

agree with the present Earl.³⁸ I have often wished to rummage that collection. I was once in the room in an evening, going to see the house;³⁹ but am not acquainted with the possessor. I knew his brother⁴⁰ very well, but the library was then in the possession of his grandmother, the very old Lady Longueville,⁴¹ and I did promise myself a feast—but he did not live long enough!

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HOR. WALPOLE

PS. I do not know whether I told you that I am engaged in a very curious work, a revision of the reign of Richard III.⁴² I do not call it a vindication, because that would sound like a paradox, and I go upon better grounds. A very curious monument or memorial has been lately discovered,⁴³ which opened such a new scene, that it sent me upon looking farther, and the more I have sifted that dark period, the more discoveries, I think, I have made. I will not anticipate your entertainment, Sir, as the work is in a manner finished, and will be published this winter.

From DALRYMPLE, January 1768

Missing.

TO DALRYMPLE, Sunday 17 January 1768

Printed in full for the first time from MS now wsl. Previously printed in part, Wright v. 186–7; Cunningham v. 80–1; Toynbee vii. 157–9; Hadley 165–6. For history of MS see *ante* 29 June 1758.

38. Henry Yelverton (1728–99), 3d E. of Sussex, 1758.

39. HW, on visiting Easton Maudit in July 1763, wrote, 'There is a library in the house, in which the last Earl formerly told me are great numbers of MS letters' (*Country Seats* 54).

40. George Augustus Yelverton (1727–58), styled Vct de Longueville until 1731; 2d E. of Sussex. He was the elder brother of the 3d Earl.

41. Barbara Talbot (ca 1671–1763), m. (1689) Henry Yelverton (d. 1704), Lord Grey, cr. (1690) Vct de Longueville.

42. *Historic Doubts on the Life and Reign of King Richard the Third*, published 1 Feb. 1768. See GRAY i. 43 and Hazen, *Bibliography of HW* 69–74.

43. The so-called 'coronation roll' of Richard III. See *post* 17 Jan. 1768.