

when one takes it only to show one's importance, one must bear it as other great and awkward^{10a} personages have done.

There is nothing new, for there is nobody in town. I was at Mrs Harris's¹¹ last night, and I am sure your Ladyship will agree with me in a criticism I made on the house. Mrs Howe¹² said, it would be a very good house, if the rooms did but lie together—I said, I thought there was a much greater fault in it, which is, that the master and mistress do lie together. I should not repeat this, but as I have a great opinion of your Ladyship's taste in architecture.

Lady Stafford, and Lord Farnham¹³ and their child,¹⁴ for she is big, were presented on Thursday: They have been married eight or nine months,¹⁵ and she has changed her religion. It is a pity that so much secrecy should be thrown away upon legalities! Adieu! Madam, this is charming weather for planting laurels for everybody but the King of Prussia.¹⁶

I am your Ladyship's
Most obedient servant

HOR. WALPOLE

TO BEAUCHAMP, February 1760

Missing; answered *post* 3 March 1760.

10a. Lord Temple was generally known as 'Lord Gawkee.'

11. Conway's sister Anne, who in 1759 lived in Pall Mall (*Court and City Register*, 1760, p. 61).

12. Presumably Hon. Caroline Howe, who belonged to Princess Amelia's circle; see OSSORY i. 109, MANN i. 209, n. 3, BERRY i. 108, n. 7.

13. Robert Maxwell (ca 1720–79), 2d Bn Farnham, 1759, cr. (1760) Vct and (1763) E. of Farnham; M.P.; m. 1 (1759) Henrietta Cantillon, Cts of Stafford (see *ante* 27 Nov. 1755, n. 6).

14. Henrietta (d. 6 March 1852), m. (1780) Rt Hon. Denis Daly (d. 1792), of

Dunsandle, co. Galway (*Burke's Peerage*, 1928, p. 915; *Leinster Corr.* iii. 239).

15. They were married '11 Oct. 1759, at St Mary Magdalen's, Old Fish Str., London' (GEC v. 259). Apparently the marriage was not announced until Dec., for the *London Chronicle* (27–9 Dec. 1759, vi. 624) reports *sub* Sat. 29 Dec., 'A few days since the Right Hon. Lord Farnham was married to the Countess Dowager of Stafford, in St James's Square'; see also *cm* 1760, xxx. 46; *Daily Adv.* 29 Dec. 1759.

16. Who was held responsible for Lt-Gen. Finck's surrender at Maxen on 21 Nov.; see HW to Mann 13 Dec. 1759 (MANN v. 354 and nn. 8, 9).