

Mr Haistwell,³ formerly a fellow commoner of C.C.C. College,⁴ Cambridge.⁵

Mr Bull will be in town again soon.

To the REV. CHRISTOPHER ALDERSON,¹
Sunday 1 June 1783

Printed for the first time from the MS now wsl. The MS passed by family descent into the possession of Mrs Helen G. Mott, who sold it (through the good offices of her brother, Mr G. F. J. Cumberlege) to wsl in Jan. 1960.

Address: To the Reverend Mr Alderson at the Countess of Holderness's² in Hertford Street, London. *Postmark:* 2 IV. ISLEWORTH.

Strawberry Hill, June 1st 1783.

I WAS vexed on Friday, Sir, to hear you had called at my house without letting me know you was there. I was just coming hither, but should certainly have been glad to see you. I did write immediately to Gen. Conway,³ though I did not know your friend's⁴ name which Mr Mason does not mention,⁵ to inquire if there was any probability of his being served soon.⁶ Mr C. replies⁷ that he finds on his list a Mr Anderton⁸ recommended by Lady Holderness, and

4. Corpus Christi College. Haistwell was admitted as a pensioner in 1753, as a fellow commoner in 1758 (Venn, *Alumni Cantab.* Pt II, iii. 284).

5. 'He married Miss Brickenden of Newbury and died in his 47th year at the Hotwells, Bristol, 1783' (MS note in an unidentified hand on Bull's letter). Richard Gough's 'Epithalamium, On the Marriage of Edward Haistwell, Esq. F.S.A.' is printed in Nichols, *Lit. Anec.* vi. 338.

1. (ca 1737-1814), William Mason's curate at Aston, Yorks; rector of Aston 1797-1814 in succession to Mason (MASON i. 43 n. 10).

2. Lady Holderness's late husband, the 4th Earl (1718-78), was Mason's patron; he had given Mason the living of Aston in 1754.

3. As commander-in-chief.

4. Not identified, but apparently a relative also named Alderson.

5. Mason wrote HW 19 May 1783: 'I should be greatly obliged to you if you would permit [Alderson] to give you a memorandum relating to an application which Lady Holderness made to General Conway some time ago for a young relation of his about an ensigncy. I know he put him on his list' (MASON ii. 303).

6. HW's letter of 30 May to Conway is missing. He informed Mason 31 May: 'I wrote a line immediately to General Conway, desiring he would look over his memoranda for a recommendation of Lady Holderness (for you did not even tell me the young gentleman's name) and send me word whether anything was likely to be done for him soon' (ibid. ii. 304).

7. Conway's reply of 31 May is missing; HW received it 1 June (ibid. ii. 307).

8. The name was spelled 'Alderton' on Conway's list, as HW states correctly in his letter to Mason 31 May (ibid. ii. 307, *sub* 'Sunday, June 1').