

## MANUSCRIPTS AND EDITORIAL METHOD

In these three volumes are 687 letters, 501 of which are printed from the manuscripts (or from photostats or copies of them). Of these 362 are new and eleven others are printed in full for the first time. In the following summary the new letters are indicated in parenthesis.

|                          | <i>To</i> | <i>From</i> |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Conway                   | 183 (3)   | 189 (117)   |
| Hertford                 | 39 (1)    | 180 (173)   |
| Lady Ailesbury           | 20        | 20 (14)     |
| Lady Hertford            | 0         | 30 (30)     |
| Lord Beauchamp           | 3 (2)     | 10 (10)     |
| Henrietta Seymour Conway | 0         | 9 (9)       |
| Mrs Harris               | 0         | 1 (1)       |
| Lord Henry Seymour       | 0         | 2 (2)       |
| Lord Hugh Seymour        | 1         | 0           |
|                          | 246 (6)   | 441 (356)   |

Two hundred sixty-one of these letters are in the Lewis Walpole Library at Farmington; 195 of them, mostly from Conway to Walpole, were acquired in 1955 from Mr James T. Rutnam of Colombo, Ceylon. According to a notice in *Fraser's Magazine*, March 1850, xli. 272, the manuscripts passed on Walpole's death to Mrs Damer, his legatee and executrix, who on 3 May 1797 wrote to Lord Beauchamp (at that time Lord Hertford): 'With regard to the Conway papers, which are innumerable, my uncle Lord Fred. Campbell by the assistance of Kergate has with great attention been endeavouring to separate them from many others, both in Berkeley Square and at Strawberry Hill' (MS now WSL).

On Mrs Damer's death (in 1828) the manuscripts passed to her cousin (Lady Ailesbury's niece) Louisa Campbell, wife of Sir Alexander Johnston, former chief justice of Ceylon. Sir Alexander later intended to have the Conway letters to Walpole edited with a life