

FROM MRS ANNA AUFRERE,¹ Tuesday 12 July 1796

Printed from Toynbee *Supp.* iii. 311–12, where the letter was first printed. Damer-Waller; the MS was sold Sotheby's 5 Dec. 1921 (first Waller Sale), lot 118, to Maggs (with two other letters); not further traced.

The year is supplied by HW's letter to Mary Berry 26 July 1796; see n. 11 below.

Address: The Earl of Orford.

Hoveton Hall, near Norwich, Norfolk. July 12th.

My Lord

AS I cannot flatter myself with being known to your Lordship and consequently my presumption in troubling you must appear the greater, I beg leave to say, I lay no claim to your Lordship's compliance with my request, but should you not be biased in favour of any who have hitherto solicited you for the living of Crostwick² and should be pleased to consider my son,³ you would confer upon me a lasting obligation—my niece Miss Norris⁴ has kindly given him Ridlington⁵ and East Ruston,⁶ but is debarred from doing more for him by my brother⁷ (her father) having disposed of the living of Bacton⁸ by will to a more distant relation⁹—this is a hardship, which may induce your Lordship to attend to my application, if I am not too late in it—having so large a family as twelve children¹⁰ you will I hope pardon a mother's desire to promote their

1. Anna Norris (ca 1734–1816), m. (1756) Anthony Aufrere (BERRY ii. 196 n. 8). Her brother John (n. 7 below) married HW's cousin, Charlotte Townshend (FAMILY 337; GEC *sub* Kimberley).

2. 4½ miles NE of Norwich, Norfolk. HW had inherited the advowson of All Saints Church at Crostwick (Crostwight) upon the death of his nephew George, 3d E. of Orford, in 1791 (SELWYN 344).

3. Rev. George John Aufrere (1769–1853), B.A., Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 1793; vicar of Ridlington and East Ruston, Norfolk, 1794–1836; vicar of Bacton, Norfolk, 1810–23 (Burke, *Landed Gentry*, 1879, i. 52; Venn, *Alumni Cantab.* Pt II, i. 100).

4. Charlotte Laura Norris (d. 1845), m.

(18 Nov. 1796) Hon. John Wodehouse, 2d Bn Wodehouse of Kimberley, 1834.

5. That is, the vicarage of St Peter's Church at Ridlington, 4½ miles E. of North Walsham, Norfolk.

6. That is, the vicarage of St Mary's Church at East Ruston, 4 miles SE of North Walsham, Norfolk.

7. John Norris (1734–77), founder of the Norrisian Professorship of Divinity at Cambridge.

8. That is, the vicarage of St Andrew's Church at Bacton, 4½ miles NE of North Walsham, Norfolk. The Rev. George John Aufrere did, however, become vicar of Bacton in 1810; see n. 3 above.

9. Not identified.

10. Mrs Aufrere had five sons and seven daughters.