



The Devonshire Collection Archives

GB 2495 DF27

**Papers of William Cavendish (1783-1812), Louisa Cavendish (1779-1863)
and family**

1797 - 1839

Administrative/Biographical History:

William Cavendish, nobleman and politician, was born on 10 January 1783; he was the eldest son of Lord George Cavendish, 1st Earl of Burlington of the second creation (brother of the 5th Duke of Devonshire), and Lady Elizabeth Cavendish (née Compton). He was educated at Eton, and studied at Trinity College Cambridge from 1800 to 1803. He undertook a continental Grand Tour during 1803-4 and returned to take up a parliamentary seat for Knaresborough in Yorkshire as a Whig. From July 1804 to 1806 he represented Aylesbury, and from 1806 to 1812 Derby.

On 18 July 1807 he married Hon. Louisa O'Callaghan (1779-1863), daughter of Cornelius O'Callaghan, 1st Baron Lismore of Shanbally, and Frances Ponsonby. They had four children: William Cavendish, who became 7th Duke of Devonshire (1808-1891); Lady Fanny Cavendish (c.1809-1885); Lord George Henry Cavendish (1810-1880); and Lord Richard Cavendish (1812-1873).

William Cavendish died on 14 January 1812 aged 29 as the result of being thrown from his curricle in Holker Park (Lancashire) on his way back from a shooting excursion. His wife outlived him by 51 years. Their son William became Duke of Devonshire in 1858.

Custodial History:

The material in the collection was created or accumulated by William Cavendish, his wife Louisa, and other family members. Its exact archival history is unknown.

Source of Acquisition:

The material was extant in the Devonshire Collection prior to 1 August 2011.

Scope and Content:

This collection primarily consists of the personal papers of William Cavendish and his wife Louisa Cavendish (née O'Callaghan), parents of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire; there are also some papers of their children, George Henry Cavendish (1810-1880) and Richard Cavendish (1812-1873).

The largest portion of the collection consists of correspondence, extending to just over 200 letters. These were largely sent to Louisa Cavendish with just one sent to her husband. The letters are primarily from her daughter-in-law, Lady Blanche Cavendish, but there are also letters from Louisa's sons, including William, the future 7th Duke of Devonshire. The letters from William report on his activities, progress and academic achievements at school and subsequently Cambridge University; there are several detailed accounts of the trip he made to Russia in 1826 with the 6th Duke of Devonshire to attend the Coronation of Tsar Nicholas I. Subsequent letters report on the birth and development of William and Blanche's children; family news; the developments undertaken by the 6th Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth House; the first case of cholera in Britain; local and national politics; and the couple's travels – including visits to Italy.

There are also nine letters from Louisa's son, George Cavendish; three letters from her son Richard Cavendish; and three letters from one of her grandsons [possibly Spencer Compton Cavendish, later 8th Duke of Devonshire].

There are also letters sent to Louisa by William Cavendish's tutors at Eton School and Cambridge University and other correspondents sending congratulations to Louisa on William's results at Cambridge.

There is a single cash account book of William Cavendish, containing details of his private expenditure during 1811-12. Other papers of William Cavendish comprise two diaries/commonplace books dating from 1803 and 1806-11; and two annotated lists of pupils at Eton College dating from 1797 and 1800 (attributed to William Cavendish based on date).

There is a small quantity of personal papers of William and Louisa's children, George H. Cavendish (1810-1880) and his wife Louisa (née Lascelles). George Cavendish's papers comprise a list of members of the Bakewell Rifle Company and a drawing album. There is just one item of Louisa Cavendish's: a commemorative volume she was presented with containing signatures of subscribers to a portrait of George Cavendish.

There is also a single sketchbook tentatively attributed to William and Louisa Cavendish's son Richard, dating from 1821. Finally there are some locks of hair of William Cavendish which were kept by his wife after his death in 1812.

System of Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into seven series, as follows:

- DF27/1: Correspondence of Louisa Cavendish and William Cavendish (1821-39)
- DF27/2: Accounts of William Cavendish (1811-1812)
- DF27/3: Diaries/commonplace books belonging to William Cavendish (1803-1811)
- DF27/4: Other papers of William Cavendish (1783-1812)
- DF27/5: Papers of George Henry Cavendish and his wife Louisa (née Lascelles) (1820-81)
- DF27/6: Papers of Richard Cavendish (1821)
- DF27/7: Keepsakes of Louisa Cavendish (1812)

Conditions Governing Access:

The collection is open for consultation. Access to the archive at Chatsworth is by appointment only. For more information please visit: <https://www.chatsworth.org/art-archives/access-the-collection/archives-and-works-of-art/>.

Conditions Governing Reproduction:

Copies of material in the archive can be supplied for private study and personal research purposes only, depending on the condition of the documents.

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Extent:



DF27: Papers of William Cavendish (1783-1812), Louisa Cavendish (1779-1863) and family (1821-1839)

1 box

Language of Material:

English

Preferred Citation:

Devonshire MSS, Chatsworth, DF27/1/1 etc.

Related material:

There are several collections at Chatsworth containing material related to this collection: papers relating to Louisa Cavendish's husband and sons can be found in GB 2495 DF32 (Papers of William Cavendish, 4th Duke of Devonshire); further letters sent to Louisa Cavendish are included in GB 2495 DF5 (Papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire) and GB 2495 CS2 (the Second Correspondence Series); and a journal and correspondence of William Cavendish can also be found in GB 2495 CS2.

<u>DF27/1</u>	<u>Correspondence of William Cavendish and Louisa Cavendish</u>	<u>1821 - 1839</u>	<u>Series</u>
	<p>This series consists of letters sent to Louisa Cavendish mainly by her son, William Cavendish (later 7th Duke of Devonshire) and his wife Blanche Cavendish. There are also nine letters from Louisa's son, George Cavendish, three letters from her son Richard Cavendish and letters concerning William Cavendish's education.</p> <p>It also includes a single letter sent to William Cavendish (1783-1812) by his mother, Elizabeth Cavendish (later Countess of Burlington).</p> <p>201 letters</p>		
DF27/1/1	<p>Family Correspondence of Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Letters primarily sent to Louisa Cavendish by her son, William Cavendish (later 7th Duke of Devonshire) and his wife Blanche Cavendish. The letters from William report on his activities, progress and academic achievements at school and subsequently Cambridge University; there are several detailed accounts of the trip he made to Russia in 1826 with the 6th Duke of Devonshire to attend the Coronation of Tsar Nicholas I. Subsequent letters report on the birth and development of William and Blanche's children; family news; the developments undertaken by the 6th Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth House; the first case of cholera in Britain; and local and national politics.</p> <p>There are also nine letters from Louisa's son, George Cavendish; three letters from her son Richard Cavendish; and three letters from one of her grandsons [possibly Spencer Compton Cavendish].</p> <p>There are also letters sent to Louisa by William Cavendish's tutors at Eton School and Cambridge University and other correspondents who were sending congratulations to Louisa on William's results at Cambridge. Also includes two letters from E Howard and two letters from unidentified correspondents.</p> <p>196 letters</p>	1821 - 1839	Item
DF27/1/1/1	<p>Letter from J.F. Plumtree to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Letter addressed to Louisa at Bear Place, Maidenhead. Congratulates Louisa on William's success on moving in to the fifth form at Eton. Asks Louisa to counteract rumours of himself leaving Eton.</p> <p>1 page</p>	1821	Piece
DF27/1/1/2	<p>Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Undated. Expresses anger at having to leave early in the morning.</p>	[1821-1839]	Piece

1 page

DF27/1/1/3 Letter from E. Hawtrey to Louisa Cavendish 12 October 1824 Piece

Paper headed Eton College. Expresses how well William is getting on at Eton College both academically and socially. Countenances against removing him from Eton in favour of a private tutor for the year before he goes to university. Highlights William's relationships with well-chosen friends. Also suggests it would be a great advantage to his younger brothers (whose praises he also sings) to have someone of such high character ahead of them at Eton.

1 page

DF27/1/1/4 Letter from E. Hawtrey to Louisa Cavendish 7 December 1824 Piece

Paper headed Eton College. Talks of William's achievements and progress and adds that he will enter the sixth form with credits. Also adds that William's brothers are making good progress and have good conduct.

1 page

DF27/1/1/5 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 1 February 1825 Piece

Paper headed Eton. Letter addressed to Louisa at Lindon Hill Maidenhead. Thanks his mother for her letter and an order for books. Discusses a riding school at the barracks near Windsor where the Duke of Wellington's sons sometimes ride and writes about a Society debate taking place the following weekend. The final page highlights his expenditure as an account (including a copy of Greek Grammar, Virgil and Shakespeare) for which he has the receipts. He asks whether he should send them or wait for the visit of Uncle Corney [Louisa's brother Cornelius?]

1 page

DF27/1/1/6 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 10 February 1825 Piece

Paper headed Eton. Thanks his mother for her letter and books. Explains he did not attend the Society debate as he was ill and discusses the next meeting. He talks about the weather and how the pastry cooks are pleased because of the amount of ice they have been able to cut for the ice houses. He has heard Cousin Devonshire is to leave Chatsworth very soon. A short account scribbled on the bottom includes potted meat and cocoa paste as well as Virgil.

1 page

DF27/1/1/7	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	23 May 1826	Piece
	<p>Paper headed HMS Gloucester off Cape Naze (Norway). The letter is stamped 14 July 1826 in London and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William talks about the slow passage of the ship and how he thinks they will arrive too late in St Petersburg for the Coronation [of Tsar Nicholas I; he accompanied the 6th Duke of Devonshire to attend the coronation]. He talks about seasickness and describes the temporary cabins which have been made for them, comparing the conditions to other decks on board. It was the Duke's birthday two days earlier when 15 guns were fired and a dance was held. He also describes an incident where a hawk flew into the ship, relaying how the Duke shot it and had it stuffed. William refers to books he has read and says he is trying to learn Russian. He comments on their routines for eating and exercising on board.</p> <p>1 page</p>		
DF27/1/1/8	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	27 May and 8 June 1826	Piece
	<p>Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. They did not arrive in St Petersburg on HMS Gloucester but on the steam boat as the Duke had been worried they would be too late for the Coronation. He describes stopping off in Copenhagen and visiting one of the King's country residences. On arrival in Cronstadt they were greeted by the English consul and the whole Russian fleet fired a salute. He describes St Petersburg as a most magnificent town. The coronation has been postponed as Empress Elizabeth, wife of Alexander, has died and will not take place until after her burial, which may not be until the end of August. He says the Russians are in great grief about the Empress's death. He also mentions 4,000 "Conspirators" who are being kept in a fort.</p> <p>1 page</p>		
DF27/1/1/9	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	29 May and 10 June 1826	Piece
	<p>Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William comments on how ill Gran has been. He reports that HMS Gloucester has now arrived but not the attachés travelling by land. He has dined with Mr Disbarrow, the English charge d'affaires, a cousin of Lady Kinnaird(?) He comments on how hot the weather is and the extensive hours of daylight. He comments on how impressive the buildings are in St Petersburg, the clean streets and the different ways carriages are drawn; however he is not complimentary about the hygiene of the Russian people. He also comments on there being a feeling of everything "being slight and not likely to last very long." He describes features of a church he particularly likes and says CD (Cousin Devonshire?) has been out into the countryside to look at houses, though none were suitable. He describes the country houses of the late Emperor and Nicholas but says none of them are as pretty as Chiswick and are not kept as well.</p>		

1 page

DF27/1/1/10 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 8 and 20 June 1826 Piece

Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William describes in detail being presented to the Emperor and Empress the previous day. He says the Duke went in the State carriage and all the carriages were much admired as there are none equal to them in Russia. He also caught sight of the Grand Duke Alexander, whom he thought was about eight years old. He describes a visit of Russians to the ship, where they dined and danced. He describes his visit to the Hermitage and comments on the huge number of pictures there but he thought they were poorly displayed. There were four statues by Canova, including one like the Hebe at Chatsworth ("but not as good"), and a large collection of coins, medals and cameos. William says he thinks he will be able to get some minerals for his sister Fanny and he also bemoans the Russians doubling the price of everything for the English. William informs his mother he is beginning with a Russian master and is still practising the flute.

1 page

DF27/1/1/11 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 and 28 June 1826 Piece

Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. William talks about previous letters which seem to have got lost and correspondence he has had with Mr Parry. He thinks the Coronation will now be on August 6th/18th and he cannot wait to get away from St Petersburg. He describes a visit to The Winter Palace, which he found "very ugly." He was fascinated by some secret apartments there which belonged to Catherine the Second. He also talks about another abandoned palace where Paul was murdered, explaining the royal family do not live where a sovereign has died. William talks of his difficulties in learning the Russian language.

1 page

DF27/1/1/12 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 June and July 5 1826 Piece

Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London . The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. William is still expecting the Coronation of Tsar Nicholas to be on 18 August. He explains the Duke is at the country house which is three miles from the town house. William is at the town house as he has come to meet his Russian master. He describes the grounds of the country house and explains what there is to do, including rowing on a lake and playing a range of games he has not seen before. He prefers the country house as it is quieter away from the traffic. He reports that the Duke has the marine band at the country house to entertain and he plans to put on a breakfast every Saturday. He reports HMS Gloucester has set sail on the return journey and thinks they may be another three weeks before they themselves leave. He describes the funeral of the Empress and comments on the Greek churches and the ornate outfits of the priests. He explains he has not been able to shoot any birds yet but there are some unusual ones at the market which he may have stuffed.

1 page

DF27/1/1/13	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	30 June and 12 July 1826	Piece
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Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London . The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. He discusses the hay harvest at home and comments on the Duke missing out on hay-asthma this year through being in Russia. He thinks they will set out straight after the Coronation which is on 18 August. He describes visits to two country houses belonging to the Emperor. He describes Peterhoff as extremely pretty with beautiful waterworks but comments that none of the fountains are as high as those at Chatsworth. He describes the paintings in one of the rooms and hopes that when they go to Moscow they won't see any more relics of Peter the Great as they have seen so many already. He describes a visit to a paper manufacturer. He is very glad to be going to Moscow soon as he is tired of St Petersburg. He comments on the weather as there has been a lot of heavy rain and it is hot and humid.

1 page

DF27/1/1/14	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	7 and 19 July 1826	Piece
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Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at No 8 Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London . The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. He reports that they are definitely going to Moscow the following week, doing the 450 mile journey in one go without stopping. Several servants have already gone on ahead. He describes visits to a cotton mill and a flax mill, where of the 2,000 employees 900 are children. The sites are managed by General Wilson, who is an Englishman. He is not in the army but is given the title of General as an honour. He describes visits to two country houses belonging to the Emperor. They have very pretty gardens and are both kept well. He describes the gilding in the rooms at Isarko Selo and a room which has walls of amber and another of lapis lazuli. He also came across a little house in the garden which had prints of Chatsworth, Chiswick, Blenheim, Matlock, Castleton and Monsal.

1 page

DF27/1/1/15 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 and 28 July 1826 Piece

Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. William explains they arrived in Moscow the previous day after a 75 hour journey. He describes places they passed through and crossing the Volga. He describes the poor state of many of the roads and the carriage he was travelling in, which had to be mended at almost every stage. The Duke's English landau fared much better. He says they are all going to be presented to the Empress's mother at the Kremlin later that day. He describes Moscow as much more beautiful than St Petersburg and believes there are 300-400 churches. He comments on seeing several houses "remaining gutted by the flames" and refers to the 1812 Fire of Moscow.

1 page

DF27/1/1/16 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 31 July and 12 August 1826 Piece

Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. William says the Coronation will not take place before 28th August and fears they won't be able to leave until the middle of September. He thinks they will not return by sea and wonders if the Duke may travel home via Warsaw. He says he is tired of Moscow as, apart from the Kremlin, there is not much to see. He describes the churches looking well as a group but an individual one is unremarkable and there is nothing to be seen inside them. He finds the town roads difficult to navigate and moans about the high level of dust, which is far worse than the smoke in London. He describes the countryside as prettier than St Petersburg but nothing extraordinary. He has been on a trip to the Sparrow Hills - this is the route Napoleon had taken and where he would have had his first view of Moscow.

1 page

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| DF27/1/1/17 | Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 6 and 18 August
1826 | Piece |
| | <p>Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. William explained how he is to go to Nizhny Novgorod the following day for what the Duke describes as the greatest fair in the world. The Duke himself will not be accompanying him and the party will leave after a ball the Duke is giving. He comments on the fact that HMS Gloucester has arrived back in England. It is thought the Coronation will be 22 August/3 September and the Duke is getting impatient to leave. William thinks they will travel over land, which he is looking forward to. He says he is unsure what to bring his Mother as a gift because the furs are as expensive as at home and no better. He also worries about being cheated when buying one. He reports that the Duke spent two hours with the Emperor and Empress.</p> | | |
| | <p>1 page</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/18 | Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 24 August and 5
September 1826 | Piece |
| | <p>Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. The letter was redirected to her at Walmer, near Deal, Kent. William writes that the Duke's fete will take place on the 19th and they will set out for home straight after that. He is pretty certain they will travel by land and arrive into Dover. The Duke does not think it is necessary for Mr Parry to meet William anywhere. William then describes the Tsar's coronation which took place two days earlier in great detail. He describes the carriages they travelled in to the church in the palace of the Tsars at the Kremlin, where they waited with all the corps diplomatique before travelling on to the Church of the Assumption, where the Coronation took place. He describes the interior of the church and how it was decorated and estimates it held about 500 people. He notes which people attended the Emperor and Empress and who sat where, describing their own position as on "the four highest benches and below us were the generals." He further describes the procession, ceremony and Mass. William comments on the attendance of The Grand Duke Constantine, who had arrived from Warsaw, and his brother Michael [Tsar Nicholas's brothers]. He describes Constantine's arrival as unexpected and explains that the Empress fainted in surprise. Constantine's attendance indicates he has no wish for the crown and so the Emperor is safe. There was a meal after the Coronation, also attended by the Emperor and Empress, and William also comments favourably on the illuminations. Today William and the Duke, along with all the other ambassadors, have been to congratulate the Emperor. William describes a visit to N(?), a town he liked, a week before the Coronation and explains they had to leave Mr Dundas there as he is dangerously ill. William adds an extra note on 6 September to say the Duke's fete has been put off for two or three days and the Duke is determined for Mr Parry to meet William at Frankfurt. He also says Mr Dundas is much improved and the Duke wishes that Louisa does not mention his illness to anyone.</p> | | |

3 pages

DF27/1/1/19 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 30 August and 11 September 1826 Piece

Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William is writing a week since the Tsar's coronation and is surprised that there has only been one fete in that time. This was given by the Empress's Mother, though she did not attend. The Emperor, Empress, Grand Duke Michael and the Grand Duchess were present. The room was very hot and crowded with 1,000 people. The illuminations lasted three days rather than six due to rain. William hopes they will set off for home in about six or seven days and thinks they will arrive into Dover, having travelled via Frankfurt through Paris or Brussels to Calais. He enquires where his mother is likely to be when he arrives back in England and is very much looking forward to returning. He feels there is very little to see in the area he is in now but does comment on how beautiful the Crimea area is supposed to be. He says the Duke has received news from Chatsworth and there have been two or three marriages amongst the servants.

1 page

DF27/1/1/20 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 18 September 1826 Piece

The letter is misdated as July by William, but the stamp and date of receipt suggest 18 September. Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. There is a note saying it was received on 13 October. William describes his visit to the Troitsa monastery with Captain Clifford and Lord Morpeth. The 40 mile journey was eventful with their carriage ending up in a ditch. The monastery was very beautiful and has enormous riches, donated by Tsars and Emperors. William describes the Duke's fete which took place the previous night. It was attended by the Emperor, Empress and all the Imperial family. William thinks they will leave Moscow in a week but estimates the journey could be difficult as many roads are flooded. He says the weather has now changed completely and it is extremely cold.

1 page

DF27/1/1/21 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 and 28 September 1826 Piece

Paper headed Moscow and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William is hoping they will depart the following Monday. The Duke will take leave of the Emperor the following day. William is worried the journey will be difficult because of the state of the roads after a week of incessant rain. He also expresses concern that the length of their delay will mean he will miss the start of term at Cambridge and Mr Parry will be tired of waiting for him at Frankfurt. He describes a great feast organised for the common people. He describes it taking place in deep mud and there being not nearly enough for people to eat as 30,000 were expected but 100,000 came. They were not allowed to eat until the Emperor and Imperial family had gone by on horseback. Cossacks and other soldiers ensured this happened. William reports Mr Dundas has recovered well and will travel with the party. The Duke's luggage will be sent the following day and all the horses have been sold rather than sent home.

1 page

DF27/1/1/22 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 27 September and 9 October 1826 Piece

Paper headed St Petersburg and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William explains that they set out three days later than planned and the journey took 71 hours. Mr Dundas was able to travel the whole journey with them without stopping and is now fully recovered. The Duke is certain he will leave in two days. A section of the letter is then dictated by the Duke. He apologises for the delay in William going to Cambridge and says if William becomes a dunce it will all be his (the Duke's) fault. William resumes the letter and describes in detail the fireworks display the night before they left Moscow - the most beautiful he ever saw. William outlines some of the presents the Duke has been given in Russia: an immense pelisse lined with the finest sable; a snuff box with the Emperor's picture on it and set with diamonds; several things made of Siberian jasper from the Emperor and a small bronze model of the famous statue of Peter the Great, given by the Empress's mother. Captain Clifford will be sailing the following Monday and all their belongings will go with him because there will not be enough room in the carriage. William hopes his next letter will be from Berlin and he will soon be home.

1 page

DF27/1/1/23 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 2 November 1826 Piece

Paper headed Dover and addressed to Louisa at Gt Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. William informs his mother that he has just arrived in Dover with Mr Parry and will be in London the following day at 5 o'clock. He writes a postscript explaining he is writing in bed as he has no clothes until they come from the Customs House. He adds he will be obliged to go to Cambridge the day after arriving in London to keep the term.

1 page

DF27/1/1/24 Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [November 1826] Piece

The paper is not headed but written from Cambridge. George is awaiting his brother William's return and had hoped to have a letter from him to know where to meet him. George explains how he spends much of his time in his room with his books. He does not like drinking and is not keen on playing cards, as he would rather keep his money. He says he is happy there, however, and has some good friends.

1 page

DF27/1/1/25 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 24-26 August 1827 Piece

Paper headed Bolton Abbey. William says he has not had time to talk to the Duke about the tutor but will do so at Chatsworth. He describes the sport he has had at Bolton and recounts that there are four members of the Lascelles family at Bolton. He explains that Mr Parry goes out on an excursion each day and does not return until early evening. William adds a postscript on 26 August, apologising for the delay in sending the letter and informing Louisa he is going to Wentworth.

1 page

DF27/1/1/26 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 24 February 1828 Piece

Paper headed Trinity College and addressed to Louisa at Linden Hill, Maidenhead. William writes about his recent exams at Cambridge and tells his mother not to expect him to be at the top of the results as it is a very good mathematical year. He also discusses politics and the weather.

1 page

DF27/1/1/27 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 30 May 1828 Piece

Paper headed Trinity College. William reports on his exam results. He is first in the first class by a considerable majority of marks. He explains there are five people in the first class this year and the man who came first last year is only fifth. He thinks they had an easier exam than the previous year and reports that Wentworth is in the second class but very near the first.

1 page

DF27/1/1/28 Letter from W.H. Parry to Louisa Cavendish 18 January [1829] Piece

Paper headed St John's College. W.H. Parry refers to her son, William, as an academic hero who has just passed two very important days. The results of the examinations are not yet known but Parry will inform Louisa as soon as anything is known, as William himself is too busy.

1 page

DF27/1/1/29 Letter from W.H. Parry to Louisa Cavendish 23 January [1829] Piece

Paper headed St John's College, Cambridge. W.H. Parry informs Louisa that her son William is Second Wrangler [achieving the second highest result amongst the first class degrees.] He reports William is in robust health and excellent spirits.

1 page

DF27/1/1/30 Letter from W.H. Parry to Louisa Cavendish 27 January 1829 Piece

Paper headed St John's College, Cambridge, and addressed to Louisa at Regency Street, Brighton. Mr Parry is very effusive in his joy at William Cavendish's degree results at Cambridge. He praises William's personality and talents and is sure his brothers, George and Richard, will do well at the University with William as such a fine example. He says that William and five others are sitting for the Maths prize and he will let Louisa know the result.

DF27/1/1/31 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [January - February 1829] Piece

Paper headed Trinity College, Cambridge. William refers to some examinations he has completed that morning. He fears he has not done very well.

1 page

DF27/1/1/32 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 1 February 1829 Piece

Paper headed Trinity College and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. William apologizes to his mother for not writing sooner but he knows Mr Parry had already written to her. William talks of winning the first Smith's Prize which is tried for by those who are top of the Wranglers [those who attain a first class degree at Cambridge.] He is particularly pleased as it is normally won by the Senior Wrangler [person with the highest mark amongst that group] and William had been the Second Wrangler. He comments that winning the prize is equal to Senior Wrangler as it examines more difficult things. William writes that he is going to write to his brother George at Hartley.

1 page

DF27/1/1/33	<p>Letter from W.H. Parry to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Paper headed St John's College and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Mr Parry talks of her son William's delight at winning the Maths prize at Cambridge and says he is finding it difficult to settle for his Classics exams. The decision will be made whether to enter him for the Classic exams as a failure would tarnish his excellent results in maths. They will take the advice of an eminent scholar, who will examine William regularly in Classics.</p> <p>1 page</p>	1 February 1829	Piece
DF27/1/1/34	<p>Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Paper headed Trinity College. William hopes his mother has had a good journey from Brighton to London. He tells her he has completed his Classics exams and fears he has done "horribly bad". It is what he expected as he has neglected the Classics recently and he worries he will be in the Third Class. He will take his "Masters of Arts" degree the following week and will travel home after that.</p> <p>1 page</p>	22 February 1829	Piece
DF27/1/1/35	<p>Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Paper headed Trinity College and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. William reports he is in a tremendous good humour as he has done far better in his Classics exams at Cambridge than he had feared. He came 8th of the 14 people awarded First Class. He then gives his mother the full list of results for First, Second and Third Class.</p> <p>1 page</p>	23 February 1829	Piece
DF27/1/1/36	<p>Letter from W.H. Parry to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Paper headed Holt. Mr Parry congratulates Louisa on her son William's Classics results at Cambridge. Both he and William had been very anxious about the outcome but he has a First Class result. This makes him "what they call at Oxford a double-first-class-man." [He previously achieved a First Class result in Maths]. He thinks it an even more impressive result as several who had concentrated on the Classics are below him in the results. He assures Louisa she can consider her son "the most able, the most distinguished and the most successful student of his year."</p> <p>1 page</p>	25 February [1829]	Piece
DF27/1/1/37	<p>Letter from Richard Smith to Louisa Cavendish</p>	27 March 1829	Piece

Paper is headed Edensor. Mr Smith congratulates Louisa on William's degree success at Cambridge. He says how thrilled he is personally and says, even though he had very high hopes for him, William has exceeded his expectations. Smith is particularly pleased at William winning the Smith's maths prize and beating the Senior Wrangler [the person with the highest mark amongst the First Class awards]. Mr Smith knows some of the examiners, who have told him they were unanimous in awarding the prize to William. He also says there is talk at Cambridge that William may be their future representative in Parliament and asks Louisa if this may be the case.

1 page

DF27/1/1/38 Letter from E Hawtrey to Louisa Cavendish [1829] Piece

Letter addressed to Louisa at Stanhope St, Mayfair, London. Mr Hawtrey congratulates Louisa on William's degree success at Cambridge and comments on the potential he saw in William [at Eton]. He thinks William's brother George will be sent up for good soon and comments that he is exceeding initial expectations. He is not as complimentary about his brother [Richard Cavendish] who does not place as much value on his studies, seeing them as secondary to other pursuits. If [Richard] concentrates on composition over the next few weeks he may succeed but Mr Hawtrey does not yet feel confident enough to say he will be sent down for good.

1 page

DF27/1/1/39 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 14 June [1829] Piece

Paper headed Cambridge and dated 14 June [1829]. William writes about an election. He says they have had very good accounts for today but the same has been said by his rival, Bankses. The second page gives the result as close. William has won with a majority of 147.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/40 Letter from "The Committee" to Louisa Cavendish [1829] Piece

Paper is headed British Coffee House and is undated and unsigned. The Committee are informing Louisa that they have just heard the election results from Cambridge. William has defeated Mr Bankses with a majority of 110.

1 page

DF27/1/1/41 Letter from Richard Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [1829] Piece

Undated but apparently earlier than DF27/1/1/42 which is stamped 31 October 1829. Paper is headed Hartley. Richard is very strong in expressing his opinion about his mother "throwing up the Paris place", reflecting that if she does not go to Paris she will have to spend time "between odious London and odious Brighton". He also calls both places a "stinkpot" and London "smoky, foggy and putrid." He recounts how Lady Glynne went to Paris last year, not knowing anyone to start with, but after a fortnight had a very pleasant time. Again he implores Louisa, whom he calls "Dearest Mudgey", not to give up such a delightful place in Paris and says he will be "perfectly miserable" if she does.

1 page

DF27/1/1/42 Letter from Richard Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish October 1829 Piece

Undated but stamped 31 October 1829. Paper is headed Hartley and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Richard is updating his mother on his news and expresses his rage that he is not being allowed to keep a puppy the Duke has given him. He hopes to be able to keep it at a local farm instead.

1 page

DF27/1/1/43 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 27 October 1829 Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard and addressed to Louisa at Wortley Hall, Sheffield. Blanche says William has heard from George [his brother] who seems to be getting on very well and has made many acquaintances. Blanche talks about the drawing she is doing and how William is shooting with Lord Granville. She talks of the Lascelles visitors and the health of her parents.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/44 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 9 November 1829 Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche says her father is much better after a bad bout of gout. She talks of the visitors who are coming and going and a charade they held. William is shooting with the 6th Duke and the doctor. Blanche talks of Louisa going to see Richard [her son].

2 pages

DF27/1/1/45 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 18 November 1829 Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche says William has heard from George [his brother] who tells him he ought to be at Cambridge for the Christmas festivities. She talks of other people's movements for Christmas. Blanche is pleased to be with Caro again at Castle Howard. Blanche says they arrived at Castle Howard from Bishopsthorpe and describes visiting York Minster "which is now a very melancholy sight" [in February 1829 there was an arson attack].

2 pages

DF27/1/1/46 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 3 December 1829 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche had been pleased to hear that Louisa and Fanny are to leave town and thinks they will find Brighton pleasant. She is expecting Lord Charles and Caroline who have been staying at Welbeck. She talks of games they have been playing and of her father's health. Blanche has been preparing some things for a bazaar at York and asks that Fanny sends on anything she has made.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/47 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 30 December 1829 Piece

Paper is headed Cambridge. William tells his mother he has nearly finished all his business in Cambridge. He has been accepting everyone's congratulations for his success and attending many dinners as a consequence. He explains he has become Godfather to the daughter of someone who did most for him at the Election. William informs Louisa he will be leaving afterwards for Castle Howard but is worried the snow may affect his journey. He explains he has been looking at a range of plans for a new library at Cambridge and explains subscriptions will be needed, adding that he has already had to subscribe to a large list of causes. He informs his mother his brother George is doing very well at Cambridge.

1 page

DF27/1/1/48 Letter from Richard Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [1829 -1830] Piece

Paper is headed Chatsworth. Richard complains that the wet weather is preventing him from sketching. He is looking forward to a visit from the Granville family the following day. He tells Louisa there are some beautiful things at the Ashford marble works, which he supposes she will see. He also comments on how "enchanting" the Rookery looked. He talks about other guests, who have been at Chatsworth, and entertainment provided. He also thinks Louisa will be delighted with the improvements at Chatsworth. He calls Louisa "My Dear little Mud." He informs her of an accident where someone had their hand crushed by a large stone and the Duke has sent him to Sheffield to be under the care of the best surgeon.

1 page

DF27/1/1/49 Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [May 1830] Piece

Paper is unheaded and undated but written about a week before DF27/1/1/51 which is stamped 11 May 1830. George comments on it being three weeks to his examinations. He informs his mother he has heard his tutor thinks he will not do well. George feels if he gets a Third Class degree he should be content. He says he hopes the King will get better by June.

1 page

DF27/1/1/50 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [1829 or 1830] Piece

Undated but context suggests 1829 or 1830. Blanche tells Louisa how prosperous her two sons Richard and George are. William and Blanche vested them in their rooms and dined with them. Richard is very studious and George idle. Blanche has been sight-seeing with her brother Morpeth but sees very little of William. She tells Louisa the poet Wordsworth is in the House with his wife and daughter.

1 page

DF27/1/1/51 Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 11 May 1830 Piece

Paper is unheaded and undated but is stamped 11 May 1830 and addressed to Belgrave Square London. George comments on there being only a fortnight to his examinations. He will count himself lucky if he gets in the Third Class, comments on what a poor memory he has and complains about his workload. George asks Louisa to let him know whether he will be returning to Cambridge the following term and talks about tutors in the area he has heard about.

1 page

DF27/1/1/52 Letter from Blanche and William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 8 August 1830 Piece

Paper is unheaded but context suggests Chatsworth and letter is stamped Bakewell. It is addressed to Louisa at Malvern, Worcester. Blanche had been pleased to hear a good account of Richard and that Louisa and he intend to leave London. She hopes a quiet time in the country will help him improve. She talks of the Yorkshire election which she has been anxious about but Morpeth [her brother] was about 800 at the head of the poll. Blanche comments on this place being at the "height of its beauty." She says the library is now being painted in gilt and "looks very handsome". A tree which was transplanted in the court "looks tolerably prosperous." Blanche then lists all the other visitors who are at Chatsworth. William finishes the letter. He thinks "Chatsworth is looking better than I ever saw it." He talks about the Derbyshire election, saying Lord George and Mr Mundy were returned without any difficulty, commenting also that "the county is growing very Whiggish."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/53 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 17 August 1830 Piece

Paper is unheaded but is posted from Wetherby and is addressed to Louisa in Malvern, Worcester. Blanche hopes Richard will now improve rapidly. She says they have all, including the 6th Duke, decided to stay until the 25th. They will go to Castle Howard sometime in September, where her parents have now arrived. They were happy to find Morpeth there. Blanche is very happy to be with Caro and says their days consist of writing letters in the mornings and walking in the afternoons. She talks of playing games and Mrs Leveson singing beautifully for them. She also says "George and I quarrel as usual."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/54 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 29 September 1830 Piece

Paper is unheaded but posted from Rotherham [context suggests Wentworth] and addressed to Louisa at Ravensworth Castle, Gateshead. Blanche talks of William getting "through what he had to do very well." She was not there herself (there were not carriages to take the ladies) but has heard reports. She then quotes from a letter her brother wrote and says William received lots of compliments. Blanche talked about the other people who are staying and talks of Lord Fitzwilliam and Lady Mary.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/55 Letter from Blanche Cavendish and William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [4 Oct 1830] Piece

Headed Chatsworth. Blanche writes of her parents at Castle Howard and her father's improved health. She talks of their "snug party" at Chatsworth with only Morpeth and the 6th Duke and outlines which other visitors they are expecting. Blanche writes of acquaintances and of the marriage of Lord Chesterfield to Miss Forester [30 November 1830]. Blanche says she has not heard yet whether Harriet can have them. They will leave for Lilleshall on Friday and then straight on to Compton Place on Monday. Blanche writes that after luncheon she is going to drive with Uncle D and Morpeth to Matlock. William finishes the letter. He comments on Louisa's recent letter "containing the surprising intelligence of the Lakes" and asks "Will they not be somewhat affronted at Harewood House?" He hopes Louisa will have fine weather for the tour and informs her Dick should not be any later at Cambridge than the 20th.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/56 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 10 October [1830] Piece

The context of the letter suggests it follows on from DF27/1/1/55. Letter is headed Trentham. Blanche refers to Louisa touring. She was glad to find Caro and Harriet at Trentham when they arrived and is sorry not to be going to Lilleshall with them the following day. She describes a visit to the potteries to buy a service. She describes the country there as "frightful and black". She writes about Harriet's children and comments on Lord Chesterfield's marriage [November 1830]. She then tells Louisa what was said about William's speech.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/57 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 20 October 1830 Piece

Letter is headed Compton Place and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche thinks Louisa will immediately be busy with her house. She says William had been struck by the quantity that had been done and Blanche was sorry to have not seen it for herself. She says she was pleased with how her own house looked and hopes Louisa will go and see it. Blanche thinks she will be there herself the following week. Blanche is very much enjoying being at the seaside and especially in the good weather. She gives news of her parents at Castle Howard and other acquaintances.

1 page

DF27/1/1/58 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 27 October 1830 Piece

Letter is headed Compton Place and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche is hoping for news from Louisa now she is settled in London. She says her parents will arrive in town on the same day and that they have not been well. She discusses other acquaintances - their health and their looks. Today Blanche says they will have a great number of neighbours come to dine with them. She is very much looking forward to seeing Louisa and Fanny a few days later.

2 pages

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|-------------|---|------------------|-------|
| DF27/1/1/59 | Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | [15 August 1829] | Piece |
| | <p>The context suggests the letter was written from Chatsworth on 15 August. George describes the weather and the journey. He reports conversations with the Duke in which the Duke has been full of praise for George's brother, William, and how thrilled he is that William is his successor. The Duke had also expressed his opinion that William should give Mr Parry a generous gift of £200. George has been walking a lot with the Duke. He writes "I do not think he wishes anybody to know what has been done but I think I never saw anything so beautiful as Chatsworth in my whole life."</p> | | |
| | <p>1 page</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/60 | Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | [18 August 1829] | Piece |
| | <p>The context suggests the letter was written from Chatsworth. George informs his mother he will be leaving for Bolton Abbey with the Duke the following morning and says the Duke will remain for 10 days at Bolton, returning to Chatsworth for the visit of Sir J. Wyatville. He tells Louisa William and Blanche have arrived at Chatsworth and will also go to Bolton in two days' time. Even though the Duke has been ill with a bad cold and toothache George describes him as "goodnatured." George reports they have been dining in the "little new dining room" and sitting in the "room where all the statues are." He reports the Duke spent an evening tearing up letters he sent at all ages to Miss Trimmer, some from school and some from Hardwick before he went to school. The Duke has given George one of the letters. George informs his mother of various visitors to Chatsworth, including Lady and Miss Shelley. He reports on his lack of success at shooting on the Moors which the Duke finds amusing. He says William will only shoot for a short time as Blanche restricts his time but feels the exercise would do him good as he is rather overweight.</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/61 | Letter and enclosure from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | [1830] | Piece |

The context suggests this letter was written after DF27/1/1/59 and 61. George's letter encloses a letter he has received from his grandfather George Augustus Henry [1st Earl of Burlington of the 2nd creation]. George is asking his mother for advice on how to answer his Grandfather's letter and begs her to reply by return. He has never written to him before and is unsure how to word his reply. He is worried if he refuses his grandfather's request he will be very angry. George Augustus Henry's letter is unheaded and undated. He informs George that his brother William and Blanche have arrived that day. He says he has a favourable account of the game and hopes that George will join them before William leaves for Cambridge.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/62 Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [1830] Piece

Paper is headed Bolton Abbey. There is not a year given but it follows on from DF27/1/1/61. George is sorry to hear Louisa has been unwell but is sure the air at Bolton will do her good. He reports the Duke will be returning to Chatsworth, calling at Castle Howard for one night on the way. He talks about the poor weather, the shooting and describes a four hour walk with the Duke to look at the Stride and surrounding views. He reports that the Duke says Bolton Abbey "is the only place where he feels out of the world."

1 page

DF27/1/1/63 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 29 December 1830 Piece

Letter is headed Lilleshall and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche was pleased to find Harriet and her children well and comments on how much she likes the house, never having been before. She comments on how the interiors are decorated. She is happy to see the Aubusson carpets look very well laid down. William is out shooting despite the bad weather - there is thick snow. Blanche says she is anxious for news from Louisa of how the Granvilles were. She says she is very glad that Paris is so much quieter at the moment. She talks of them having a ball for their tenants and also going to Derby.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/64 Letter from Blanche and William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [4 January 1831] Piece

Headed Chatsworth and context suggests the date of the letter as 4 January 1831. Blanche comments on a number of the guests. She informs Louisa the library is looking beautiful and "Uncle Devonshire toils at his books from morning to night". She comments on the rooms looking quite different now the book cases are gone. William finishes the letter, saying when they and the Duke plan to leave (the Duke for Brighton) and talking about the shooting he and George have had.

1 page

DF27/1/1/65 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 January 1831 Piece

Letter is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Blanche thanks Louisa for enquiring after her health and says she is much improved. She is glad to hear Richard is well and that he and Louisa are settled in Brighton. Blanche comments on the health of various acquaintances. She says they left George at Chatsworth undecided if he was going with the Duke and says "according to our custom we have quarrelled a good deal."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/66 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 20 January 1831 Piece

Letter is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Blanche apologises to Louisa for not writing, explaining that she has been ill again. Though weakened, she is feeling better now. Blanche writes of visitors to Holker and about William's anger at shooting starting so late every day.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/67 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [29 January 1831] Piece

Headed Holker. Undated although the context suggests 29 January 1831. Blanche refers to Brighton and Louisa and Fanny being there. She is impatient to hear news of a recent ball and hopes to have a list of "partners". She also refers to a dinner Fanny went to at the Pavilion. She talks of the snow they have and finishes by saying she is going for a walk in her snow boots with William.

1 page

DF27/1/1/68 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [between March and December 1831] Piece

Unheaded and undated, but context suggests 1831 as Blanche's first child was born December 1831. The whole letter is about a nurse Riddle coming "when one will be wanted." Blanche makes it very clear she would be very happy with the idea but says it is Louisa, Fanny and the nurse's decision. She says it would be a great comfort to "begin with a person in whom I could have such unlimited confidence" and points out it is not as if the nurse would be "going out of the family."

1 page

DF27/1/1/69 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 7 September 1831 Piece

Letter is headed Belgrave Square, London and addressed to Louisa at Hassop. Blanche is discussing the creation of the title of Earl of Burlington for William's Grandfather [10 September 1831]. She says William has spoken to the Duke who has no objection to the title. William will become Lord Cavendish of Keighley as a result. Blanche gives a list of other names which were considered rather than Burlington, commenting the King recommended Eastbourne "which would have been shocking." She says William is "decidedly sorry" about it because in the end it will take him away from the House of Commons. Blanche would like to travel to Derbyshire with William but does not think she will be allowed. Blanche writes of the titles other acquaintances are to receive as well. She tells Louisa she has been to the Abbey to see the preparations.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/70 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [12 September 1831] Piece

Headed Campden Hill. Undated although context suggests 12 September 1831. Blanche is pleased to have a message from William that there will be no contest but disappointed that it will still be so long before the election. Blanche writes of enjoying her time at Campden Hill with her parents and does not like the thought of London "and my dismal home." She talks of dining at Holland House the previous day and of the people who were there. She talks of parties and whom she has visited and comments on the death of Lady Mornington.

1 page

DF27/1/1/71 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 September 1831 Piece

Letter is headed Belgrave Square, London and addressed to Louisa at Hassop. Blanche is talking about the forthcoming election and whether William can come to town. She is worried about him moving between the two things being rushed and tiring. Blanche describes all the people who were at a dinner at Devonshire House the previous day. She describes a conversation with Lord Newburgh who is anxious to join Louisa and how happy Lady Newburgh is to have Louisa. They decided Lord Augustus "was to tumble in love with Fanny" and Blanche says Louisa must send her word if she does. She talks of visitors her parents have had and informs Louisa George is to come to town that day. Blanche has been writing to William every day. She is soon to move to Latimer.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/72 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 21 September 1831 Piece

Letter is headed Belgrave Square, London and addressed to Louisa at Hassop. Blanche arrived from Latimer the previous evening. She is anxious to hear of the election which is the following day and how William will get through his speech. She expects him in London the following day which is a great happiness, commenting on it seeming a very long absence. Blanche speaks of her days at Latimer, which she very much enjoyed. She comments on acquaintances she has seen and on a marriage. She says a Mr Abercromby has just been and he "laments the peerage very much."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/73 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [23 September 1831] Piece

Undated but context suggests it is written two days after DF27/1/1/72. Headed Belgrave Square. Blanche comments on a letter from Fanny and suggests Fanny does not seem to be enjoying Kedleston. Blanche is anxious about the election and how William has done. She says "all the gay world" is gone to Woolwich to see a launch of a 120 gun ship. The Duke has gone in a coach with the Duchess of Gloucester, Princess Augusta and Prince Hohenlohe. Blanche says the Bill was carried the previous day by a majority of 109 and "they must be very glad to have it done with. But the Scotch and Irish still remain" [relates to the Second Reform Bill of September 1831, leading to Reform Act of 1832]. Blanche says it will be very interesting when the Bill goes to the House of Lords. She then talks of several marriages before explaining that the children are not going to Castle Howard now after all. Her mother is afraid because scarlet fever is about. Instead they will go to Brighton, where her parents "do not approve of the change at all." Blanche says she is feeling as well as possible and has had the bed brought downstairs, sooner than need be, but to take advantage of an empty house.

2 pages

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|-------------|---|------------------|-------|
| DF27/1/1/74 | Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 4 November 1831 | Piece |
| | <p>Letter is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Blanche writes of a report of the first case of cholera in England (Sunderland) which she hopes is a rumour. Blanche also refers to unrest in Bristol [rioters controlled the city for three days after the Lords rejected the Second Reform Bill]. Blanche writes that the magistrates and authorities are to blame. If they had been firmer at the outset bloodshed could have been avoided. <i>The Times</i> says there is to be a meeting of the working classes who are reported to be carrying arms and a "great number of bludgeons." Blanche thinks the <i>Times</i> exaggerates "for the purpose of promoting a National Guard." She notes that there is talk of riots on 5 November where effigies of the Bishops will be burned instead of Guy Fawkes. Blanche finishes by talking of acquaintances, her mother seeing "the Play" and rumours of the Duke of Wellington remarrying, which she thinks are bound to be untrue.</p> <p>2 pages</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/75 | Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 8 November 1831 | Piece |
| | <p>Letter is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Blanche says she continues to be well and hopes it will not be much longer [her son Can was born in December 1831]. She gives Louisa the news that there has been six more cases of cholera in Sunderland. She talks of a "meeting being stopped but as such great numbers were expecting it they wondered whether there would be mobs". Great precautions have also been taken for the following day, the Lord Mayor's day. Blanche talks of people she has seen and says her mother has heard from the Duke - the Newburghs and Beaumonts are visiting and he is expecting Wyattville and Curry.</p> <p>2 pages</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/76 | Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 18 November 1831 | Piece |
| | <p>Letter is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Blanche is getting very tired of waiting [for the baby]. She discusses the cholera cases in Sunderland. She talks of the health of acquaintances and several marriages. Blanches says "there seems to be nothing yet settled about Parliament meeting."</p> <p>2 pages</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/77 | Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | [November 1831] | Piece |

Undated although the context suggests November 1831. Headed Belgrave Square. Blanche informs Louisa they were surprised by a visit from Richard. He has come from Cambridge and will stay in town a couple of days, though not with them. Blanche talks about reports of the Cholera - there has only been one new case and it is thought to be the "healthiest year in London that ever was known" because of the measures that have been taken. Blanche's father has arrived from Harewood. Blanche reports she has heard from Lady Newburgh at Chatsworth who says Uncle D is in very good spirits. She tells Louisa who else is at Chatsworth. Blanche has spent the morning with Georgiana.

1 page

DF27/1/1/78 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 November 1831 Piece

Letter is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa at Brighton. Blanche is trying not to be impatient but "it must come soon." She says people seem generally pleased at the meeting of Parliament "at least it is reckoned very right in the present state of things." She comments on many people being put out by it and on it being hard work for House of Commons people - "the Reform Bill over again is a melancholy prospect for them." Blanche thinks the alarm regarding cholera has diminished. She comments on a proclamation against political unions which she thinks are "fearful things."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/79 Letter from George Howard, 6th Earl of Carlisle to Louisa Cavendish 25 November [1831] Piece

Letter is headed Grosvenor[?] Place. There is no year but the context suggests 1831. George is talking about waiting for Blanche's confinement and says she is quite well. He then gives news of acquaintances, his brother and sister. He refers to accounts of cholera being rather better but not much difference. He refers to a report about Susan but as he has not heard a word about it from his sister he does not believe it.

1 page

DF27/1/1/80 Letter from Blanche and William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [after 8 Dec 1831] Piece

Paper is unheaded and undated although the context suggests late 1831-early 1832 when Louisa was in Brighton. William refers to Blanche having to break off letter writing as "the little man wants her" [their son Can was born on 8 December 1831]. Blanche begins the letter and says she thinks Brighton will do Louisa great good. William continues, comments on the weather and not having had many letters from Louisa. He says they have heard of her from Lady Carlisle after a card game at Lady Granville's.

1 page

DF27/1/1/81 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 6 January 1832 Piece

Letter is unheaded but posted from London and addressed to Louisa in Brighton. Blanche says she has wanted to write to Louisa for a long time but she has not had permission to do anything. She says the little man takes up a good deal of her time and she cannot wait for Louisa to see him again. She describes him as "a great darling." He was not right the day before but she thinks that was her own fault as she was worried about Georgiana being ill. People say he looks like William but Blanche cannot see it. She tells Louisa the mark on his lip is fainter and she has been told it will go altogether. Georgiana had an easy birth and her little girl is a very fine one. William has gone to Latimer but she says he has been a most perfect nurse.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/82 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 17 January 1832 Piece

Letter is unheaded but posted from London and addressed to Louisa in Brighton. Blanche is looking forward to Louisa coming to visit. She thinks she will find the little boy much grown. She says she has not been happy about him but now feels reassured. She tells Louisa in confidence what is wrong, describing it as a rupture which has been taken in time and says she has been told there is no doubt of it being entirely cured. Brodie has assured her it is very common in young infants and she has been comforted by being told it was not due to neglect but "a slight imperfection at his birth." The doctors are confident he will be cured and it will not make him more liable to anything of this kind in after life. Blanche is very satisfied with the nurse they have and describes her as attentive and careful. She says the Duke was delighted with Can. Blanche comments on Richard looking fat after Brighton and thinks Fanny will find London dull after being there. She visited her sister Georgiana the previous day and saw her baby.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/83 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 April 1832 Piece

Letter is unheaded but posted from Eastbourne and addressed to Louisa in Brighton. Blanche is delighted to be in the country and says Can is out doors almost all day. He looks very "rosy" and is much admired. She talks of Lord and Lady George and other family members staying there. She says it is thought Lady Anne Wyndham died of cholera and says she died in eight hours.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/84 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 28 April 1832 Piece

Letter is unheaded but posted from Eastbourne and addressed to Louisa in Brighton. Blanche writes about the health of various acquaintances and her parents. She is expecting Henry and his girls in Eastbourne and the Gowers and Morpeth after that. Blanche is enjoying riding on the Downs and sands with William.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/85 Letter from Blanche Cavendish and William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [August 1832] Piece

Unheaded and undated, although context suggests it is written just before DF27/1/1/87 and 88. Louisa is in Leamington. Blanche writes that they have been to see Chatsworth which looked magnificent and says there have been developments since she last saw it. She comments on the garden being beautiful, the entrance immensely improved and the dining room quite beautiful. She has enjoyed walks at Matlock but declares it a place she should soon tire of. She describes a deputation coming from Bakewell to see William. She says she was "squinting with my ears" from the next room but when it became clear there were to be no speeches she made her escape out of the window. William finishes the letter saying he will soon have to begin calling on people about election matters and will also visit Derby shortly.

1 page

DF27/1/1/86 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [August 1832] Piece

Headed Hassop. Undated although the context suggests it was written just before DF27/1/1/87 and 88. William is at Derby. Blanche writes that they have given up going to Hardwick the following day as William needs to be in this part of the county. He is going to call a meeting in Bakewell and says he is now so busy she fears she shall see very little of him at Hardwick. She describes a visit from Mrs Talbot and says they have all been discussing the Mr Fullerton business. She has heard the Duke is very much vexed about it. She describes Can as being very prosperous and says he has not been frightened by any of the places they have been. She says she has good reports from Castle Howard and comments on her parents' health. The letter is unsigned - Blanche says she is leaving it open until the post comes in case there is any news.

1 page

DF27/1/1/87 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 7 August 1832 Piece

Letter is headed Hardwick and addressed to Louisa at Leamington. Blanche writes of how pleased she is to have moved into Hardwick and describes the rooms where she and Can are sleeping and dining (one is the room with the tapestry The Judgement of Solomon which she says Can "crows at"). Blanche thinks they will all be very happy there and says she had never been outside winter and so did not realise how pretty the Park is. They had been staying at Hassop and had an expedition to Chatsworth to show it to Mrs Talbot. Blanche has been writing to the Duke about Hardwick and says "the more I think of his kindness about it, the greater I think it." She informs Louisa the Duke means to be at Bolton on the 15th and William is currently canvassing in Chesterfield.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/88 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 13 August 1832 Piece

Letter is headed Hardwick and addressed to Louisa at Leamington. Blanche writes that William has set off for the Chatsworth moors for a day's shooting and hopes to meet the Duke there. She is pleased they are having a relaxing time at Hardwick as she has been worried about William being so busy. She received good reports from a Mr Ashby who told her William is very much improved with his speaking. They had been to Dronfield, "a very radical place" where William managed to answer a large number of questions with discretion and judgement. Blanche writes that she wishes to become acquainted with the poor people but does not know how to set about it. She says they have refused an invitation from Lady Wharnccliffe to go to Wortley on the way to Bolton because they haven't enough time. She informs Louisa Can still has no teeth and says "nothing can be better than he is." She gives news from Castle Howard of her father and of Richard who is there.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/89 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 17 August 1832 Piece

Letter is headed Bolton Abbey and addressed to Louisa at Leamington. Blanche tells Louisa about concerns they had about Can before leaving Hardwick. He had a red spot under his eye which seemed to be increasing. Blanche consulted a man, respected as a surgeon and apothecary who treated it with "caustic." As he scratched the spot in the night Can is now wearing a little black patch. Blanche says they arrived at Bolton two days earlier and found the Newburghs and Lascelles there. She is pleased to be with Caro again. The 6th Duke arrived the previous day with Mr Fullerton, whom she describes. Blanche comments on Uncle D being frightened about cholera. She also describes several people whose health they are anxious about.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/90	<p>Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Headed Bolton. Undated but context suggests August 1832 and after DF27/1/1/89. Blanche writes about the Talbots who have visited and about the Newburghs, saying Lady Newburgh bore the journey well despite the "sudden and affecting news" she had received. She mentions Caro learning a little girl has died of cholera. Blanche says the Chancellor has been staying at Castle Howard with his little girl, who looks dreadfully ill. The 6th Duke is due to go there with Mr Fullerton shortly. She comments on Mr Fullerton's character. Blanche's postscript is "Can's mark is much the same, rather large. I long to hear what(?) says."</p> <p>1 page</p>	[August 1832]	Piece
DF27/1/1/91	<p>Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Headed Latimer. Blanche writes about how much she is enjoying the countryside and says her hatred for London is increased by being there. They arrived at Latimer from Chenies and Blanche talks of Lady Wriothesly with whom they stayed and other guests who were there. Blanche is expecting William to come for her in a couple of days and then they will go to town. The letter is unsigned and unfinished.</p> <p>1 page</p>	Undated	Piece
DF27/1/1/92	<p>Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Paper is headed Hassop and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche is telling Louisa of how well William has done with a speech and election. She is full of praise for how he delivered his speech and repeats how proud she was of him, though somewhat frightened when he began.</p> <p>1 page</p>	19 December 1832	Piece
DF27/1/1/93	<p>Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Letter is headed Hardwick and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche hopes Louisa has received the game they sent and promises to send more, though there is little shooting. She says they were surprised the previous day by a visit from the Duke of Norfolk and the Howard de Waldens. They have been invited by return to spend two nights in Worksop. She is surprised it is the first time the Duke has visited Hardwick especially as it is so near. Blanche likes Lady Howard very much and extols her virtues. Blanche comments on having a very merry time with the Vernons and mentions games they have played. She says they are expecting the Arkwrights, on their way to Belvoir, where there is to be an immense party. The Duke is going there too.</p>	19 January 1833	Piece

2 pages

DF27/1/1/94 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish August 1833 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square, edged in black and addressed to Louisa at Beaumaris. It is undated but is stamped 22 August 1833. Blanche says if she does not hear from Louisa soon she will conclude that Fanny Cavendish has eloped with Harper [?] and that Louisa is pursuing her. She has heard from Fanny, telling her where to write. Blanche is expecting William home on Sunday. She comments on how their son, Can [William Cavendish] will be pleased to see his father too and how Can is very fond of the new baby, Spencer. Blanche says her mother came to town the previous day, Brighton not having done her as much good as they had hoped. She says Liz and Mary [her sisters] are to go to Castle Howard the following day and Blanche says Uncle D [the 6th Duke] wishes them to call at Chatsworth on the way. Blanche tells Louisa she is visiting Georgiana [her sister Georgiana Howard, Lady Dover] every day. She thinks it will not be long now until her confinement but she is "very languid" indeed. Blanche says the only thing spoiling her happiness at getting William back is the fact that they will probably be going out of town, which she feels currently rather unwilling to do.

1 page

DF27/1/1/95 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish undated [1833] Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and edged in black. It is undated and unstamped but context suggest it follows DF27/1/1/94. Blanche is longing to have news of Louisa's travels. She is waiting for a nice day to go out herself and hopes to get to Dover House soon as well. She describes her visits to Georgiana [her sister Georgiana Howard, Lady Dover] and thinks she seemed a little better though she is still very ill. Blanche felt better having visited and thinks Georgiana's confinement may be very soon. She gives details of a recent marriage (Milton). Blanche then relays the details of a will which has been read.

1 page

DF27/1/1/96 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish August 1833 Piece

Paper is headed Dover House, edged in black and addressed to Louisa at Beaumaris. It is undated but is stamped 28 August 1833. She informs Louisa that one of her sisters "has got safely though her troubles." She tells in detail what happened - with William Lascelles screaming at her mother to fetch the doctor. When her mother returned in the carriage her sister was already much better and now had a "very fine little boy with a great deal of black hair." She talks about the recent death of the Countess of Aberdeen. Blanche tells

Louisa the "young men" are very well though Can is very "impudent."

1 page

DF27/1/1/97 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 5th December 1833 Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard and edged in black. It is stamped Whitwell and addressed to Louisa at Milton, Peterborough. Blanche explains she has been taking a long walk with Harriet [her sister]. She is happy to report her mother now seems to be improving. It has been very "melancholy" for her mother as she has been looking over "his things." She explains her mother has been occupied in sending memorials and tokens of [her brother] to his friends in Ireland. Blanche expresses her disbelief at her brother's death. She hopes Louisa was comfortable at Hardwick and says the Sutherlands are to stop there on their way from Castle Howard the next week. [Blanche's brother Capt. Frederick George Howard was involved in an accident in Kilkenny, Ireland, in November 1833 and later died from his injuries].

2 pages

DF27/1/1/98 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [December 1833] Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard and edged in black. It is undated and unstamped but context suggests December 1833 and after DF27/1/1/97. Blanche speaks of a letter she received from Uncle D [the 6th Duke of Devonshire] dated 1 December, written from Aix-en-Provence. The Duke was to visit Nice the next day and Blanche writes that he seems "enchanted" with everything in France. She then explains how they are in great anxiety about [her sister] Georgiana's little baby, who is very ill. They are not sure what is wrong with him but he has a high temperature and "seemed to suffer." Blanche explains that the Sutherlands left the previous day and will sleep at Hardwick that night. She describes her parents "as tolerably well" but says her father is "very low."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/99 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 8 December 1833 Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard, edged in black and addressed to Louisa at Milton, Peterborough. Blanche says her mother is better in health from when she last wrote but lower in spirits. She talks of the "dreadful loss we have all had." She believes it is a great comfort to have them all at Castle Howard but her sisters will leave the following week and she is afraid of what it will be like for her mother once they have all gone. Blanche says the accounts of [her sister] Georgiana are "very wretched." but she does report that her baby boy is "very healthy" now. Blanche's own son is two years old today.

1 page

DF27/1/1/100	Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	[1834]	Piece
	<p>Paper is headed Hardwick and undated, although context indicates that it is prior to July 1834 when Blanche begins signing as BC rather than BB. Blanche reports news of her son Can [William Cavendish]. He has been very lively and in good humour and has not reacted badly to William's absence as she feared he might. Blanche does not think they will be in town until the following week. She is very glad William is returning that evening - he has not had good weather for shooting.</p> <p>1 page</p>		
DF27/1/1/101	Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	[May 1834]	Piece
	<p>Paper is unheaded and undated, although predates July 1834 when Blanche started signing as BC rather than BB. It may date from after her son William (Can) died (15 May 1834) as it has the remnants of a black seal. It is a short note in which Blanche is thanking Louisa for thinking of her "at this most melancholy time".</p> <p>1 page</p>		
DF27/1/1/102	Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	20 July 1834	Piece
	<p>Paper is headed Chatsworth and addressed to Louisa in Wiesbaden, Germany. Blanche signs the letter B. Burlington. She writes of a conversation with Locock [a doctor?] about her son Spencer. He gave her a good deal of advice and thought him healthy and satisfactory. Blanche was pleased to hear from Fanny in Spa and longs to hear that they have joined Richard. She talks about how hard it has been to come back to Chatsworth as there are so many recollections. She comments on the beauty of Chatsworth at this time of year. She comments on the improvements to the House and says it is grander now in front of the Orangery. The statues look very well in the gallery and the two south sides of the court are now being altered. Blanche says they will go to Holker in a couple of days and may see George there. They will then go on to Bolton. She talks of her parents who are currently in St Leonards, along with the Lascelles and Georgiana.</p> <p>1 page</p>		
DF27/1/1/103	Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	10 August [1834]	Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Wiesbaden, Germany. Blanche says they will go to Bolton on the 14th and will only stay a week. The Duke is unable to go as he is kept in town by the House of Lords. Blanche says she dreads going but thinks she will be alright once there. Morpeth and Caroline will be there and William will enjoy being with George, who she hopes will join them at Holker afterwards. She thinks George is quite ready to lose his heart. Blanche reports her mother is unwell and so has stayed in town instead of joining her father and sisters at Castle Howard. Blanche and William have had Charles stay for a week and describes trips in the area to Furness Abbey, Windermere and Coniston, "the most beautiful." She describes Spencer as being as well as possible. He is not yet walking but crawls everywhere with great rapidity. He is very much grown and affectionate. He is washed every day in sea water. Blanche and William look forward to hearing of Louisa's travels and to receive a good report of Richard. Blanche comments on recent weather which caused great mischief in Manchester and Glossop where some lives were lost by lightening, sudden floods and destruction of property.

1 page

DF27/1/1/104 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 August 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Bolton [Abbey] and addressed to Louisa in Wiesbaden, Germany. Blanche outlines who is at Bolton with them - the Lascelles, George, Verity, William Cowper and the 6th Duke of Devonshire. She describes the Duke as being as well as she has seen him for a long time and being very prudent with his knee. He has even been able to take part in the shooting, which has been very good. Blanche and others went up to Moor at Luncheon and met them which she describes as a pretty sight saying "Landseer would have made a pretty picture of it with the men and dogs." Blanche says she found it very painful at first at Bolton because it brought back former happy times so vividly but she is enjoying being with everyone, especially Caro. They are expecting the Talbots soon at Holker. Blanche was pleased to receive good reports on Richard. She says they left Spencer quite well and has good accounts of him. He does not walk yet but crawls a great deal.

1 page

DF27/1/1/105 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 31 August 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa at Frankfurt, and redirected to Geneva. There is a note saying it was received 3 Oct. Blanche is sorry to hear Richard has not been as well and hopes the remedy has done him good. She hopes they [Louisa, Fanny and Richard] will all enjoy Schlangenbad [Wiesbaden] and says it must be a comfort having a doctor with them. She says the Talbots will now not be visiting Holker as they are delayed in Wales. She says they have been paying many visits to neighbours which is not a pleasant occupation as they are all strangers. She says Mrs Talbot believes Susan gives a very poor account of herself. Blanche says her mother has now arrived at Castle Howard and is much better. The 6th Duke is paying a visit to the warden at Oxford as he does not mean to be at Chatsworth this year. Blanche says Spencer is well.

1 page

DF27/1/1/106 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 14 September 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Frankfurt. There is a note saying it was received on 3 October. Blanche expects Louisa now to be en route to Italy and is anxious to hear how Richard copes with the journey. She says they themselves will set out on their travels the following day, beginning with one night in Ambleside. When they return they will meet with Webster, an architect, and they will have a great deal to discuss. Blanche writes that they miss George very much and have not heard from him. She is enjoying the quiet life at Holker as is William. She says the 6th Duke of Devonshire went on several visits before he went to Chatsworth, including Trentham and Lilleshall. Harriet was delighted with his visit and said he had a plant with him "he was nursing like a little child." She talks of her own family - her mother and Morpeth. Spencer is well and very active, though still not walking.

1 page

DF27/1/1/107 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 21 September [1834] Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Milan and redirected to Geneva. The year is not clear but context suggests it follows DF27/1/1/106. Blanche was very pleased to receive Fanny's letter from Heidelberg, to learn how delighted she is with Germany and hear that Richard continues to be well. William is going to write to Fanny with an account of their trip to the Lakes but Blanche describes the predominantly good weather and thinks they saw a great deal in the time they had.

1 page

DF27/1/1/108 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 October 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Turin. Blanche describes how shocked they were to hear that both Houses of Parliament have been destroyed by fire [16 October 1834]. No lives were lost but there were many accidents and numerous books and papers were destroyed. Blanche says the fire was caused by the neglect of some workmen. Blanche talks of going to Castle Howard at the beginning of the month and of the poor health of her mother. She talks of acquaintances she has seen and upcoming marriages. She comments on Louisa being comforted by a German doctor approving a remedy for Richard.

1 page

DF27/1/1/109 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 2 November 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Florence. Blanche is pleased Richard continues to be well. She reports that the baby is well and thinks Louisa would think him very much grown. She describes him as lively, merry, intelligent and not shy as well as being very gracious to visitors. He still does not walk alone which she thinks is very backward. She is very glad he is fond of William and vice-versa, although she comments on nothing will ever replace their loss. Blanche talks of her mother's "nervous fears". After three weeks at Castle Howard they will return to Holker where they have been entertaining neighbours but still have several to see. They have been planning the new garden there. Blanche refers to the fire at the Houses of Parliament and says that reports of it being intentional were false. She says they may use what is left of the House of Lords for the Commons and the painted chamber may be used for the Lords for this session, and then build on the old site. There is still some talk of Buckingham House and St James being used too.

1 page

DF27/1/1/110 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 November 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Castle Howard and addressed to Louisa in Rome. Blanche reports her mother is better than she expected but is still "very low and disponding." She is glad there is only Lady Cawdor, Morpeth and Edward at Castle Howard. She describes it as a severe trial for her and William to return to CH as it has brought back so many memories of the time spent there the previous summer. She says William was very low for the first few days but is somewhat better now. She hopes George will come to visit but he may now go to town with Uncle D. Blanche talks of Lord Spencer's death and speculation as to who is to succeed Lord Althorp in the House of Commons.

1 page

DF27/1/1/111 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 6th December 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Harewood (and finished at Holker) and addressed to Louisa in Rome. Blanche comments on Louisa being unwell and Florence and Richard now doing very well. She reports her own mother had a relapse whilst they were at Castle Howard with a return of "nervous pains on her face." Blanche continues the letter from Holker. She is pleased George has come to visit and reports how he was not pleased to hear Robert Arkwright is going to stand for N Derbyshire. Blanche says it will not cause George a problem but means there will be a contest. She informs Louisa Sir Robert Peel is now Premier, the Duke of Wellington Foreign Secretary and Lord Lyndhurst Chancellor. She says Uncle D is going to Windsor for the funeral of the Duke of Gloucester. He advises Richard goes to Naples to rest up over Winter rather than Rome.

1 page

DF27/1/1/112 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 25 December 1834 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Rome. Blanche talks of Richard's illness and says it must be a comfort that he has now been diagnosed but disappointing that he is having to rest up and may have been better back in England. She keeps Louisa up to date with the political situation saying there has been no dissolution of Parliament though one is expected any day and "it seems as Tory a Government as one can expect." Blanche was surprised by a visit from Lord Stanley, whom she describes as George's political idol now. She also talks of Francis Grey staying, whom she likes very much, and describes him as merry and natural. She talks of visitors they had at Holker the previous week as well.

1 page

DF27/1/1/113 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 9 January 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Rome. Blanche talks of their delight that Richard continues to improve and the news that his illness has not affected his back. She talks of people Louisa is meeting and recalls times she met them herself. She explains George and Francis Grey have now left and comments on how much they liked Grey. She talks about being in great anxiety about Lord Clifden, who is dangerously ill, and about Georgiana who is by his side constantly. Blanche talks of her parents health and says the baby is as well as possible - he now runs about all day long.

1 page

DF27/1/1/114 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 21 February 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Rome. Blanche comments that she and William are disappointed to hear Richard is not so well again and are anxious for more news. She wonders whether he would be better coming home rather than going to Dresden. She says William has written to Richard about the Speakership and says she never saw anyone as delighted as Uncle D.

1 page

DF27/1/1/115 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 March 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Rome. William is informing his mother of the birth of his daughter [Lady Louisa Caroline Cavendish]. He describes Blanche's labour which the doctor felt was easier than her previous births. He thinks it was a good idea Blanche's mother, Lady Carlisle, was not present due to the time of night, as she is not at all well. William says he does not have much political news to tell except that Lord Londonderry has resigned his embassy to Petersburg because of "the opinion expressed so strongly against him in the House of Commons." William signs the letter Burlington.

1 page

DF27/1/1/116 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 27 March 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Rome. William reports that even though Blanche was ill for a few days she is now getting better. He reports that the baby [Louisa] is getting plump and the little boy [Spencer Cavendish] is very fond of her. William explains that he and Blanche have not yet begun to call him Cavendish and "it is rather difficult to begin." William comments on his mother being in Naples but soon returning to Rome. He discusses what is happening in the House of Commons, where the ministers are being defeated almost every night. The following week "the question of the Irish Church will be debated." Another defeat is expected but William says there is a rumour they will not even resign for that and he does not think they will resign for anything at all. He says of the House of Lords "there is hardly ever anything said or done and it appears to me to be a ridiculous house altogether." He wishes he could return to the House of Commons. William talks about a trial taking place in Lancaster. A Mrs Plunkett has taken action against him but he has been told she "has not much chance." William finishes with talking about the health of several acquaintances and his Grandmother, Lady George [Lady Elizabeth Compton]. William signs the letter Burlington.

1 page

DF27/1/1/117 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 31 March 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Rome. William writes about the health of Blanche and baby Louisa, whom he says "is still very ugly except her eyes." William comments on the great debate on the Irish Church which began the night before but was adjourned. He says there is no doubt the ministers will be defeated, "probably by more than 30, as half of the Stanley party have deserted him and gone over to the Opposition." William thinks there is little doubt Robert Peel will resign but it is not clear who will replace him. William says opinion is that the King will favour Lord Grey. William informs his mother that the trial in Lancaster ended favourably as Mrs Plunkett withdrew her action and that his grandmother [Lady George]'s health continues to deteriorate. William signs the letter Burlington.

1 page

DF27/1/1/118 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 4 April 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Rome. William reports further deterioration in his grandmother [Lady Elizabeth Compton]'s health. He saw his Uncle Charles the previous day before he was setting off to see her at Compton Place [Eastbourne]. Although the doctor judged her not in imminent danger Charles doubts she will recover. They receive twice daily reports on her. William refers to letters George [his brother] has received from F. [sister Fanny] in Naples and R. [brother Richard] in Rome. William thinks they are packing a lot in to their trip and hopes that Vesuvius did not erupt when they were going up. William reports that the ministers were defeated in the House of Commons on the Irish Church question by 33, but they have still refused to resign. He reports that it has been a long debate over four nights with good speeches each night. He reports that Blanche and both babies are very well. William signs the letter Burlington.

1 page

DF27/1/1/119 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 8 April 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square, edged in black and addressed to Louisa in Rome. William informs Louisa his grandmother Lady Elizabeth Compton died the previous morning. She had taken leave of all her children and died peacefully. The reason for death is given as "water on the chest." William says they are very anxious to hear about Caroline [his Aunt and Lady George's daughter] and says the Duke has cancelled a ball he was due to hold that evening, to which some of the Royal family were invited. William comments on Blanche and the children being in good health and Blanche has taken her first drive out. He explains that in the House of Commons the ministers were beaten again (by 27) last night on the Irish Church and have resigned. He finishes by saying "who is to come in I wonder."

1 page

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|--------------|---|---------------|-------|
| DF27/1/1/120 | Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 11 April 1835 | Piece |
| | <p>Paper is headed Belgrave Square, edged in black and addressed to Louisa in Florence. Blanche is writing about Lady George's death [Louisa's mother-in-law] and she is pleased it was peaceful and without suffering. She comments on how difficult it must be for Caroline [Lady George's daughter] as she was so devoted to her. Blanche does not think the funeral will take place before the 23rd and says William and George will attend. She describes the contents of Lady George's will as far as she knows. Blanche describes baby Louisa "your little namesake" as very well and "a very nice little baby" with "pretty little features." Blanche says she is well herself and is thinking of a trip to town the following week, saying she may go to Chiswick. Blanche comments on the political situation saying the King saw Lord Grey, Lord Landsdowne and Lord Melbourne but nothing "has yet transpired." There is talk Lord Grey will not take it and Blanche hopes "they will steer clear of the Radicals."</p> <p>1 page</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/121 | Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 14 April 1835 | Piece |
| | <p>Paper is headed Belgrave Square, edged in black and addressed to Louisa in Florence. William was pleased to receive a letter from his mother the previous day and hear "such good accounts of yourself and R." [Richard Cavendish, William's brother]. He comments that Richard had been "much improved" when Louisa returned from Naples. He says that Caroline [Lady George's daughter] has been very poorly the last few days and is anxious to go to Derby. He comments that the smaller details of Lady George's will not be known until after the funeral but "we of course got Compton Place, which in a short time will make us a good deal richer." William reports his brother George has gone to Brighton with the Duke for a week. He himself will go to Chiswick the following day "until I am obliged to set off for Derby." William tells his mother about baby Louisa's Christening, explaining Fanny and Lady Caroline Lascelles are Godmothers and Richard Godfather. Cavendish was also christened at the same time and behaved very well. William talks about the beautiful weather and says he is hearing reports that the new garden at Holker is looking very pretty. William comments on the ongoing political situation and thinks Lord Melbourne will be Prime Minister, Lord Grey having declined. He also says the Duke is talked of as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, but William thinks he would refuse it "as I do not think it would suit him."</p> <p>1 page</p> | | |
| DF27/1/1/122 | Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish | 22 April 1835 | Piece |

Paper is headed Chiswick, edged in black and addressed to Louisa in Venice. Blanche explains William and George have gone to Derby and that William will be away longer because the Duke has persuaded him to go to Chatsworth with him for a few days. Blanche is worried about Caroline [Lady George's daughter] since her mother died. She thinks it will be a wrench for them to leave Compton Place and says "we have written begging them to stay as long as they like." Lady George's funeral will take place the following day and Blanche explains Caroline was persuaded not to go only at the last minute. Blanche explains there is actually no codicil to Lady George's will but just verbal instructions and she hopes this will not cause difficulties. Blanche then informs Louisa in great detail about the political changes and the new government which has been formed. She talks about who has taken up which positions, including Morpeth [her brother George Howard] becoming Irish Secretary. She reports that Uncle D refused to be anything and that he called for dinner the previous day on his way from Brighton. Blanche comments on the shocking death of a Mr Hope who married Frances Lascelles just six weeks previously.

1 page

DF27/1/1/123 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 12 June 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Sq. William talks of George [his brother]'s affairs which "are I think hastening to a crisis." This pertains to George's relationship with Lady Louisa Lascelles. He reports that at a ball at Devonshire house the previous evening they were together the whole time. He says George is very anxious about the situation and talks about going straight to see his mother. William says they really like each other and thinks she "will make him a very good wife." Even though William has seen very little of the Duke recently because he is often at Chiswick, he "seems to approve and to think it is quite impossible to object, supposing they like each other." William refers to Blanche's letter written at the same time (DF27/1/1/124).

1 page

DF27/1/1/124 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 12 June 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Sq. and addressed to Louisa in Dresden. Blanche talks of her brother-in-law, George's relationship with Lady Louisa Lascelles. Blanche is sure that if his mother was not away George would have proposed by now and comments on how anxious the situation is making him. Blanche goes into detail about Louisa's good character and nature and puts forward a strong case as to her suitability to be George's wife. She hopes that his mother will contact George soon and comments that "Uncle D seems much more for it than I should have expected he would be." Blanche finishes by saying she hopes Louisa's answer will be favourable "for it will make him very unhappy if it is not."

1 page

DF27/1/1/125 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 16 June 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Sq. and addressed to Louisa in Dresden. William is anxious for his mother's response to his previous letter about his brother George's relationship with Lady Louisa Lascelles. He says at that stage he had not realised "things were so advanced as they now seem to have been." The proposal has now been made and William thinks Louisa "will like her very much," whilst emphasising the Duke's approval. William says he has not seen any of the Harewood family yet but Blanche and he will be going presently. He then talks of the money he thinks George and Louisa will bring to the marriage. He comments he may be able to help them soon as well but not at present and thinks they will be fine with what they have anyway. William reports he is going to see the Duke at Chiswick that day and taking George with him. He finishes the letter referring to George's relationship again, commenting on the fact he is now 25 and therefore ready to marry. He describes the match as "a thousand times preferable to Miss Glynne in every way but particularly on account of wealth." He also comments on the Harewoods "though they are not perhaps particularly agreeable, will never be troublesome or bothering as the others would have been."

1 page

DF27/1/1/126 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 August 1835 Piece

Paper is headed Compton Place and addressed to Louisa in Rotterdam. Blanche mentions a letter she received from Fanny saying they may be home on the 30th or 31st. She says they have a "shower bath" which will be ready in Richard's room and she has ordered some "plain cocoa" for him but asks if there is anything else he needs. Blanche says she is "anxious to make him very comfortable" and thinks "this place will be as good for him as all the waters of Germany." Blanche reports that George and Louisa have gone to Sheffield for a few days. She then refers to her sister Georgiana's family who are staying in a house nearby. She is pleased to say Georgiana now takes greater interest in her children. Blanche also refers to a visit by her father and brother Charles and comments on her mother being anxious about travelling abroad and thinks she is "not any better than when you left England." Blanche says she is concerned about the nursery maid Jane who has been very ill for a while and also comments on Uncle D being ill in Paris.

1 page

DF27/1/1/127 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 September 1836 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa at Chatsworth. Blanche says Louisa's letters telling of what is happening at Chatsworth amuse them. She fears she herself has very little to write about. She talks of visitors they are expecting and refers to an accident George has had. She describes Cavendish as "quite indefatigable by turns as a postilion and as a gardener."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/128 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 18 October 1836 Piece

Paper is headed Hardwick and addressed to Louisa in Ireland. Blanche says she is anxious to hear of Louisa's safe arrival in Ireland because of the stormy weather. She says Chatsworth was looking "very melancholy on the inside but beautiful outside." She talks of Lady Newburgh who is staying but ill. She came from Buxton and "seems to have been most terribly upset by being there." Blanche also talks of other visitors. She says they have the same rooms at Chatsworth and comments "the house looks very much more comfortable with a great deal of new tapestry."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/129 Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 October 1836 Piece

Paper is headed Hardwick. George hopes his mother has recovered from her passage to Ireland. He reports he rode to Hardwick with Louisa, who was not at all tired. He reports on Lady Newburgh visiting and tells his mother he went to Derby the previous day, which took up his whole day. He reports that "Blanche seems pretty well and Louisa's burn is getting on as well as she will let it."

1 page

DF27/1/1/130 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 31 October 1836 Piece

Paper headed Chatsworth and addressed to Louisa in Ireland. Blanche says she is pleased to hear of Louisa's safe arrival in Ireland but they are all rather "touchy" because they feel she and Fanny do not write enough. Blanche talks about the harsh winter they are experiencing at Chatsworth, with snow on the ground. Blanche reports she is feeling very well though somewhat uncomfortable with about another month to go. She talks of visitors they are expecting and a French Comte they have staying. She comments on how good William's French is "when he thinks no-one is listening." Blanche reports that Uncle D said Louisa was very much admired at a ball and "he seemed very much pleased with her." Blanche comments on the ill health of various acquaintances.

2 pages

- DF27/1/1/131 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 18 November 1836 Piece
- Apparently the second page of an incomplete letter from which the first and subsequent pages are missing. The letter is stamped in Eastbourne and addressed to Louisa in Ireland. Blanche says reports are that her mother's health is improving. She says they were very much pleased with George and Louisa's visit and that "Mama and Lizzy both praise her very much." She mentions a shipwreck which has happened near Birling Gap.
- 1 page
- DF27/1/1/132 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 27 November 1836 Piece
- Paper headed Compton Place, Eastbourne, and addressed to Louisa in Ireland. Blanche is about to have her baby any day but thinks it could be as long as 10 days [Frederick Charles Cavendish was born three days after the date of this letter]. Blanche says her mother will come from Castle Howard. She writes of her visit to church that morning and how she views the preacher. She also writes of how well Cavendish, her eldest son, is developing but says it is difficult at times to "keep the peace" between him and the baby [Louisa Caroline Cavendish.] Blanche thinks Louisa will go to Paris for the winter and comments on acquaintances in Dublin.
- 2 pages
- DF27/1/1/133 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 1 January 1837 Piece
- Paper headed Eastbourne and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche writes of Louisa being kept away by the snow but says she is pleased Louisa was not on the road when it happened. Blanche talks of her own health, saying she is very well but "more backward than usual" and explains she has be careful in this "extremely severe weather." Blanche expresses disappointment at not being able to feed the baby [Frederick] herself but the "baby has prospered as much since I gave it up that I soon became reconciled." Blanche explains that they are still undecided as to whether the baby should be called John or Frederick but hopes for the latter as they have asked Lord Fitzwilliam to be Godfather. Blanche is sorry to hear Elizabeth Cavendish has been very ill and that "they have all been in great anxiety about her." She seems to be out of danger now. She refers to Harry behaving "very ill in the meanest manner possible" and saying she finds it hard to understand as she thought they had fortunes of their own. [The rest of the letter is damaged and so parts are difficult to read]. Blanche comments on how well Cavendish is doing and says he is very good friends with his cousin Freddy Leveson.
- 2 pages
- DF27/1/1/134 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 21 January 1837 Piece

Letter addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche writes of she and William being anxious for news of Richard whom Fanny has informed them is ill. They do not know what is the matter or how poorly he has been. They are concerned as he was getting "very well and strong" and fear this could be a setback. Blanche wonders if it is the influenza which appears to be everywhere. Blanche says they are all glad to know Richard is at the Embassy, which must be much more comfortable. She writes of a number of people in London who are also ill or have even died. She reports all three children have colds but that they are not at all poorly.

1 page

DF27/1/1/135 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 29 January 1837 Piece

Paper headed Compton Place, Eastbourne, and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche informs Louisa that the children are all as well as possible and she is hopeful they will escape [the influenza]. She asks Louisa to agree that if Cavendish and Louisa were to begin they would then send the baby to "No 1." She knows of several people who have died in London, though it does not seem as bad as in some other places and it is just as bad in the country. She gives the example of Alnwick where the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, six of their guests and 20 servants are all ill in bed. Blanche writes that they were thrilled to hear Richard is improving. Blanche speaks of F. Grey whom she thinks very charming and "a delightful person." Blanche says she is still not feeling strong. She has tried quinine but it gives her headaches.

1 page

DF27/1/1/136 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [February 1837] Piece

Paper headed Latimer. Letter is undated but references in it suggest February 1837. Blanche writes of Caroline [Elizabeth Cavendish's aunt, Lady Caroline Cavendish] being overjoyed at the wedding [of Elizabeth G.H. Cavendish and William B. Harcourt]. Blanche declares it an "excellent marriage in every way". The Gordon marriage [between Lady Augusta and Lord Frederick Gordon], however, she finds an "inconceivable thing" and she is not complimentary about Lord Frederick. Blanche mentions that Lady Wharncliffe will probably be the Lady of the Bedchamber next.

1 page

DF27/1/1/137 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 15 February 1837 Piece

Paper headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche notes that she is adding a line to William's [though he does not write] and she does not think Louisa will be pleased with what she has to say. She strongly suggests she [Fanny, William's sister] should be allowed to marry and make her own decisions as she is no longer a child. She appeals to Louisa saying surely her [Fanny's] happiness is what she wishes and pointing out that displeasing Louisa will make Fanny miserable. She finishes by mentioning Cavendish had a slight lapse and was feverish the previous day.

1 page

DF27/1/1/138 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 31 March 1837 Piece

Paper headed Mistley. William is writing to his mother about her wish to delay a marriage ceremony [his sister Fanny married Frederick John Howard in July 1837]. He notes that because the "business" was a "half and half secret" he thinks it may be fine to proceed but he will wait for it to proceed, as his mother wishes. William writes about the countryside where they are staying and describes a walk. He tells his mother about a barn fire which they spotted from the window. When they arrived the barn was burned down and William is sure it was started deliberately. There have been several fires in the area recently. A ten year old has confessed but William feels he cannot have acted alone.

1 page

DF27/1/1/139 Letter from George Henry Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [March 1837] Piece

The letter is unheaded and undated but context suggests it is from the same time and location as DF27/1/1/138. George describes the walk he did with William and talks about the fire which occurred locally. He refers to William and Blanche being with them but leaving a couple of days early.

1 page

DF27/1/1/140 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 31 March 1837 Piece

Paper headed Mistley and addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square, London. Blanche is still most concerned with the situation of Fanny wanting to marry and Louisa's objections. She hopes it will be resolved soon but also hopes Fanny does not do anything rash. She says reports of the children are good and she misses them terribly.

1 page

DF27/1/1/141 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [1837] Piece

Paper is unheaded and undated but the context suggests 1837 prior to Louisa's daughter Fanny's marriage in July 1837 and after DF27/1/1/140. Blanche gives details of what Uncle D [the 6th Duke of Devonshire]'s views are on the marriage. He thinks the date should be fixed soon and thinks Chiswick Church (also making a suggestion about the clergyman) followed by luncheon at Chiswick would be best. He hopes he will be able to come and Blanche says she is enclosing a list of people he thinks ought to be invited. With all these things the Duke is happy to consider other arrangements if Fanny prefers. Blanche comments on the "poor King" being "as bad as possible."

1 page

DF27/1/1/142 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [1837] Piece

Incomplete letter headed Bolton. It is undated but context suggests it is written at the same time as DF27/1/1/143. Blanche says the Lascelles and George were at Bolton when they arrived but not Uncle D [6th Duke of Devonshire] although he arrived yesterday. He complains about rheumatism but looks very well. She says George [George H. Cavendish, Louisa's son] has left for Harewood and will probably bring back Louisa [his wife] but Blanche is going to suggest she does not come if she is not strong enough. Blanche has heard from Mrs Talbot and is sorry they will not be coming to Holker. She writes of Lady Lothian's health.

1 page

DF27/1/1/143 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 17 August 1837 Piece

Paper headed Bolton Abbey with a black seal. It is addressed to Louisa at Lowther Castle, Penrith. Blanche says they enjoyed their tour extremely and they had the most beautiful weather. She mentions places they have been from Barmouth to Llanberis and reports that William climbed Snowdon. They also visited Carnarvon Castle, Menai Bridge, slate quarries and Conwy. She was sorry to leave but enjoyed the trip from Liverpool to Manchester by rail. She notes that they remained in their own carriage which she thinks is "much pleasanter" and describes the journey as "quite like flying through the air." Uncle D [6th Duke of Devonshire] and the Lascelles were already at Bolton, as were George [Louisa's son] and Louisa [his wife]. She notes that Louisa looks very well, as does the Duke, who "is enchanted with the progress of everything at Chatsworth." Blanche lists some of the visitors the Duke has received including the Arkwrights and "he says Fanny Arkwright is beautiful." Blanche has agreed with him that they will travel to Chatsworth at the end of September and they are pleased because it means they can stay at Holker a while. The Duke intends his party to last from 10 September-10 October and Blanche thinks they will go about the 22nd or 23rd. George and Louisa intend to go there from Bolton and Blanche hopes Louisa and Fanny will do the same. She says it has been a comfort to her to know the children have been with Louisa.

Blanche writes of the movements of other members of her family and an upcoming marriage.

3 pages

DF27/1/1/144 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 12 September 1837 Piece

Paper is headed Liverpool and addressed to Louisa at Chatsworth. Blanche is informing Louisa about William's speech in "The House." She says he did very well and was "immensely applauded." Blanche views it as the "most formidable thing to do" and says he was talking in front of 3,000 people. Lord Northampton resigned the Chair to William and Blanche says "his voice sounded beautiful." She talks of the social engagements surrounding William's appointments and of a visit they made to a garden which William greatly admired because of "such rare American plants and very rare pines." Blanche finishes with a postscript "William is very happy that last night is over but will not admit that he did well."

3 pages

DF27/1/1/145 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [September 1837] Piece

Paper is undated but context suggests it follows DF27/1/1/144. It is headed Castle Howard. Blanche comments on how happy Louisa must be to be with Fanny again. She describes the journey from Liverpool and says she found rail sickness almost as bad as on a boat to start with. She talks of William's speech and also comments on the whole House standing and the applause and waving of hats going on for several minutes when a vote of thanks was proposed to William. Blanche talks of her parents health and visitors she has seen at Castle Howard.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/146 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 21 October 1837 Piece

Paper is headed Chatsworth and addressed to Louisa at Castle Howard. Blanche is talking of William at Derby and how they are not sorry it is over. She describes places they visited, a recent ball and a number of acquaintances.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/147 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 27 October 1837 Piece

Letter is posted in Bakewell and addressed to Louisa at Castle Howard. Blanche is sorry to hear Louisa has not been well. She is glad she will remain at Castle Howard a while and hopes she will not mind arriving at Holker a little before Blanche and William. She talks about a range of visitors and acquaintances and their health. Blanche says the children are lovely and that Cavendish was very much excited by his cousin Stafford and also that he begged Blanche to buy him a dagger.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/148 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 1 November 1837 Piece

Paper is headed Chatsworth and addressed to Louisa at Holker. Blanche writes that she longs to hear what Louisa and her son Richard think about Uncle D [6th Duke of Devonshire]'s proposition about Richard, regarding him going in to the Church. Blanche thinks it a good idea - giving him the means of doing good but not being onerous on his health. She thinks it will be good for him to have some "occupation and interest." Blanche is looking forward to her mother visiting Chatsworth, where she has not been for four years, and is pleased about reports of her good health. She informs Louisa the children are all well and "generously fond of Uncle Duke."

2 pages

DF27/1/1/149 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 9 January [year omitted] Piece

Paper is headed Phoenix Park; second page of letter is missing. This page is unsigned and finishes mid-sentence. Blanche is writing about the crossing to Ireland she and William have just made and declares them to be good sailors. Morpeth's carriage was waiting for them and she declares his house delightful [Blanche's brother George Howard was Chief Secretary for Ireland during 1835-1841.] Blanche notes that they are having a couple of quiet days, then they will dine with "their excellencies." She writes of some of the things they did in Liverpool before sailing.

1 page

DF27/1/1/150 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 20 January [year omitted] Piece

Paper is headed Phoenix Park. Blanche is glad to hear Louisa is comfortable at Harewood. She estimates that they will arrive at Holker the following Saturday, depending on the passage. Blanche writes of dining with Lord Lismore [Louisa's brother] and Mrs O'Callaghan. She tells Louisa she thinks her brother is looking very well. Blanche begged him to visit Louisa at Holker but he will not, although he will certainly come to London for some time and is anxious to see Louisa. Blanche describes places they have seen and very much enjoyed an expedition in to Wicklow. All in all she has enjoyed her time in Ireland. Blanche says she has been very "busy about my court dress it is to be entirely Irish" which she then describes. She writes that Uncle D, Harriet and Lizzy seem to "be very gay indeed - balls constantly." She also refers to the shocking death of an acquaintance.

2 pages

DF27/1/1/151	Letter from William Cavendish and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	21 July 1838	Piece
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Paper is headed Brussels and is addressed to Louisa at Belgrave Square. William says they have not progressed on their journey as far as he had expected. Cavendish is travelling with them and "has been as well as possible." They have stopped at Bruges, Ghent and Antwerp. He says of Ghent and Antwerp "they are both fine old towns with quantities of remarkable old buildings and numbers of very fine churches." He also talks about "good pictures" they have seen by Rubens and Van Dyke. He is impressed with the Cathedral in Antwerp and refers to its damage in the Revolution. He talks of their journey onward which will be to Spa, Cologne and about a week on the Rhine, before arriving in Frankfurt. He reports they have heard once from the children at Compton Place and they are all very happy. William then refers to the discussions he and Blanche have had about the Queen's request for her to be Lady of the Bedchamber and the deliberations which took place until they decided she should accept. He hopes that her original refusal on the grounds of being abroad will have been accepted and he would see that as a "very good end." He signs off and then Blanche writes to Louisa. She covers the same topics of the journey and sightseeing and the discussion about her being Lady of the Bedchamber. She says she hopes to hear news of Fanny and her baby.

1 page

DF27/1/1/152	Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	6 August [1838]	Piece
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Paper is headed Bingen and addressed to Louisa at Spa, Belgium. There is no year but context links to DF27/1/1/151 and 153 and suggests 1838. Blanche is assuming Louisa has reached Spa and thinks she will very much like it there. She describes Cavendish as very well and informs Louisa he has been riding on a donkey. Blanche talks about a journey up the Rhine by steam and places they have visited. They will go to stay in Baden Baden next, via Heidelberg. Blanche says she is glad Fanny has gone to Compton Place, which she thinks will be good for her.

1 page

DF27/1/1/153 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 August 1838 Piece

Paper is headed Baden Baden and addressed to Louisa at Spa, Belgium. Blanche refers to William telling Louisa that they are sending for the children to join them because having Cavendish as he is has made her very anxious and recently unwell. She explains the courier has gone for them that day and once they have arrived and rested they will all go to Switzerland. The children will not do much travelling from there but Blanche and William will be able to leave them for short times to go on excursions. She reports Cavendish had one of his "feverish attacks" at Heidelberg but has recovered again. They thought Heidelberg very beautiful and Blanche describes excursions. She says they will start with a German master the following day. Blanche comments on Louisa being impressed with her becoming Lady of the Bedchamber and says "I hope I shall not have reasons to regret it." She thinks it will be occasionally tedious but thinks the interest she feels for the Queen will reduce that. She finishes by commenting on Fanny enjoying being at Compton Place and her parents talking of going to Italy.

1 page

DF27/1/1/154 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 20 August [1838] Piece

Paper is headed Baden Baden and addressed to Louisa at Spa, Belgium. There is no year but context links it to DF27/1/1/153. Blanche writes of Cavendish being ill - "his stomach has been very much not of order." She has consulted an English physician who has given him medicine, which she thinks will work but may take some time. She writes of a few acquaintances who are in Baden Baden and describes their hotel. She also finds the countryside beautiful. Blanche comments on the children being on their way to join them now. She says the German master comes to them every day and they understand more than they did. She comments on a book about Wilberforce saying she has not liked any book as much for a long time "though I do not think his sons have done it well" [referring to Robert Isaac Wilberforce and Samuel Wilberforce, *The Life of William Wilberforce* (London: John Murray 1838)].

1 page

- DF27/1/1/155 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 9 September 1838 Piece
- Paper is headed Baden and addressed to Louisa at Spa, Belgium. Blanche's letter focuses entirely on Cavendish's fluctuating ill health and her worries and anxiety about him. She has confidence in the doctors and takes comfort from them being there. She is wondering about returning to England but the doctors think he should spend the Winter in a dry, healthy climate, not cold.
- 1 page
- DF27/1/1/156 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 September 1838 Piece
- Paper is headed Baden Baden and addressed to Louisa at Spa, Belgium. William explains they have not settled any definite plans for moving on yet. He then reports on Cavendish, who has been ill, in detail. The doctors think he will be fine to travel if it is "not in long days or too many together." Dr Evanson had been the previous evening and examined him, explaining his pulse is sometimes too high. Cavendish has been taking a tonic for a few days. Blanche has been very worried about Cavendish but the doctor's visit has made her feel more comfortable. A visit to Lady Jersey did not comfort them as she talked of one daughter who had infantine fever for two years. William and Blanche have changed lodgings as they felt the previous place was too "low and damp." He tells Louisa that Blanche has heard from the Duke, who is still in Switzerland. Blanche then tells Louisa about Cavendish being ill as well but is happy that he has received excellent treatment from the doctors who are satisfied with his progress. She tells Louisa her parents are coming to Italy.
- 1 page
- DF27/1/1/157 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 September 1838 Piece
- Paper is headed Baden Baden and addressed to Louisa at Spa, Belgium. William explains they have now made plans to leave Baden Baden. Sir James Clark has explicitly recommended Italy, suggesting getting to Naples in early November and "if it agrees with Cavendish" staying there until the beginning of February, then going to Rome. Tupper also agrees with this plan and William says "thus we have the 4 doctors 2 here and 2 in London all concurring." Sir James Clark recommends crossing the Alps as soon after 1st October as possible and therefore they will leave on Tuesday. They will do short days travelling first to see how Cavendish copes with the journey. Dr Evanson has agreed to go with them to Italy, which they find comforting. Even though Cavendish continues to improve William is afraid it is the sort of complaint which could come back and Cavendish will "want close attention for some time." William explains they will travel to Milan then on to Florence. He also reports on Cavendish's health. He tells Louisa of an excursion they made to a beautiful valley but the weather was so bad they stopped halfway and spent the night there. They took Cavendish with them to see how he coped with the journey and the change of air "gave him a very good

night." William talks about Louisa's recent illness and that he is glad to hear Richard has not had it. Blanche talks about how afraid she was to take her children on a long journey but she is now reassured by the doctors.

1 page

DF27/1/1/158 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 11 October 1838 Piece

Paper is headed Milan and addressed to Louisa in Dieppe but then forwarded to the Hotel Bristol, Paris. Blanche describes in detail their journey through the Simplon Pass and on into Italy. Blanche is happy to give a good account of Cavendish and say he managed all the travelling well. It is a comfort to have Dr Evanson with them. Blanche says they are thinking of going to Lake Como. She says the other children are well.

1 page

DF27/1/1/159 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 24 October 1838 Piece

Paper is headed Florence and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche comments on Louisa having been ill and deciding to stay in Paris, where Fanny will soon join her. She says Fanny has "suspicions about herself." She says Cavendish is very well and Dr Evanson is pleased with him. Blanche describes the journey from Milan to Florence which she thinks is lovely and "such a city of Palaces" and what their plans are next.

1 page

DF27/1/1/160 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 12 November 1838 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William refers to difficulties Louisa has had with lodgings. He describes their own rooms in Rome which are comfortable and notes that he has heard nothing of the Duke even though he has engaged rooms for him for the last four or five days. He reports that the Sutherlands were heard of in Genoa a week ago and he supposes they are now in Florence. Blanche has heard her parents Lord and Lady Carlisle were in Lyons and should be near Florence by now. William worries they will not be able to get rooms in Rome as "the place is already crammed full and persons arriving every day." He thinks the prices are a third higher than usual as the hotel and lodgings owners are "all determined to make up for the cholera years." He writes that they have visited most of the famous sites and now will start visiting villas. William remarks that his mother has made him feel uneasy about the character of someone [Pin.?] and asks for more detail. Blanche goes into great detail about Cavendish's state of health. He is better but not completely better and they are still watching him closely. She is greatly comforted by the presence of Dr Evanson. Blanche writes that she hears much praise for Fanny's baby and thinks Fanny will have two children by the time she sees her again.

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DF27/1/1/161 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 29 November 1838 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche is informing Louisa about Cavendish's health which continues to improve. The Dr hopes to take him off all medicines apart from tonics and Blanche says she feels "wrong in having still so much anxiety about him." Blanche says she likes Rome more each day. She reports that the Duke caught a cold when he first arrived but is now well and "quite indefatigable about seeing all the sights." He shows them all to his Doctor and Paxton. The Duke is staying nearby and William and Blanche are seeing a lot of him. She says the Duke "makes great resolutions not to buy but I do not think he will be able to resist." Blanche says they expect the Sutherlands, who seem to be enjoying Florence very much, next week. She also says she has heard from her mother from Genoa. She too is worried they won't find lodgings in Rome. She finishes by saying Cavendish sends a thousand kisses and wishes Blanche to tell her he has been trotting on his donkey.

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DF27/1/1/162 Letter from William Cavendish and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 22 December 1838 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William reports that Cavendish is looking very well and is in high spirits. He describes a visit to a villa which he is sure Louisa will not have visited because it is so hard to get in. Some people have been there ten years without seeing it but Lord Shrewsbury got an "order" and took them in with him. Even though he saw the "finest view I have yet seen" and reports that there are fine ancient statues there, William declares the villa to be "very ill kept." He remarks that the owner is a "miser" even though he is "as rich as a Jew" and is said "to have a vast hoard of gold in one of his palaces." William writes about a dinner they attended and one they hosted; amongst the guests were the Duke, Lord and Lady Carnarvon and the Sutherlands. Most people did not stay long as they were going to see the Grand Duke of Russia at the Russian ambassador's. He reports that the Carnarvons are going to Egypt, then the Holy Land and Constantinople. William thinks it a rather hazardous undertaking as they have no doctor with them. Blanche also comments on Cavendish's health and notes that he is growing very fast. She adds he and Lou are very much admired in Rome. Blanche then writes that she will describe some of her favourite sights in Rome which is difficult as "there is so much to admire." What she likes best is going to the Vatican "over and over again."

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DF27/1/1/163 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 11 January 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche reports that Cavendish is very well and she is very happy about him. She talks of Prince Lieven's death which was very sudden. Blanche and William had met him at dinner ten days earlier [Lieven, Russian ambassador to London, died suddenly on 10 January 1839 at Rome as he escorted the future Alexander II of Russia on his Grand Tour]. Blanche reports that her parents will arrive the next day, via Perugia, and she will be glad to see them arrive, having been very anxious about her father becoming ill on the road. Uncle D [the Duke of Devonshire] is waiting for them but will not stay long as Rome does not agree with him. Blanche then lists what they have been doing during the previous week and goes into great detail about people she has seen. She reports that they have found Blanche a pretty miniature copy of the Suonatore but have not chosen a little oil painting yet. Blanche adds a postscript the following day that William has just returned from Prince Lieven's funeral.

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DF27/1/1/164 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 January 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William comments on it being a long time since he has heard from his mother but he thinks there has been a delay due to the snow on the Alps. He thinks Louisa will be returning to London soon and will direct the letter to Belgrave Square. William would quite like to be there himself for the Parliament to hear the battles he supposes there will be between Lords Melbourne, Brougham and Durham. He reports that Lord Carlisle is improving but is a good deal weakened by his gout and fever. He reports that it has been very cold in Rome with a temperature of minus nine having been recorded. The Duke has gone to Naples, the day before the Grand Duke. He tells Louisa of a visit to Villa Madonna, which is "kept in such a wretched plight by the King of Naples that it is just falling in to decay." He comments on the "extremely pretty" frescoes by Raphael. He also writes of visiting several palaces and comments on specific pieces of artwork including "Helen setting off with Paris" by Guido and ceilings by Domenichino. William thinks they have now seen all the most celebrated things but there are still some churches and villas with fine views which they should see. William reports on a dinner they held in their lodgings the previous week - for people they had already dined with, including Mr & Mrs Charles Percy, Lord Rokeby, Lady Williams and Gibson the sculptor. William bemoans the cost of hosting a dinner in lodgings because one has to hire all the plates, cutlery etc. He also lists people they have been out to dine with, including Lord and Lady Carnarvon "whom we like very much." They have changed their travel plans and will now not go to Egypt but straight to Constantinople. William says Cavendish has "made a great friendship" with Lord Porchester, their son. William writes that Blanche has just received a letter from Fanny and they are now anxious to hear "the next account" of Richard. William thinks Louisa must be very worried about him but Fanny suggests there is no need for "real uneasiness." William is glad Louisa was pleased with Dr



Evanson's letter and praises him for being "very clever and most attentive." William reports that he has had bad news from Holker where there has been a terrific storm with much damage to the gardens and farmhouses. He describes the garden as "quite disfigured." Blanche adds her concerns about Richard's illness to the letter and notes that they will send it to Paris as Louisa is bound to be there longer.

1 page

DF27/1/1/165 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 29 January 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William writes about how pleased they were to receive a letter from Fanny reporting that Richard is improving and not in as much pain. William notes that he has had no further news of the damage done by the storm at Holker but Lord Carlisle has heard of more than 200 trees being down at Castle Howard. William is worried that damages to houses and cottages will cost a lot to repair. He comments on the shipwrecks at Liverpool from the same storm. William describes a grand mass he attended for an Indian Princess and a visit to some catacombs. He writes that they may visit Tivoli if the weather improves. He concludes by commenting on his brother Richard's health and says he has been glad to hear of some improvement.

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DF27/1/1/166 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 5 February 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William begins by noting how pleased he was to hear more of his brother's improved health. He writes of how much the children enjoyed the first day of the Carnival but he cannot understand how the festivities can go on for seven days. He reports that the Duke is going to travel to Sicily and Malta the following week and will not be back in Naples until early March. He gives details of how ill Lord Carlisle has been and informs Louisa of all their acquaintances, including the Sutherlands, who are leaving the following week. William wishes he were going himself and then talks of today being a "great day in England" as it is the meeting of Parliament. He remarks that he would very much like to know what is going on there. He does not agree with the common view that there will be a disposition but he does think the Corn Laws will be repealed, "or very much altered." William thinks this would be right but comments on the resulting reduction in rents which would happen as a consequence. He finishes by writing of a ball they will attend and he looks forward to the following week "when there will be a cessation of all these sort of things."

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DF27/1/1/167 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 12 February 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche writes the first part of the letter and comments on being pleased to hear of Richard's improvement. She then comments on the surprising deaths of two acquaintances (one being Lord Clements). She tells Louisa how much they have enjoyed Carnival and thinks she would have enjoyed Cavendish's "shouts of joy." What Blanche enjoyed most were the illuminations of St Peter's. She talks of Lady Shrewsbury's ball and in particular of the Grand Duke's admiration for a young lady. William carries on the letter and comments on the political situation in Paris. He feels there must be a great deal of discussion about the "dissolution" and says "it is rather difficult to see how the King will manage in the midst of all his difficulties." William is keen for political news from England regarding the Corn Laws. He says changes will cut down "extremely the income of all persons with heavily encumbered estates, and mine among the number." William comments on the Duke having good weather for his trip to Sicily and Malta for which he set sail the previous day. William would also like to go to Sicily but thinks they will go to Albano for a week.

1 page

DF27/1/1/168 Letter from E[lizabeth] Howard to Louisa Cavendish 18 February 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome. Elizabeth begins by apologising for not having written sooner. She expresses her sorrow at Louisa's anxiety about Richard and that he has suffered so much from what she calls "such a hideous illness." She is, however, pleased to give an excellent account of Cavendish and says it is difficult to believe he has given them such anxiety as he now looks strong and healthy. She comments on how delightful it is to see Blanche and William so happy and enjoying themselves. Elizabeth herself is enjoying Rome, especially now her father is regaining his strength. She praises the city saying "so much seems so inconceivably beautiful." She thinks they will go to Naples after Holy Week with the Burlingtons.

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DF27/1/1/169 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 February 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William is disappointed to hear that Richard is only progressing very slowly, healthwise. He comments on Lord Carlisle improving slowly. William describes their day visit to the Sutherlands in Albano where they visited the Lake and Castel Gandolfo. William and Blanche will travel to Albano for about a week. He says they have heard nothing of the Duke since he went to Sicily and Malta. William describes a visit with Lady Carlisle to the reception of a newly appointed Cardinal. He then comments on how much the children enjoyed themselves on the last evening of the Carnival with Lady Carnavon's children. He also mentions how many families are leaving Rome but that others have arrived from Naples. He finishes by saying that he has not heard from George for a long time and continues to talk of the death of Lord Clements and its impact on his parents Lord and Lady

Leitrim.

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DF27/1/1/170 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 February 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche comments on Richard's slow recovery. She also describes the beautiful weather in Rome and how they have to send the children out early in the morning and take precautions against the sun. She reports that the Sutherlands have returned from Albano and that the Duke was very shocked by his mother's sudden death. Blanche reports that William is very much tempted by the marbles and hopes to get some pieces for Holker. She comments on the £500 budget being possibly not enough. She details some artwork she has "set her heart on" but is not sure if they will get it. She then goes into detail about her worries regarding her maid who has been ill. She has become even more fond of her and will take her back as soon as she has recovered. She has taken on an Italian girl to help out, whom Cavendish likes very much.

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DF27/1/1/171 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 2 March 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris but then forwarded to Pau. William is pleased to hear of Richard's continued improved health. William and Blanche are just beginning their 5th month and will probably move to Naples in four weeks. He says they are now finding it hard to fit in everything they wish to do. He is uncertain of which route they will take to travel home and mentions the options. William informs Louisa that Edward [Blanche's brother] arrived unexpectedly from Malta the previous day and that he brought Blanche a letter from the Duke, who has now gone to Athens and Constantinople. William does not know how long he will be there but he will have to have 21 days quarantine when he returns to Malta. The Sutherlands have returned to Rome and Blanche and William have been visiting several places (castles, villas, gardens) with them, which William describes. He comments on not having heard from George for a long time but that Blanche has recently had a letter from Fanny at Ashford. He is wondering who the new Lord Lieutenant of Ireland will be and says the newspapers are reporting difficulty in finding anyone to take the post. He says Cavendish sends Louisa 100,000 kisses and talks of all the children being well, including Freddy who has not yet begun to talk.

1 page

DF27/1/1/172 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 8 March 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Paris but then forwarded to Pau. William comments on the long journey Louisa will undertake to Pau but it will be worth it, as the doctor has recommended it for Richard. William discusses art purchases made for himself and Louisa. He says they have been waiting to buy marble until after the Carnival but the prices have not noticeably dropped as they had expected and the best things are already sold. William hopes Louisa will "approve of the way we have spent your money." He talks about insuring his things and hers and hopes "we shall not be so unfortunate as you were." Blanche finishes the letter. She talks about the arrival of her brother Edward. Previously she did not know where he was and reports he left his ship at Gibraltar and is now a "great Captain." She did know of the arrival of Henry [another brother] and talks of how "he has been rash" and "it will be a lesson for his future." She says he has to acquiesce to what their mother decided "which is a decided refusal." Blanche talks of their future travel plans and says Uncle D has made them wish to go to Sicily.

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DF27/1/1/173	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	14 March 1839	Piece
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Paper is headed Albano [Rome] and addressed to Louisa in Paris but then forwarded to Pau. William explains they are just setting off to visit Tivoli but they are not taking the children with them. He says how much they have enjoyed Albano and have had their time fully occupied. He describes local outings and trips to Frascati and Monte Cavo. Blanche has heard from the Duke in Athens, where he had to stay an extra week due to an accident on the journey. He is very much enjoying the ruins of temples "in the finest white marble." William then asks his mother not to say anything about what he is going to tell her as "Morpeth might not like me to blab about it." Morpeth was asked about William or the Duke of Sutherland becoming Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Morpeth politely declined for both of them as he was sure they would not take it. William says this was definitely right on his part. "It would have been a most disagreeable office to have." William has not heard from Holker for a long time but hopes to have more news of the storm damage soon. He says he longs to hear of how Richard has fared with the journey to Pau and how Louisa likes the quarters there. He has had a letter from George to say his daughter has been unwell and hopes it is nothing of consequence.

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DF27/1/1/174	Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish	19 March 1839	Piece
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Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Pau. William describes their visit to Tivoli and Subiaco in terms of sights and the beauty of the area. He reports that Lord Carlisle has not been well again and is quite disabled by gout. William then notes that he is puzzled about Louisa's requests for artworks as he had "mainly settled the way to spend all your money." He writes that Louisa did not ask about a miniature before and the best miniature painter has said there is not enough time. He also reports that there will not be time to get a bust in Florence. He points out that miniatures can be done in London and are probably better. He says no-one has heard of a picture of Flora at Naples, points out there is a famous statue of her there and that Titian's Flora is at Florence. He will therefore get it done there, as he assumes that is what Louisa meant. William informs Louisa they will set off for Naples in a fortnight and will take Dr Evanson with them, and back to England. Even though Cavendish is very well it is a great security to have the doctor with them.

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DF27/1/1/175 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 24 March 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Rome and addressed to Louisa in Pau. William informs Louisa they are travelling to Bracciano the following day, with the Sutherlands, to stay in a "fine old castle." They will set off for Naples at the beginning of April and also hope to be able to take a steamboat to Sicily. William hopes to be heading home to England by the end of April. The journey, however, will involve stopping off at Leghorn, Florence, Bologna, Venice, Munich, Stuttgart, Mannheim and Rotterdam and William can only estimate arriving home on the 7th/8th June. He refers to it being Holy week and believes two days later in the week are most impressive. He refers to the death of Sir Herbert Taylor and informs Louisa his funeral was the previous day. He also tells her he has ordered a copy of Titian's Flora for her from Florence. He feels they have been rather too extravagant with their purchases of several slabs of marble for tables and half columns for vases or busts. Things should arrive back in England at a similar time to William and they will begin with Louisa's things which will be sent at the beginning of April. He reports Blanche has heard from the Duke in Constantinople, who says nothing of returning.

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DF27/1/1/176 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 5 April 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Naples and addressed to Louisa in Pau. William describes the hotel in Naples and his visits out into the countryside. The weather has been rather mixed and so far cloud has covered Vesuvius. William lists various acquaintances who were leaving Rome at the same time as them and mentions Lord and Lady Carlisle are also coming to Naples from Rome. He discusses artworks Louisa had requested them to buy in Italy and gives her an account of purchases they made in Rome and their costs. This includes: Miniature of the Suonatore, Prints, Temples of Rosso Antico, Verdantique Tazza, Little columns of giallo antico and repairing "your rosso candelabra." William then gives Louisa the total cost using the current exchange rate (40£ 12s) and outlines further costs, including a copy of Domenichino's Sybill at the Borghese Gallery, several drawings of Rome and two bits of Pietra Dura, which Louisa can choose from. William complains that Louisa had not asked for any mosaics until her last letter and, with the Naples prints and coral heads, he is sure they will exceed the £50 budget "but no great deal." William explains having a copy of the "Florence Flora" would have been too expensive and therefore chose to have the Borghese Sybill. He then talks about Gagliardi "who is considered one of the best copiers in Rome." William explains Gagliardi is doing a copy for him too. He finishes the letter by writing about taking Cavendish and Lou to see the illuminations in Rome.

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DF27/1/1/177 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 13 April 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Naples and addressed to Louisa in Pau. William is pleased with their rooms next to the sea but they are expensive. He explains that they have been visiting things in the town whilst the weather has been not so good but they did make an excursion to Pozzuoli and the Lago d'Agnano. William describes a visit to the Grotta del Cane where they witnessed a dog put in which revived instantly he was taken out [referring to a famous tourist attraction for travellers on the Grand Tour: the CO₂ gas, being denser than air, tends to accumulate in the deeper parts of the cave; local guides, for a fee, would suspend small animals inside it until they became unconscious. Because humans inhaled air from a higher level they were not affected. The dogs might be revived by submerging them in the cold waters of the nearby Lake Agnano]. He also describes visiting Solfatara [a dormant volcano] where he felt "in a rather dangerous situation." The following week they will travel to Paestum, Amalfi and Sorrento. He reports that Lord and Lady Carlisle have arrived two days ago and Lord Carlisle seems much improved. William writes of spending several mornings at the museum and he thinks the bronze statues particularly fine. The pictures, however, he finds poor, "with about half a dozen great exceptions." He comments on how strange some of the things found at Pompeii are. He then describes the beautiful flora they saw on a visit to the villa of the Duke of Rocca Romana and how the children were entranced by the flying fish there. William then lists their forthcoming travel arrangements so Louisa can judge where to send future letters. They will leave by steamboat on the 28th and get to Venice on the 10th, where they will stay a week. He estimates that they will be in



Innsbruck about the 25th. He writes that they have had to give up the idea of going to Sicily as the steamboat takes a three-week tour. They have picked their boat to Leghorn, which has an English Captain. William reports that they dined with the Buccleuchs and describes their house as "by far the best and most comfortable looking that I have seen in Italy." He comments on the present government who "seem to be in a tottering state." He notes that what he is most afraid of is being forced into a [?] with America "where I'm afraid we shall certainly get the worst of it." He concludes by giving his mother a round-up of the children's progress - whilst Cavendish is reading well and can amuse himself, Freddy "makes no progress towards speaking and I am afraid he is dumb."

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DF27/1/1/178 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 23 April 1839 Piece

Paper is stamped Naples and addressed to Louisa in Pau. Blanche is describing many expeditions from Naples, which she has enjoyed very much, including to Pompeii which she describes as "beyond anything curious" and Amalfi which she says "must be the most lovely spot on Earth." She was also "enchanted" with Sorrento and Capri. Blanche is glad to hear Louisa likes Pau and hopes it will do Richard good to be there. She has heard that Uncle D has been in Malta since the beginning of the month and so surmises his quarantine must be nearly over. She suspects he will appear back in Naples as his carriages are there but has received no news directly from him since Constantinople, "which he seemed to admire extremely." Blanche talks of her parents and her brothers Morpeth, Harry, Edward and Charles.

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DF27/1/1/179 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 May 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Venice and addressed to Louisa in Pau. Blanche talks of more places they have visited and then describes Venice which "surpasses all my expectations" and is like "the realisation of a beautiful dream." She has found the gondolas "delicious" but did not particularly enjoy being on one with the children crossing from the Lido when the weather turned. Blanche says they have not heard from Uncle D since they left him at Florence.

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DF27/1/1/180 Letter from William Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 6 July 1839 Piece

Paper is stamped Paris 6 July and addressed to Louisa at St Sauveur, Hautes Pyrennees. Blanche writes about many acquaintances. She comments on Richard's health, how thin Fanny is and Fanny's child. She has heard that Louisa is more inclined to the "Compton Place plan" and thinks it would suit her and Richard well. She makes reference to her duties to the Queen [as Lady of the Bedchamber]. William then writes to Louisa with details of what he sees as the expense of keeping up Compton Place (set out like accounts and finishing with "I may have left some small things out but there can be no doubt 800£ would cover it.")

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DF27/1/1/181 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 19 July 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Belgrave Square and addressed to Louisa in Pau. Blanche writes of Richard's health and how this continues to affect Louisa's movements. She also comments on Fanny's health and how happy she is with her baby. Blanche describes a ball she attended and comments on how many people are leaving London for the "German waters." She is unsure when they will go but estimates a departure date. She writes of her parents travelling too but hopes to see them at Castle Howard. She recently heard from them in Munich. Blanche writes of her "waiting" [as Lady of the Bedchamber] being nearly over and how she has not disliked doing it. She is glad it is over because she has done a month rather than a fortnight but comments on how the Queen has been very kind to her. She discusses who the new ladies will be. Blanche writes that Charles [her brother?] likes his appointment very much and it will help him in London a great deal. She explains that they are anxious to get to Holker but comments that the house "seems to be quite uninhabitable." Blanche hopes a few rooms will be sorted out so Louisa, Richard, Fanny and Frederick can visit later in the year. She notes that she is glad Louisa thinks "the Compton Place scheme will answer." and writes that she has heard delightful accounts of it from Harriet's children who are there. Having been not well in London, they feel much better at Compton, where William is to go the following day.

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DF27/1/1/182 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 11 August 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa at Pau. Blanche comments on how the building work is going at Holker and thinks it will be very comfortable and the outside very respectable. She thinks the new windows are a great improvement and that the room for Richard will be delightful. Blanche hopes that Louisa and Richard will be able to visit soon and she is looking forward to her parents' arrival in London after all their travels, especially as she has heard her father is looking so much better than previously. She writes of Fanny's health and the health of her baby and informs Louisa about all of her own children. Cavendish has begun to ride his pony and is well and strong. Lou she thinks Louisa "will think very much improved in looks." She describes the two youngest boys as like twins "only the youngest has the advantage." William adds a note to his mother. He comments on the enormous amount of rain there has been though they have suffered little damage. Wales and Ireland have had great floods.

1 page

DF27/1/1/183 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 18 August 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Bolton Abbey and addressed to Louisa in Bordeaux. William says he is on his own at Bolton but hopes William Lascelles and George will turn up. He has had a long letter from George who thinks the Buxton water has been good for him but the doctor has declared his digestion weak. He therefore wonders if George will just remain in Derbyshire to shoot. William received a letter from the Duke to come to Bolton and he set off the next day. He has had one day's shooting, which was excellent, and the Duke has not yet arrived as he is at Havre[?] and enjoying the seabathing too much. William does not think he will stay long as Blanche is alone at Holker. He feels the building at Holker is not progressing rapidly, which has been due to the wet weather, but hopes to have part of the house ready in a month or two so Louisa can visit. He informs Louisa the goods from Rome have arrived in London but as there is no room for them at Holker they will stay there at present. William explains they have decided to add a room on to their house in London rather than look for a bigger house and expects it to be ready in two months.

1 page

DF27/1/1/184 Letter from William and Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 29 August 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Pau. William tells Louisa he was five days shooting at Bolton Abbey and Lord Harewood and William Lascelles were there with him, though not George. He tells Louisa to go straight to Compton Place when she arrives with Richard and expects she will find Fanny and Frederick there. He writes that they have no intention of moving furniture apart from a few things which will not affect the comfort. He says they will leave linen, china and plate which Louisa is welcome to use but adds there is a good deal of wine there. He says Louisa can pay for what she uses or replace it when convenient. He adds Louisa does not need to furnish a room for herself at Holker as they will make it very comfortable for her. William informs Louisa they are going to Chatsworth and Castle Howard soon and then will see her at Holker. Should Louisa have to go abroad again he will go to see her in London, but he hopes she will not have to. Blanche informs Louisa that Fanny is going to wait for her at Compton Place. She reports Fanny still does not feel strong but there appears to be nothing the matter with her. She talks of her parents' travels too.

1 page

DF27/1/1/185 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 5 September 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Paris. William supposes Louisa and Richard are on their way home and he hopes the doctors do not suggest Richard spends the Winter abroad, as this would mean Louisa being away again until the following May. He reports progress on the house at Holker is slow but expects it to be ready for their return, though he fears there will be a strong kitchen smell as the temporary kitchen is close to the drawing room. He wonders how carriages will get up to the house as the driveways are strewn with stone for building. William and Blanche no longer plan to go to Castle Howard as Lord and Lady Carlisle are to be at Chatsworth the following week. Blanche heard from the Duke asking them to go to Chatsworth too and they will do so the following week. He discusses Louisa moving into Compton Place and the alterations taking place on the London house, for which he now has a new lease of considerable length. He also outlines improvements in the garden at Holker.

1 page

DF27/1/1/186 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 8 September 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Holker and addressed to Louisa in Paris. Blanche describes life as very quiet recently, noting that she has enjoyed Holker very much. The bad weather has been a problem for the building work, which seems slow. She writes of their trip to Chatsworth the following week and the fact that her parents and Morpeth will already be there. She writes of social events which have been taking place. Blanche also writes of Cavendish and what good taking a "mild preparation did him." She recalls "all the intense anxiety I was suffering this time last year on his account." She writes

of other acquaintances who are ill.

1 page

DF27/1/1/187 Letter from William Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 18 September 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Chatsworth. William is wondering where his mother is on her travels and is anxious for news of her arrival. William and Blanche arrived at Chatsworth to find it very full and he gives a list of all the people who were there. He explains they have not brought the children with them and does not think they will stay more than three weeks, though he suspects four weeks is needed to have Holker "fit." William thinks George is still looking thin but he seems to have got rid of rheumatism. He talks about the shooting they have had. William says the great greenhouse at Chatsworth has made great progress and "it does indeed look most enormous."

1 page

DF27/1/1/188 Letter from Blanche Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish 21 September 1839 Piece

Paper is headed Chatsworth and undated. Context and the fact that the second page appears unfinished and is unsigned suggests it follows on to the third page, which is also the envelope. This is from Bakewell, dated 22 September 1839 and addressed to Louisa at Compton Place, Eastbourne. Blanche writes that they are anxious to hear of Louisa's arrival at Compton Place. She imagines her very happy to be reunited with Fanny, whose health she discusses as well as that of Richard and George. Blanche notes that they will remain at Chatsworth until the 8th and may go to Trentham for a few days, before arriving at Holker on the 12th. They are anxious not to be separated from the children for any longer. She tells Louisa that they have given up going to Castle Howard for the moment and says she must be in town in January. She is looking forward to Holker and hopes to see Louisa, Fanny and Fanny's baby there. Blanche writes of Chatsworth being "very full" but says also "there are so many I love." She describes a charade they had the night before, talking about the participants and their roles. Blanche herself was Flora and she says "my garlands made by Paxton were too beautiful."

3 pages

DF27/1/1/189 Letter from [Spencer Compton] Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [c.late 1839] Piece

Undated although context suggests after DF27/1/1/188. Spencer comments on Grandmama (Louisa)'s return to England from France with Uncle Richard [Lord Richard Cavendish] Sends love to Aunt Fanny, and from his sister [Louisa] too.

1 page

DF27/1/1/190 Letter from [Spencer Compton] Cavendish to Louisa Cavendish [c.late 1839] Piece

Undated although context suggests it follows on from DF27/1/1/189. Refers to his brother [Frederick] and sister [Louisa] doing well and the baby [Edward Cavendish] being a little better.

1 page

DF27/1/1/191	Letter from [Spencer Compton] Cavendish to Grandmama [Louisa] Cavendish	[c.late 1839]	Piece
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Undated although context suggests it follows on from DF27/1/1/190. Informs Grandmama that the baby [Edward Cavendish] is now much better.

1 page

DF27/1/2	Letter signed [E.G.H.C] [Elizabeth George Henry Cavendish?] sent to William Cavendish, MP	c.1810	Item
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Letter thought to be from Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, later Countess of Burlington, to her son, William Cavendish. The letter concerns family matters, including reference to William's brother Charles and sister Anne.

1 letter

DF27/1/3	Letters sent to Louisa Cavendish concerning her son, William Cavendish and his wife Blanche	[pre-1840]	Item
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Four undated letters addressed to Louisa Cavendish, three of which concern the health of Louisa's daughter-in-law, Lady Blanche Cavendish, Countess of Burlington, and one congratulating Louisa on honours received by her son William Cavendish.

4 letters

<u>DF27/2</u>	<u>Accounts of William Cavendish</u>	<u>1811 - January 1812</u>	<u>Series</u>
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This series contains only one item: an account book attributed to William Cavendish.

1 volume

DF27/2/1	Cash account: William Cavendish's Private Expenditure	1811 - January 1812	Item
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Account book marked "Cash Account 1811". The volume has been attributed to William Cavendish, son of George Cavendish, 1st Earl of Burlington of the 2nd Creation and father of the 7th Duke of Devonshire. The volume records William Cavendish's private expenditure during 811-1812.

The volume includes entries such as:

p.5: "Feb 19. Subscription to prisoners [?] in France 10.10.0"; "Feb 20. Insolvent Debtors society 1.1.0";
 p.6: "March 4. for Xmas boxes to watchmen 2.8.0";
 p.8: "March 27. Lodging at Cambridge & tea 1.2.0";
 p.26: "Nov 9. Lost at cards 2.0.0".

The reverse of the volume includes accounts with Louisa [thought to be William Cavendish's wife, Louisa Cavendish (née O'Callaghan)].

1 volume

<u>DF27/3</u>	<u>Commonplace books/diaries belonging to William Cavendish</u>	<u>1803 - 1811</u>	<u>Series</u>
	2 volumes		
DF27/3/1	Commonplace book/diary belonging to William Cavendish	1803	Item
	1 volume		
DF27/3/2	Commonplace book/diary belonging to William Cavendish	1806 - 1811	Item
	1 volume		
<u>DF27/4</u>	<u>Other papers of William Cavendish</u>	<u>1797 - 1800</u>	<u>Series</u>
	2 volumes		
DF27/4/1	Lists of Pupils at Eton College	1797 - 1800	Sub-Series
	Two annotated Eton College Lists. There is a Cavendish listed in both volumes, but it is unclear to which Cavendish this refers; however, William Cavendish was at Eton at this time so it is thought that these books may relate to him.		
	2 volumes		
<u>DF27/5</u>	<u>Papers of George Henry Cavendish (1810-1880)</u>	<u>1820 - 1881</u>	<u>Series</u>

This series contains a very limited quantity of personal papers of George H. Cavendish, brother of the 7th Duke of Devonshire, and his wife, Louisa Cavendish (née Lascelles).

1 item and 2 volumes

DF27/5/1	<p>List of members of the Bakewell Rifle Corps</p> <p>List of members of the Bakewell Rifle Corps, of which George Henry Cavendish was Captain.</p>	18 February 1860	Item
	1 item		
DF27/5/2	<p>[George Henry Cavendish]'s Drawing Album</p> <p>The provenance of this item is uncertain: it has been dated to 1820 and attributed to George Henry Cavendish based on inscriptions inside the front and back covers. However, the drawings within the volume appear of a higher quality than would be associated with a ten-year-old, which George Cavendish would have been at the time. There is a possibility that the sketchbook may have been presented to him in 1820 but used at a later date.</p>	30 July 1820	Item
	1 volume		
DF27/5/3	<p>Commemorative book given to Louisa Cavendish</p> <p>Commemorative book signed by subscribers to a portrait of George Cavendish that was presented to Louisa Cavendish.</p>	1 December 1881	Item
	1 volume		
<u>DF27/6</u>	<u>Papers of Richard Cavendish (1812 - 1873)</u>	<u>1821</u>	<u>Series</u>
	Richard Cavendish's papers consist of a drawing album only.		
	1 volume		
DF27/6/1	<p>Richard Cavendish's Drawing Album</p> <p>The provenance of this item is uncertain. The volume has been dated to 1821 and attributed to Richard Cavendish based on the inscription on the inside cover. However, the drawings within the volume appear of a higher quality than that of a nine-year-old, which Richard Cavendish would have been at the time. There is a possibility that the sketchbook may have been presented to him in 1821 but used at a later date</p>	12 April 1821	Item
	1 volume		

<u>DF27/7</u>	<u>Keepsakes of Louisa Cavendish</u>	<u>1812</u>	<u>Series</u>
	Comprise one envelope containing of locks of hair of William Cavendish, kept by Louisa Cavendish after his death in 1812.		
	1 item		
DF27/7/1	Locks of hair of William Cavendish, kept by Louisa Cavendish after his death in 1812	1812	Item
	1 item		