrs Greville's, Ly Harcourt's). Ly L. Leveson's match. My sister to Amptill. Hope this snow won't prevent you from returning as it did two years ago.

SALUTATION: [none] ...my Dearest Ly Payne...

INCIPIT: I am in a great rage at the Post which...

PHYS: 4p (1 piece)

TORN on fold lines: slight on pp 1-2, much on pp 3-4.

REMOVED TO MS RECORDS: modern note on yellow paper: "Mary, Lady Holland (ca. 1770-77)".