Guide to the W. S. Lewis Collection of George Townshend Correspondence

LWL MSS 38



by Sandra Markham

October 2022

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Lewis Walpole Library

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Farmington, CT 06034-1408

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CALL NUMBER: LWL MSS 38

CREATOR: Lewis, W. S. (Wilmarth Sheldon), 1895-1979, collector

TITLE: W. S. Lewis Collection of George Townshend Correspondence

DATES: 1708-1800

BULK DATES: 1766-1772

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.21 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The W. S. Lewis Collection of George Townshend Correspondence holds

approximately 350 letters sent to and by George Townshend (1724-1807) primarily during his tenure as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in the years 1767 through 1772. The bulk of the collection is held in Series I, where most of the letters concern military and political topics, with some more personal and family correspondence. Many of the writers were appealing to Townshend for patronage appointments in regiments, bishoprics, and deaneries, for positions on local boards, and for peerage titles and honors. Very often they were soliciting on behalf of their sons, brothers, nephews, or protégés, as well as for family members of friends. The letters also discuss pensions and pensioners, and they usually express fawning gratitude for the many unspecified kindnesses that Lord Townshend had previously bestowed upon the writers. Series II holds twelve letters received by other members of the

Townshend family, including Charles Townshend (1674-1738).

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: https://

hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/lwl.mss.038

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/lwl.mss.038.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Bequest of Wilmarth Sheldon Lewis (Yale 1918), 1979.

Custodial History

The material in the collection primarily came from two acquisitions made by Wilmarth Lewis: one in September 1933 from the dealer G. H. Last of Bromley, Kent, and another in June 1964 from Maggs Bros. The more than 250 letters and documents in the former group comprises the bulk of the collection. James Cuninghame Durham (-1954) wrote Lewis (in LWL MSS 20) that the letters had been discovered at Raynham Hall in Norfolk after the death of his father-in-law John Villiers Stuart Townshend (1831–1899), 5th Marquess Townshend. The second group of 90 letters was acquired by Maggs from a Sotheby's sale on May 25-27, 1964 (lot 551), and no further provenance information is known. Readers may consult the library's collection file for LWL MSS 38 for more information regarding the contents of the two acquisitions.

In addition, a group of three letters from Commodore George Townshend (1715/16–1769) to his half-brother Thomas Townshend (1701–1780) were purchased from Maggs (Sotheby's sale, May 20, 1952 (lot 287)), and a single letter from John Burgoyne was a gift to Wilmarth Lewis from Walter Kennedy, made in memory of Thomas Oakes, on October 19th, 1972.

Prior to February 2022 material now in LWL MSS 38 had been interfiled in the Lewis Walpole Library Manuscript Miscellany (LWL MSS MISC).

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The W. S. Lewis Collection of George Townshend Correspondence is the physical property of the Lewis Walpole Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the W. S. Lewis Librarian/Executive Director.

Preferred Citation

W. S. Lewis Collection of George Townshend Correspondence. The Lewis Walpole Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Typed transcriptions were made by library staff for most of the letters in the collection. In 2022 the transcripts were photocopied on acid-free paper and the originals discarded.

George Townshend (1724–1807)

George Townshend, a British politician and amateur caricaturist, was born in London on February 28, 1724, to Charles Townshend, third Viscount Townshend (1700-1764) and his wife Etheldreda Harrison Townshend (1708-1788). He attended Eton College and St John's College, Cambridge (MA 1749). Following

a brief military career, where he fought in the Battle of Culloden and served as aide-de-camp to Prince William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, Townshend left the army with the title of lieutenant colonel. While he was serving in Europe, Townshend was put up for Parliament by his father; winning the election, he represented Norfolk from 1747 until 1764. He became a political ally of William Pitt, the Duke of Newcastle, and the Earl of Bute, and was was responsible for the codifying of the Militia Act of 1757.

In 1758, during the Seven Years' War, Townshend was promoted to the rank of colonel, was given command of the 64th Regiment of the Footguards, and served in Quebec under General James Wolfe. He was promoted to major general in 1761 and served in Germany (1761) and in Portugal (1762) during the Spanish invasion. In 1763 he became Lieutenant General of the Ordnance and on August 19, 1767, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Once there, an important assignment was to expand the size of the British army in Ireland by filling Irish regiments. Townshend remained in that office until 1772 when he returned to the Ordnance. He continued to achieve higher ranks in the military as he was appointed colonel in 1773, general in 1782, and field marshal in 1796.

George Townshend left the House of Commons in 1764 when, upon the death of his father, he became fourth Viscount Townshend; he was created Marquess Townshend of Raynham in 1786. He was twice married, in 1751 to Charlotte Compton, Baroness Ferrers (died 1770 at Leixlip Castle, County Kildare), with whom he had six children, and in 1773 to Anne Montgomery (died 1819), with whom he had seven children. Townshend died at his home, Raynham Hall, on September 14, 1807, and was buried in St Mary Churchyard in East Raynham, Norfolk.

Scope and Contents

The W. S. Lewis Collection of George Townshend Correspondence holds approximately 350 letters sent to and by George Townshend (1724-1807) primarily during his tenure as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in the years 1767 through 1772. The bulk of the collection is held in Series I, where most of the letters concern military and political topics, with some more personal and family correspondence. Many of the writers were appealing to Townshend for patronage appointments in regiments, bishoprics, and deaneries, for positions on local boards, and for peerage titles and honors. Very often they were soliciting on behalf of their sons, brothers, nephews, or protégés, as well as for family members of friends. The letters also discuss pensions and pensioners, and they usually express fawning gratitude for the many unspecified kindnesses that Lord Townshend had previously bestowed upon the writers. Series II holds twelve letters received by other members of the Townshend family, including Charles Townshend (1674-1738).

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. George Townshend Letters, 1736-1800. II. Other Townshend Family Letters, 1708-1790.

Collection Contents

Series I: George Townshend Letters, 1756-1800

2.21 linear feet (4 boxes)

The series holds the bulk of the collection. While the correspondents mainly wrote from England and Ireland about positions in those countries some letters cast a wider scope: Joseph Gorham sought positions in Tobago, Dominique, and Florida, and William Kelly wrote from New York in November 1767 to say he is sending "curious seeds and plants," in addition to barrels of apples and cranberries to Townshend in London. Sir George Colebrooke wrote for the directors of the East India Company regarding Townshend's help in recruiting officers "among the Catholics of Ireland," and Simon Fraser wrote from Chaves, Portugal, in 1771 about the political situation there. However, local concerns are predominant: William O'Brien, Earl of Inchiquin, wrote over several years to recommend men for sheriff of County Clare, where he was the governor and keeper of the rolls; Charles Coote, Earl of Bellomont, sent in his nomination to fill the job of state trumpeter; and Sir Robert Wilmot, who served as Townshend's private secretary, wrote seven letters discussing pensioners and other government business. John Perceval, Earl of Egmont, wrote lengthily and passionately about the augmentation of the Irish regiments and the political scene in Ireland; among his six letters is one written from London on September 15, 1768, which runs to eight pages and gives his views of the Irish people and his "most melancholy and almost desponding reflections upon the state of our affairs." Some of the more unusual items in the series are two letters from the Irish landscape painter Jonathan Fisher describing his search around London for engravers to reproduce his works, a small wash portrait that Turner Calvert enclosed of himself to remind Townshend that they had met and that he too is connected to a good Norfolk family, and a single letter from the English army officer, military engineer, and surveyor Hugh Debbieg who had, like Townshend, served in Quebec during the Seven Years' War.

Among the correspondents more heavily represented in the collection are James Francis Erskine, whose thirteen letters include five written in 1769 with first-hand coverage of John Wilkes' second expulsion from Parliament; Lord Lifford's thirty-five letters cover both business and personal affairs, most pointedly a heartfelt letter written after the death of Townshend's first wife Charlotte at Leixlip Castle on September 14, 1770; several of John Hely-Hutchinson's seventeen letters are written about Charlotte Townshend's decline and death. Francis Seymour Conway sent eight letters on the topics of military matters and news of his family, including his son in the Dragoons and his daughter Anne Moore, Lady Drogheda. There are letters that touch on personal or purely social themes such as those from Edward King and Thomas Thoroton on the topic of hounds and hunting, and from a few women such as Carolina Harrington writing to introduce an acquaintance who was traveling to Ireland "to abjure in form the Roman Catholick persuasion which he has for some time disapproved." Also present are letters from the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Kilmore, Limerick, Norwich, and Waterford, and the Deans of Ferns, Killaloe, and Norwich, and three letters from members of the Walpole family: Sir Edward Walpole (1706–1784), Horatio Walpole (1723–1809), and Robert Walpole of Athlone (-1803).

The second subseries, Outgoing Letters, consists of nine letters George Townshend wrote to family and colleagues, some of whom have folders in the first subseries of Incoming Letters. The letters here are a mix of drafts and retained copies. Of interest is one written to Thomas Coke, Earl of Leicester, and challenging him to a duel; it is accompanied by an undated note in the hand of Wilmarth Lewis stating that R. W. Ketton-Cremer "is certain the duel did not take place."

The third subseries, Other Papers, consists of three documents: the Freedom of the County of the City of Waterford awarded to His Excellency George Lord Viscount Townshend, as Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland in 1768, and two petitions on behalf of Thomas Dawson submitted by a committee of magistrates of Yarmouth to Townshend and his brother Charles.

Series I is organized into three subseries: Incoming Letters, Outgoing Letters, and Other Papers.

Incoming Letters

| b. 1, f. 1 | Annaly, John Gore, Baron, 1718-1784 | 1768-1769 |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 2 | Bagot, Walter Wagstaffe, Sir, 1702-1768 | 1767 August 17 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Baker, John Wynn, -1775 | 1771 February 26 and May 25 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Barrymore, Richard Barry, Earl of, 1769-1793 | 1767-1768 |
| b. 1, f. 5 | Beckford, William, 1709-1770 | 1769 February 3 |
| b. 1, f. 6 | Bellomont, Charles Coote, Earl of, 1738?-1800 | 1767–1771 |
| b. 1, f. 7 | Browne, John, Earl of Altamont, 1709?-1776 | 1772 May 25 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | Buckingham, George Nugent Temple Grenville, Marquess of, 1753-1813 | 1781, undated |
| b. 1, f. 9 | Buckinghamshire, John Hobart, Earl of, 1693-1756 | 1767 August 15 |
| b. 1, f. 10 | Burgoyne, John, 1722-1792 | 1767 August 10 |
| b. 1, f. 11 | Bute, John Stuart, Earl of, 1713-1792 | 1766-1772 |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Butler, Piers, Baron Dunboyne, -1773 | 1769, 1772 |
| b. 1, f. 13 | Calder, James, Sir, 1712-1774 | undated |
| b. 1, f. 14 | Calvert, Turner, 1711-785 An ink portrait of Calvert was laid in, and described in, the letter. The drawing was removed and separately cataloged in 2022 (LWL Min 152) and a facsimile was left in the folder. | 1771 May 8 |
| b. 1, f. 15 | Camden, Charles Pratt, Earl, 1714-1794 | 1769 January 26 |
| b. 1, f. 16 | Cathcart, Charles Schaw Cathcart, Lord, 1721-1776 | 1767 August 21 |
| b. 1, f. 17 | Cavan, Ford Lambart, Earl of, 1718-1772 Encloses a memorial from the Earl of Cavan to Lord Townshend, asking for an increase in his pension as a provision to support his daughter Lady Gertrude Lambart. | 1771 June 2 |
| b. 1, f. 18 | Chenevix, Richard, 1698-1779 | 1768 August 14 |
| b. 1, f. 19 | Clanricarde, John Smith De Burgh, Earl of, 1720-1782 | 1770 March 28 and May 29 |
| b. 1, f. 20 | Clanwilliam, John Meade, Earl of, 1744-1800 | 1772 October 27 |
| b. 1, f. 21 | Clarendon, Thomas Villiers, Earl of, 1709-1786 | 1767–1769 |
| | Clarendon was styled Baron Hyde from 1756 to 1776. | |
| b. 1, f. 22 | | 1769-1770 |
| b. 1, f. 22 b. 1, f. 23 | Clarendon was styled Baron Hyde from 1756 to 1776. | |
| | Clarendon was styled Baron Hyde from 1756 to 1776. Colebrooke, George, Sir, 1729-1809 | 1769-1770 |

| b. 1, f. 25 | Cornwallis, Frederick, 1713-1783 | 1768 September 3 and October 25 |
|-------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 26 | Courtenay, John, 1738-1816 | 1785 December 1 |
| b. 1, f. 27 | Courtown, James Stopford, Earl of, 1700-1770 | 1768-1769 |
| b. 1, f. 28 | Courtown, James Stopford, Earl of, 1731-1810 | 1768-1772 |
| b. 1, f. 29 | Cradock, John, approximately 1708-1778 | 1768-1769 |
| b. 1, f. 30 | Dashwood, Francis, Sir, 1708-1781 | 1771 May 11 |
| | Dashwood was created Baron le Despencer in 1763, and signed his letter with that title. | |
| b. 1, f. 31 | Debbieg, Hugh | 1772 September 12 |
| b. 1, f. 32 | Digby, Henry Digby, Earl, 1731-1793 | 1767 October 8 |
| b. 1, f. 33 | Disney, W. (William), 1731-1807 | 1768-1770 |
| b. 1, f. 34 | Donnellan, John | 1771 January 8 |
| b. 1, f. 35 | Downshire, Wills Hill, Marquis of, 1718-1793 | 1767–1772 |
| b. 1, f. 36 | Draper, William, Sir, 1721-1787 | 1767–1772 |
| | Draper's letter of August 22, 1767, encloses a letter from Cadwallader Blayney to Draper dated August 11, 1767. | |
| b. 1, f. 37 | Drummond, Robert Hay, 1711-1776 | 1768 May 17 |
| b. 1, f. 38 | Dyson, Jeremiah, 1722-1776 | 1771 December 10 |
| b. 1, f. 39 | Egmont, John Perceval, Earl of, 1711-1770 | 1768-1770 |
| b. 1, f. 40 | Ely, Henry Loftus, Earl of, 1709-1783 | 1770–1772 |
| b. 1, f. 41 | Erskine, James Francis, 1743-1806 | 1767–1771 |
| b. 1, f. 42 | Fife, James Duff, Earl, 1776-1857 | 1770–1771 |
| b. 1, f. 43 | Fisher, Jonathan, -1809 | 1769 June 17 and 29 |
| b. 1, f. 44 | Fortescue, Matthew Fortescue, Baron, 1719–1785 | 1771 September 15 |
| b. 1, f. 45 | Fraser, Simon, 1726-1782 | 1771 July 12 |
| b. 2, f. 1 | Gore, William, -1784 | 1772 October 31 |
| b. 2, f. 2 | Gorham, Joseph | |

| b. 2, f. 3 | Grafton, Augustus Henry Fitzroy, Duke of, 1735-1811 Grafton's letter of August 4, 1771, enclosed an appeal from Thomas Cosby for promotion to lieutenant in the 49th Regiment. | 1766-1772 |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| b. 2, f. 4 | Granard, George Forbes, Earl of, 1740–1780 | 1771–1772 |
| b. 2, f. 5 | Greene, Henry, 1761-1801 | 1790 October 1 |
| b. 2, f. 6 | Halifax, George Montagu-Dunk, Earl of, 1716-1771 | 1769 June 15 |
| b. 2, f. 7 | Harcourt, Simon Harcourt, Earl, 1714-1777 | 1767 September 13 |
| b. 2, f. 8 | Hardwicke, Philip Yorke, Earl of, 1690-1764 | 1770 November 3 |
| b. 2, f. 9 | Harpur, Henry | 1768 April 7 and July 2 |
| b. 2, f. 10 | Harrington, Carolina | undated |
| b. 2, f. 11 | Harris, James, 1709-1780 | 1767 October 4 |
| b. 2, f. 12 | Heaton, Robert Salisbury | undated |
| b. 2, f. 13 | Hely-Hutchinson, John, 1724-1794 | 1770-1772 |
| b. 2, f. 14 | Henn, William, 1720?-1796 | 1768 July 17 |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Henry, William, -1768 | 1768 January 1 and 19 |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Hertford, Francis Seymour Conway, Marquess of, 1719-1794 | 1768-1772 |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Home, Alexander Home, Earl of, approximately 1715-1786 | 1769 December 12 |
| b. 2, f. 18 | Hoste, Will | 1767–1769 |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Howth, Thomas St. Lawrence, Earl of, 1730-1801 | 1767, 1772 |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Huntingdon, Francis Hastings, Earl of, 1728-1789 | 1770 February 7 |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Inchiquin, William O'Brien, Earl of, approximately 1700-1777 | 1768-1772 |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Jersey, William Villiers, Earl of, -1769 | 1756 June 11 |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Karl II, Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1741-1816 | 1790 September 7 |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Kelly, William | 1767 November 29 |
| b. 2, f. 25 | Kenmare, Thomas Browne, Viscount, 1726-1795 | 1768 October 5 |
| b. 2, f. 26 | Kingston, Edward King, Earl of, 1726-1797 | 1769 January 30 and February 1 |

| b. 2, f. 27 | Kinsale, John de Courcy, Lord, approximately 1717-1776 | 1768 July 15 and September 25 |
|-------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| b. 2, f. 28 | Leeds, George William Frederick Osborne, Duke of, 1775-1856 | 1800 August 14 |
| | Lifford, James Hewitt, Viscount, 1709-1789 | |
| | James Hewitt was a British politician who served as Lord Chancellor of Ireland from 1767 to 1789. | |
| b. 2, f. 29 | Letters | 1767–1769 |
| b. 2, f. 30 | Letters | 1770-1772 |
| b. 2, f. 31 | Lloyd, Philip, 1728 or 1729–1790 | 1768 May 16 |
| b. 2, f. 32 | Lyttelton, Richard, 1718-1770 | 1767–1771 |
| b. 2, f. 33 | Macartney, Jane Stuart, Lady, 1748-1828 | 1771 June 20 |
| b. 2, f. 34 | MacDonnell, Randal, Viscount Dunluce, 1749-1791 | 1769, 1771 |
| | Also present is a petition sent on behalf of John Ferguson, asking for the government to provide protection for him and his house; MacDonnell was at the time High Sherif of Antrim. | |
| b. 2, f. 35 | Manchester, George Montagu, Duke of, 1737-1788 | 1771 February 13 |
| b. 2, f. 36 | Manners-Sutton, Charles, 1755-1828 | 1800 August 14 and September 25 |
| b. 2, f. 37 | Marlay, R. (Richard) | 1771 May 25 |
| b. 2, f. 38 | Montagu, George Brudenell Montagu, Duke of, 1712-1790 | 1771 March 7 |
| b. 2, f. 39 | Montgomery, James, Sir, 1721-1803 | 1800 July 19 and September 8 |
| b. 2, f. 40 | Mornington, Garrett Colley Wellesley, Earl of, 1735-1781 | 1767 September 8 |
| b. 2, f. 41 | Murray, John, Lord, 1711-1787 | 1769 October 25 |
| b. 2, f. 42 | Muskerry, Robert Tilson Deane, Baron, 1745-1818 | 1772 October 26 |
| b. 2, f. 43 | Norfolk, Edward Howard, Duke of, 1686-1777 | 1767 October 10 |
| b. 2, f. 44 | Portland, William Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, Duke of, 1738-1809 | 1800 July 4 |
| b. 2, f. 45 | Rivers, George Pitt, Baron, 1721-1803 | 1767, 1770 |
| b. 2, f. 46 | Rutland, Charles Manners, Duke of, 1754-1787 | 1773 November 25 |
| b. 2, f. 47 | Sackville, George Germain, Viscount, 1716-1785 | 1771 July 7 and December 17 |
| b. 2, f. 48 | Spencer, George John Spencer, Earl, 1758-1834 | 1800 September 14 |

| b. 2, f. 49 | Stafford, Edward Smythe | 1790 September | |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| b. 2, f. 50 | Sydney, Thomas Townshend, Viscount, 1733-1800 | 1785 April 8 | |
| b. 3, f. 1 | Thoroton, Thomas, 1723-1794 Also present is a letter from Thoroton to Colonel Frazer, dated July 26, 1769, introducing Ensign Hudson, the bearer of the letter. | 1768-1770 | |
| b. 3, f. 2 | Thurlow, Edward Thurlow, Baron, 1731-1806 | 1768 March 19 and October 9 | |
| b. 3, f. 3 | Townshend, George Townshend, Marquess, 1755-1811 George Townshend (1755-1811) was the eldest son of George Townshend and his first wife Charlotte Compton, Baroness Ferrers and Compton (-1770) Upon the death of his mother he inherited the title Baron de Ferrars, and in 1784 he was created Earl of Leicester. A politician and an antiquarian with a particular interest in heraldry and archaeology, Townshend was admitted to the Royal Society in 1781 and was made a trustee of the British Museum in 1787. He was president of the Society of Antiquaries from 1784 until his death. | 1771-1773 | |
| b. 3, f. 4 | Townshend, J. Thomas | 1785, 1792 | |
| b. 3, f. 5 | Walpole, Edward, Sir, 1706-1784 | 1767 September 23 | |
| b. 3, f. 7 | Walpole, Horatio Walpole, Baron, 1723-1809 | 1771 November 30 | |
| b. 3, f. 8 | Walpole, Robert, of Athlone, -1803 | 1771 August 15 | |
| b. 3, f. 9 | Walsingham, R. B. | 1771 November 2 | |
| b. 3, f. 10 | Walsingham, Thomas de Grey, Baron, 1748-1818 | 1790 December 17 | |
| b. 3, f. 11 | Wilmot, Robert, Sir, -1772 | 1772 | |
| b. 3, f. 12 | Windham, William | undated | |
| b. 3, f. 13 | Wodehouse, John Wodehouse, Baron, 1771-1846 | 1800 July 1 | |
| b. 3, f. 14 | Yonge, Philip, 1709?-1783 | 1769 July 8 and November 11 | |
| Outgoing Letters | | | |
| b. 3, f. 15 | Coke, Thomas, Earl of Leicester, 1697-1759 | 1759 January 24 | |
| b. 3, f. 16 | Dashwood, Francis, Sir, 1708-1781 | 1767 September 21 | |
| b. 3, f. 17 | Ely, Henry Loftus, Earl of, 1709-1783 | 1771 January 19 | |
| b. 3, f. 18 | Lifford, James Hewitt, Viscount, 1709-1789 | [1770 June 8 or 9] | |
| | | | |

Outgoing Letters (continued)

| b. 3, f. 19 | Manners-Sutton, Charles, 1755-1828 | 1800 September 22 |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|
| b. 3, f. 20 | Mansel, William Lort, 1753-1820 | 1800 September 3 and 7 |
| b. 3, f. 21 | Montagu, George Brudenell Montagu, Duke of, 1712-1790 | 1771 March 7 |
| b. 3, f. 22 | Sydney, Thomas Townshend, Viscount, 1733-1800 | 1785, undated |
| Of | ther Papers | |
| b. 4 (Oversize), f. | Freedom of the County of the City of Waterford | 1768 September 12 |
| 1 | A parchment document with red wax Seal of Mayorality, signed by Waterford's Mayor William Price. | |
| b. 3, f. 23 | Yarmouth, Magistrates of | 1767 August 10 |
| | Two copies of a petition, signed by fourteen men, submitted to Charles and George Townshend on behalf of Thomas Dawson. | |

Series II: Other Townshend Family Letters, 1708–1790

The series contains a dozen letters received by various members of the Townshend family from friends and family.

Series II is organized into five subseries: To Charles Townshend, To Charlotte Townshend, To John Townshend, To Thomas Townshend, and To Unidentified Son of Charles Townshend.

To Charles Townshend, Viscount Townshend, 1674-1738

Charles Townshend, second Viscount Townshend (1674-1738), was the grandfather of George Townshend; he married first Elizabeth Pelham (-1711), the daughter of Thomas Pelham; he married second Dorothy Walpole (1686-1726), sister of Robert Walpole; Townshend had twenty children with his two wives.

| b. 3, f. 24 | Bolingbroke, Henry St. John, Viscount, 1678-1751 | 1710 November 24 |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| b. 3, f. 25 | Dartmouth, William Legge, Earl of, 1672-1750 | [1708] July 21 |
| b. 3, f. 26 | [Drummond, John?] | 1710? February |
| | A letter, signed "J. Drumd.," possibly a British merchant and agent for the government at Amsterdam, discussing financial concerns. It is addressed on the verso to The Right Honourable Lord Viscount Townshend ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary from the Queen of Great Britain at The Hague. | 22 |
| b. 3, f. 27 | Rinuccini, Monsr. | 1715 September 20 |
| b. 3, f. 28 | Somers, John Somers, Baron, 1651-1716 | 1709 July 15 |
| b. 3, f. 29 | Trimnell, Charles, 1663-1723 | 1715 August 19 |
| | To Charlotte Townshend, Baroness Ferrers, -1770 | |
| | Lady Charlotte Compton was the first wife of George Townshend (1724-1807) and the second daughter born to James Compton, Earl of Northampton, and his wife, Elizabeth Shirley, Baroness Ferrers; she married Townshend in 1751 and died at Leixlip Castle, County Kildare, Ireland, in 1770. | |
| b. 3, f. 30 | Kildare, Mary, Lady | 1768 September 22 |
| | To John Townshend, 1757-1833 | |
| | John Townshend was the son of George Townshend (1724-1807) and Charlotte Townshend (-1770). | |
| b. 3 , f. 31 | Lauderdale, John Maitland, Earl of, 1759-1839 | 1790 August 31 |
| | | |

To Thomas Townshend, 1701-1780

Thomas Townshend was the son of Charles Townshend (1674-1738) and his first wife Elizabeth Pelham (-1711), making him the uncle to George Townshend (1724-1807).

To Thomas Townshend, 1701-1780 (continued)

| b. 3, f. 32 | Townshend, George, 1715/16-1769 | 1736-1746 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| | George Townshend, a naval officer, was the half-brother of Thomas Townshend and the eldest son born to Charles Townshend (1674-1738) and his second wife Dorothy Walpole Townshend (1686-1726). Both men were uncles to George Townshend (1724-1807). | |
| | In his three letters Townshend writes of his court martial regarding an incident in the Mediterranean near Corsica. | |
| | To unidentified son of Charles Townshend, 1674-1738 | |
| b. 3, f. 33 | Walpole, Horatio Walpole, Baron, 1678-1757 | 1748/9 February |
| | References in the letter indicate that Walpole was writing to one of the sons of Charles Townshend (1674-1738); Walpole was a brother of Townshend's second wife Dorothy Walpole (1686-1726). | 4 |

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Social networks -- Great Britain Social networks -- Ireland

Geographic Names

Great Britain -- Foreign relations -- Ireland Great Britain -- Politics and government --1760-1820 Great Britain -- Social life and customs -- 18th century Ireland -- Foreign relations -- Great Britain Ireland -- History, Military Ireland -- History -- 1760-1820 Ireland -- Politics and government -- 1760-1820 Ireland -- Social life and customs -- 18th century

Names

Bute, John Stuart, Earl of, 1713-1792
Downshire, Wills Hill, Marquis of, 1718-1793
Ely, Henry Loftus, Earl of, 1709-1783
Erskine, James Francis, 1743-1806
Fisher, Jonathan, -1809
Hely-Hutchinson, John, 1724-1794
Hertford, Francis Seymour Conway, Marquess of, 1719-1794
Lifford, James Hewitt, Viscount, 1709-1789
Townshend, Charles Townshend, Viscount, 1674-1738
Townshend, George Townshend, Marquis, 1724-1807
Wilkes, John, 1725-1797