

TO GRAY MARCH 1746

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Missing. Implied in *post* 28 March 1746.

From GRAY, Friday 28 March 1746

Printed from MS in Waller Collection.

Dated in part by the postmark. The date of the year rests on the assumption that Gray refers to George Bridges Brudenell's candidature for a fellowship at Peterhouse (*ante* 3 Feb. 1746), and that 'T.' stands for Shallet Turner.

Address: To the Honourable Horace Walpole Esq. at his house in Arlington Street,¹ Westminster. *Postmark:* ROYSTON 29 MR.

[Cambridge, March 28, 1746.]

Dear Sir,

I HAVE expected some time what you tell me.² If T.³ can be prevailed upon to stay away it is all I desire,⁴ for he is mistaken in imagining that will leave still an equality among the Fellows. It is all an idle tale the Master for his own interest would propagate about the party of his antagonists. Whatever some of the people who give us their vote may have been, I may confidently affirm no one so young as my friend⁵ can be more rationally and zealously well-affected to the government⁶ than he. The hurry I write in does not permit to return you the thanks I ought for your steadfastness and resolution in obliging me. I am

Yours sincerely,

T. GRAY

1. Later No. 5 Arlington Street, where HW lived from 1742 until 1779 (see HW to Mann 1 Nov. 1742, O.S., and HW to Lady Ossory 14 Oct. 1779).

2. In HW to Gray March 1746, missing.

3. Presumably Shallet Turner. It is assumed that Gray is again referring to the candidature of George Brudenell. For a suggestion that Henry Tuthill is the 'young friend' referred to, see *Gray's Corr.* i. 231, n. 3, iii. 1206-10.

4. Turner was of Whalley's faction, opposed to Brudenell, and thus his abstaining

from voting would have reduced the opposition.

5. Brudenell was twenty.

6. The fact that Brudenell had Jacobite connections may have hindered his election. His first cousin, Charlotte Maria Livingston, Countess of Newburgh, had married as her second husband the attainted 5th Earl of Derwentwater who was beheaded 8 Dec. 1746 (*post* Jan. 1747, n. 11). Another Jacobite cousin was John Middleton (1683-1746), titular 2d E. of Monmouth.