



**The Devonshire Collection Archives**

**GB 2495 DF25**

**Papers of Lady Louisa Egerton (née Cavendish, 1835 – 1907)**

**1868-1907**

### **Administrative/Biographical History:**

Lady Louisa Caroline Egerton, née Cavendish (1835-1907), was the daughter of William Cavendish, 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire, and Lady Blanche Georgiana Howard. She was born at Holker Hall in Lancashire (now in Cumbria), home to her father and his family before he became Duke. She was the third child born to her parents: William, born in 1831, died at the age of two, and Spencer Compton, born in 1833, went on to become 8<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire. Her younger siblings were Lord Frederick, Liberal politician who was assassinated in Phoenix Park in 1882, and Lord Edward, soldier and politician.

On 26 September 1865, Louisa Cavendish married naval commander and politician, Admiral Hon. Francis Egerton (1824-1895), the son of Francis Egerton, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Ellesmere, and Harriet Catherine Greville. The couple had five children: William Francis (1868-1949); Commander Frederick Greville (1869-1899); Blanche Harriet (1871-1943); Dorothy Charlotte (1874-1959); and Christian Mary (1876-1970).

Louisa Egerton died on 21 September 1907 in Surrey.

### **Custodial History:**

The material in the collection was created or accumulated by Lady Louisa Egerton. Its exact archival history is unknown.

### **Acquisition:**

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

### **Scope and Content:**

This collection consists of the personal papers of Lady Louisa Egerton, née Cavendish (1835-1907). It primarily comprises correspondence, including letters from Lady Louisa's sister-in-law Lady Edward (Emma) Cavendish concerning the health of Lord Edward Cavendish. There is also correspondence concerning collections, including items at Hardwick Hall and the creation of a catalogue of prints and drawings at Chatsworth by Sir James Lacaita, who also compiled a four-volume catalogue of the Duke of Devonshire's Library, published in 1879.

In addition there are notes made by Lady Louisa Egerton providing updates to the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire's *Handbook of Chatsworth and Hardwick* (published in 1844), and notes made by Lady Louisa on one of the Cavendish family's other properties, Compton Place in Eastbourne.

Finally there is an Annual Report for Flookburgh Infant School dating from 1868: Louisa Egerton was patroness of the school, which was located on the Cartmel peninsula in Lancashire (now in Cumbria), near her childhood home of Holker Hall.

### **System of Arrangement:**

The collection is arranged in three series, as follows:

- DF25/1: Correspondence of Lady Louisa Egerton (1880-1907)
- DF25/2: Notebooks kept by Lady Louisa Egerton (1894-1896)
- DF25/3: Other Papers of Lady Louisa Egerton (1868)

**Appraisal:**

Three items were removed from this collection at the point of cataloguing, and are curated separately, namely: a christening cap made by Blanche Cavendish; the first boot to be worn by William Cavendish, 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire, given to Lady Louisa by Agnes Hudson of Holker in July 1858; and Agnes Hudon's wedding ring.

**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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**Language of Material:**

English

**Preferred Citation:**

Devonshire MSS, Chatsworth, DF25/1/1 etc.

**Extent:**

1 box

**Related material:**

Correspondence of Louisa Egerton can be found in several other collections held in the Devonshire Collection Archives: GB 2495 DF5 (Papers of William Cavendish, 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire); GB 2495 DF6 (Papers of Spencer Compton Cavendish, 8<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire); GB 2495 DF18 (Papers of Lord Edward Cavendish); GB 2495 DF22 (Papers of Lady Edward Cavendish); GB 2495 DF23 (Papers of Lord Frederick Cavendish); GB 2495 CS2 (Second Correspondence Series); and GB 2495 CS8 (8<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire's Correspondence Series).

<u>DF25/1</u>	<u>Correspondence of Lady Louisa Egerton</u>	<u>1874 - 1907</u>	<u>Series</u>
	<p>This series includes letters from Lady Louisa's sister-in-law, Lady Edward Cavendish, concerning the health of Lady Louisa's brother, Lord Edward Cavendish. It also contains correspondence concerning collections, including items at Hardwick Hall and the creation of a catalogue of prints and drawings at Chatsworth by Sir James Lacaita.</p> <p>20 items</p>		
DF25/1/1	<p>Letters sent by Lord and Lady Edward Cavendish to Louisa Egerton</p> <p>The majority of letters were sent by Lady Edward Cavendish to her sister-in-law Lady Louisa Egerton. The letters concern the health of Lady Edward's husband, Lord Edward Cavendish, Lady Louisa's brother. There is also one letter from Victor Cavendish (Lord Edward Cavendish's son, and later 9<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire) concerning the health of his father and a letter from [Sir] William Roberts concerning a diagnosis of Lord Edward's condition. Within the file there are also diary entries written by Louisa recording the progress of her brother's recovery from his illness and a chart recording Lord Edward's temperature during the illness.</p> <p>1 file</p>	5 June 1886 - 29 October 1888	Item
DF25/1/2	<p>Letters sent by Sir James Lacaita and George Reid to Lady Louisa Egerton</p> <p>Letters concern a catalogue of prints and drawings at Chatsworth produced by James Lacaita and George Reid.</p> <p>17 letters</p>	4 September 1874 - 2 December 1893	Item
DF25/1/3	<p>Letters sent to Lady Louisa Egerton and Fanny [Cavendish] concerning the Countess of Cumberland's tomb and a painting of [William] Cobham at Bolton Abbey</p> <p>Letters concern the restoration of the [Lady Frances Clifford (née Cecil)] Countess of Cumberland's Tomb in York Minster and a portrait of [William Lord Cobham] at Bolton Abbey. Two of the letters were sent to Louisa Egerton from York Minster, with an unidentified signature; one letter was sent to Fanny [Cavendish] from Elizabeth C. Cust, 13 Eccleston Square, S. W. Includes a photograph of the Countess of Cumberland's tomb.</p> <p>3 letters</p>	[1907]	Item

DF25/1/4	Letters sent to Lady Frederick Cavendish and Lady Louisa Egerton by Lady Evelyn Cavendish concerning improvements to St John's Church, Flookburgh	[1898]	Item
	Letters sent to Lady Frederick Cavendish [Aunt Lucy] by Evelyn Cavendish concerning St John's Church, Flookburgh. Evelyn Cavendish asks her aunt to forward the letters to Lady Louisa Egerton. Also includes a plan showing the proposed improvements.		
	1 file		
DF25/1/5	Letters sent to Lady Louisa Egerton concerning Hardwick Hall	3 September 1902 - 13 September 1907	Item
	Letters sent to Louisa Egerton concerning Hardwick Hall. Includes: two letters from Charles J. Cropper concerning an item of furniture and plaster work at Hardwick Old Hall; two letters from Eugenie Strong concerning books at Hardwick and a Hardwick portfolio of photographs; a letter addressed to 'Dear Kathleen' written by Louisa Egerton concerning a painting of [Lady Arabella]; one letter with an unidentified signature, sent from Holmbury, Dorking concerning Louisa Egerton's family pedigree; three letters from C.G. Hamilton concerning protection of tapestries; and one letter from Evelyn Cavendish (wife of Victor, future 9 <sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire) concerning curtains.		
	11 items		
DF25/1/6	Letter from Elizabeth Grey to Lady Louisa Egerton	13 November 1880	Item
	Letter from Louisa Egerton's aunt, Elizabeth Grey, concerning the death of Elizabeth's brother Admiral Edward Granville George Howard, 1 <sup>st</sup> Baron Lanerton. Elizabeth also encloses a lock of hair, possibly that of Georgiana Cavendish, Duchess of Devonshire.		
	1 item		
DF25/1/7	Letter from [Lord] Northbrook to Lady Louisa Egerton	10 August 1893	Item
	Letter concerning the letters of Lady Russell. [Lord] Northbrook has returned them to the housekeeper at Devonshire House. Sent from 4 Hamilton Place, Piccadilly.		
	1 item		
DF25/1/8	Letter from [Cecil Foljambe, Earl of Liverpool, Lord Hawkesbury] to Lady Louisa Egerton	29 December 1906	Item

Letter concerning caricatures by Sir Joshua Reynolds. [Liverpool] also enquires about progress with catalogues at Chatsworth, discusses his health and recounts the work of [his daughter], Mabel.

1 item

DF25/1/9	Letter from Reverend Thomas Remington to Lady Louisa Egerton	24 January 1891	Item
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Letter thanking Lady Louisa Egerton for her kindness and enclosing a letter sent to [Remington] by her mother, Blanche Cavendish, Countess of Burlington, concerning the Holker School.

2 letters

DF25/1/10	Letter from [Cecil Foljambe, Earl of Liverpool, Lord Hawkesbury] to Lady Louisa Egerton	7 September 1902	Item
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A partial letter concerning research into the identity of the sitter in a portrait. Paper headed "Kirkham Abbey, York".

1 letter

DF25/1/11	Letters from R. Cecil Wilton to Lady Louisa Egerton	15 September - 4 October 1905	Item
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Two letters sent by R. Cecil Wilton. Letter dated 15 September 1905 concerns a visit Wilton made to Bolton Abbey and discusses furniture and paintings. Enclosed with this is a letter dated 1 October 1905 from Spencer Compton Cavendish, Marquess of Hartington, to his sister, Lady Louisa, concerning his agreement for Wilton to look over papers at Bolton. Letter dated 4 October 1905 concerns Wilton's thanks to Lady Louisa for allowing him to study papers at Bolton.

3 letters

DF25/1/12	Letter from the Duke of Portland to Lady Louisa Egerton	14 December 1905	Item
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Letter concerning the Duke of Portland's predecessor and his desire to marry Lady Poyntz.

1 item

DF25/1/13	Letters from Reverend F. Brodhurst to Lady Louisa Egerton	1900 - 1906	Item
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16 items

DF25/1/14	Letter from Charles Bellairs to Lady Louisa Egerton	20 September 1876	Item
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Letter concerning books and bookcases at Bolton Abbey. Includes two enclosures: a sketch of one of the bookcases described in the letter; and a sketch on tracing paper of Bolton Priory.

1 letter

DF25/1/15 Letter from C.C. Lacaita to Lady Louisa Egerton 19 February 1891 Item

Letter concerning the possible sale of books, the Kemble plays, from Chatsworth.

1 letter

DF25/1/16 Letter from Dr Grosart to [Lady Louisa Egerton?] 8 June 1886 Item

Letter addressed "madam" [possibly Lady Louisa Egerton] concerning the delivery of a volume of plays. Sent from [Brooklyn House, Blackburn, Lancashire].

1 letter

DF25/1/17 Partial letter from [Reverend] Charles Bellairs to [Lady Louisa Egerton?] [c.1880] Item

Partial letter from [Reverend] Charles Bellairs addressed to a female member of the family, thought to have been Lady Louisa Egerton. Letter concerning the Cavendish family connection behind a painting of Lord and Lady Cobham in the drawing room at [Sutton Vicarage?]

1 letter

DF25/1/18 Letter from Mrs Townsend to Lady Louisa Egerton 24 October [c.1880] Item

Letter from Mrs Townsend concerning an enquiry Lady Louisa Egerton had made about a portrait. Lady Louisa had remarked on an error made by Mrs Townsend in the peerage of Lady Elizabeth Clifford. Sent from 117 Banbury Road, Oxford.

1 letter

DF25/1/19 Letter from H. Cottingham to [Lady Louisa Egerton?] 29 February 1884 Item

Letter from H. Cottingham, addressed "Madam", thought to have been Lady Louisa Egerton. The letter concerns a Mr Yeatman visiting Hardwick to see deeds/papers relating to the Borough of Chesterfield. Sent from Heath Vicarage, Chesterfield.

1 letter

DF25/1/20	<p>Letter from W.F. Egerton to [Francis Egerton]</p> <p>Letter from [William Francis] Egerton to his father Francis Egerton, concerning events at Harrow School.</p> <p>1 letter</p>	c.1885	Item
<b><u>DF25/2</u></b>	<b><u>Notebooks kept by Lady Louisa Egerton</u></b>	<b><u>1894 - 1896</u></b>	<b><u>Series</u></b>
	<p>This section includes notes made by Lady Louisa Egerton providing updates on the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke's <i>Handbook of Chatsworth and Hardwick</i>; notes made by Lady Louisa on the contents of Compton Place, Eastbourne; and a notebook of letters and verses compiled by Lady Louisa relating to the illness and death of her mother, Blanche Cavendish, Countess of Burlington.</p> <p>2 volumes, 1 item</p>		
DF25/2/1	<p>Notebook written by Lady Louisa Egerton providing an update to the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke's Handbook of Chatsworth and Hardwick</p> <p>Notes made by Louisa Egerton providing updates to the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke's <i>Handbook</i>, originally published in 1844. The volume can be read from both sides.</p> <p>1 volume</p>	1894 - 1895	Item
DF25/2/2	<p>Notes made by Louisa Egerton regarding the furniture, tapestries and artwork at Compton Place</p> <p>Notes by Louisa Egerton on furniture, tapestries and artwork at Compton Place in Eastbourne, one of the Cavendish family's properties.</p> <p>1 item</p>	30 September 1896	Item
DF25/2/3	<p>Volume of copy letters sent to William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, concerning the death of his wife Blanche Cavendish</p>	9 March 1851	Item



A volume containing correspondence received by the Earl of Burlington (later 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire) on the death of his wife, Lady Blanche Cavendish, in 1840, plus notes on her illness. The original documents, dated 1840, have been copied into this volume by their daughter Louisa Cavendish in 1851.

The volume includes: p. 5 : "Copy of Mr Blunt's letter to Papa"; p. 9: "Copy of a letter from Dr Thorpe to Papa"; p. 13: "Mr Sneyd's letter to Lord Clune [?]" ; p. 16: "Letter from Lord Fitzwilliam"; p. 18: "Verses by Aunt Caroline" [Caroline Lascelles, née Howard, Blanche's sister]; p. 33: "Aunt Caroline's notes on Mama's illness"; p. 52: "Copied from a book of Aunt Fanny's of things relating to dearest Mama" [Lady Fanny Howard, née Cavendish, sister of William Cavendish, Lord Burlington].

1 volume

<b><u>DF25/3</u></b>	<b><u>Other Papers of Lady Louisa Egerton</u></b>	<b><u>1868</u></b>	<b><u>Series</u></b>
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This series contains only one item: an Annual Report for Flookburgh Infant School (on the Cartmel peninsula in Cumbria, formerly Lancashire) for the year 1868. Louisa Egerton was the patroness of the school.

1 item

DF25/3/1	Report of Flookburgh Infant School for the year 1868	1868	Item
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Louisa Egerton was Patroness of the Flookburgh Infant School, Lancashire (now Cumbria).

1 item