

to Mr Pitt on this occasion, that it is almost become a Whig point to detain them. The breach is so much widened between Mr Pitt and Mr Fox, and the latter is so warm, that we must expect great violences. The Duke of Newcastle's party lies quiet; one of the others must join it. The new ministers have so little weight, that they seem determined at least not to part with their popularity: the new secretary of state⁴ is to attack the other, Lord Holderness, on a famous letter of his sent to the Mayor of Maidstone,⁵ for releasing a Hanoverian soldier,⁶ committed for theft—you may judge what harmony there is!

Adieu! my dear Sir! How much I pity you! and how much you ought to pity me! Imitate your brother's firmness of mind, and bear his loss as well as you can—you have too much merit not to be sensible of his, and then it will be impossible for you to be soon comforted.

TO MANN, Thursday 23 December 1756

Arlington Street, Dec. 23d 1756.

I KNOW I can no more add to your concern than to my own, by giving you the last account of your dear brother, who put a period to our anxious suspense in the night between the 20th and 21st. For the five last days he had little glimmerings of amendment, that gave hopes to some of his friends, terror to me, who dreaded his sensibility coming to itself! When I had given up his life, I could not bear the return of his tenderness! Sure he had felt enough for his friends—yet he would have been anxious for them if he had recovered his senses. He has left your brothers Edward, James and Foote,¹ his executors; to his daughters £7,500 apiece, and the entail of his estate in succession²—to a name I beg we may never mention, £700 a year,

4. Pitt.

5. Samuel Stevenson (*Records of Maidstone*, Maidstone, 1926, p. 274).

6. William Schroeder (*ante* 4 Nov. 1756).

Hatley Foote married Mary Mann; his brother the Rev. Francis Hender Foote married Catharine Mann.

2. In other words, if Galfridus Mann's only son Horace had no sons, the entail was to go to Horace's eldest sister, or, if she had died without sons, to the next eldest, etc. before Horace's own daughters.

1. Mr Foote married the second sister of Mr Mann, as his brother, a clergyman, afterwards did the third (HW). Benjamin