

## MANUSCRIPTS AND EDITORIAL METHOD

Of the 293 letters in this volume, 205 are by Walpole of which eight are heretofore unpublished, and four have been printed hitherto only in part. Sixteen of the 88 letters written to Walpole are 'new,' and seven others had been printed only in part. Nearly half of Walpole's previously-printed letters which appear in this volume had first appeared in his *Works*, 1798.

The provenance of Chute's letters to Walpole from Italy is given here in the heading to the first letter, and is not repeated in letters of the same origin; each of the other letters is provided with a heading which outlines the history of the MS, and its previous printings.

Walpole's correspondence with John Chute now numbers 50 letters (besides two written to Chute and Mann together) of which sixteen are given for the first time and eight are here first printed in full.<sup>1</sup> The eighteen letters written by Chute from Italy were kept together with the letters from Horace Mann, in Walpole's collection at Strawberry Hill, and were acquired with them by Richard Bentley the publisher, presumably about 1843. They were bought, along with Mann's letters, in 1934 by W. S. Lewis from the younger Richard Bentley.<sup>2</sup>

Walpole's two letters to Chute that were included in his letters to Mann, 24 June and 12 Oct. 1743 OS, are printed from Walpole's MS transcripts of those letters<sup>3</sup> (two others, 29 Dec. 1741 OS and 10 March 1742 OS, were also written to Chute and Mann). Walpole's other letters were returned to him after Chute's death in 1776.<sup>4</sup> Thirteen of them (five of which are first printed here) were acquired, with the other Walpolian MSS, by the elder Richard Bentley, the publisher, about 1843, and were sold in 1937 to W. S. Lewis by the estate of the younger Richard Bentley. Two letters (3 Nov. 1748 and ?29 July 1756) from Chute to Walpole, and two (30 April 1754 and 3 Oct.

1. They were printed in part by Dr John Doran in *Mann and Manners in Florence*, 1876.

2. See MANN i. pp. xlviiii-xlix, x. 40-4.

3. See *ibid.* i. p. xlviiii.

4. HW to Lady Ossory 13 July 1776, OSSORY i. 306.