

TO HERTFORD, ca Saturday 2 September 1769

Missing; listed in 'Paris Journals' (DU DEFFAND v. 389), as sent 'by Edmondson' (possibly Joseph Edmondson [d. 1786], herald).

TO LADY AILESBUURY, Saturday 9 September 1769

Missing; listed in 'Paris Journals' (DU DEFFAND v. 389) as sent 'by the post.'

FROM LADY HERTFORD, Sunday 10 September 1769

Printed for the first time from a photostat of BM Add. MSS 23218, f. 28.

Ragley, September the 10th.

Dear Mr Walpole,

IT seems odd that the only time I address myself to you is to give you trouble, but I must beg you to give orders to have two gold single-cased watches made for Lady Beauchamp¹ and me. Henry bought one of the sort I wish to have when he was at Paris;² one Griegson³ made it, who is a person that may be heard of at Juve-mier's,⁴ a famous watch-maker, but I don't know where either of them live. The price is to be eighteen louis each: an H and an Earl's coronet upon one, a B and a Viscount's coronet upon the other. As they cannot be finished while you stay, I would have them finished as soon as possible and sent to Monsieur de Francès,⁵

1. Hon. Alice Elizabeth Windsor (1749–72), daughter of the 2d Vct Windsor, m. (4 Feb. 1768) Lord Beauchamp. A 'great heiress' (HW to Mann 21 Jan. 1767, MANN vi. 480), she was sister-in-law to Lord Mount Stuart, Lord Bute's son; Gilly Williams wrote to Selwyn, 5 Dec. 1766, that Hertford made the match 'to secure his Chamberlain's staff' (J. H. Jesse, *George Selwyn and his Contemporaries*, 1882, ii. 96).

2. HW had arrived at Paris 21 Aug., remaining there until 5 Oct. ('Paris Journals,' DU DEFFAND v. 324–33).

3. Perhaps Pierre (?Peter) Gregson, later clockmaker to Louis XVI; see G. H. Baillie, *Watches: Their History, Decoration and Mechanism*, 1929, pp. 219, 365, Illust. 31.7 and idem, *Watchmakers and Clockmakers of the World*, 1929, p. 154.

4. Not further identified; he is not listed by Baillie, *Watches*, p. 365, as one of the most prominent watchmakers at Paris 1750–1800.

5. Jacques Bataille de Francès (ca 1724–88), French chargé d'affaires at London with the rank of minister plenipotentiary June 1769–ca 1771 (MANN vii. 218, n. 8).