

ART. VIII – *Some eighteenth-century documents at Levens Hall.*

By MRS. O. R. BAGOT, F.S.A.

I. **Jacobite “Treason”**

THESE letters written from Tim Banks to his master Colonel James Grahme of Levens Hall give an insight into methods of intimidation of a witness in the early eighteenth century. It was all too easy for a minute’s carelessness to bring about on every man connected, however slightly, with the victim, a prospect of jail, dishonour or even the loss of a seat in Parliament. This case never rose to so great a height as that, but provided an unhappy Christmas for one and all and perhaps a salutary lesson to the young man.

Appleby 29. No. 1701

Sr,

You will receive by this post an account of the blackest piece of villany that ever we acted and the greatest affliction that ever befell me, of which this is a true and perfect relation viz^L: On Thursday night last Mr. Lamb, Mr. Robinson and self went to drink two pence apiece with Edward Addyson your Honour’s Bayliffe here and in my absense my man at supper was trapp’t in some dangerous discourse by Geo. Dent as it plainly appears now. They had some discourse at supper about the pretended Prince of Wales and my foolish man happened to say these words viz^L: That King William had proclaimed the P (Prince) pretender Prince of England after his day. But presently he found his reason and said that the French King of France had proclaimed him King of England: then Geo. Dent asked him what he thought of the Prince of Wales whether he was born Prince of Wales to which inquiring question he answered he believed he was. And this was all the discourse that Geo. Dent would own to me the day after when first I heard of it after I came from Branton Dufton Marton and Dilton. There was one Darg, an Apothecary a younger fellow one Furness a schoolboy and one Shepherd, Mr. Shepherd’s brother of Drybeck at supper together with Geo. Dent and his son. The next day it was told the Mayor Mr. Baines and he sent to Darg the Apothecary and took his information of the words above but added to the information the words following viz^L: that my man said that the pretended Prince of Wales was lawfull and rightfull heir to the Crown of England and then wanting another witness he sent for the schoolboy Furness from school and carryed him into a room in his house where Baine’s sonns lye but that not being private enough he after took him into his own Chamber and by everything prevailed which they had to sign the information in the afternoon. I came home and then Geo. Dent told me what had passed at supper the night before and Mr. Robinson coming into the room I demanded to tell me the very words and to omitt nothing and he told all was spoken was that King William had proclaimed Prince of Wales King of England there, but that presently recollected and said the French King had proclaimed him King. I had sent my man yesterday morning to Crosby to John Ayon and Anthony Smith to desire them to meet Mr. Grahme this day and whilst George Dent was telling me this story he came home and then I desired George Dent to acquaint Mr. Mayor that he was come home he went but did not meet with him and presently after the Constable sent for him and he was committed upon Mittimus a copy whereof I have sent your Honour I was in the room when all this was done I objected against their making use of your Honour’s name but all in vain. I afterwards consulted Mr. Lamb, Mr Carlton, Mr. Robinson and they advised me to desire a copy of the information and to know whether he might be bailed. Mr. Mayor promised me a copy of the information but told me that he would do anything to serve your Honour who was my master I told him that the lad was nothing to Your Honour that you were not

concerned with him and that you would not thank him for any such favour, but if he would bayl him I would write to his father to procure sufficient bail for I would not be his bayle. But he replied he would advise of it this morning. I went for the copy of the information according to promise but then they refused and within half an hour he sent to my man that he would bayle him and John Ayon and two more offer to bail him but then he refused again unless Mr. Grahme would ask it so he's in Gaol still. The witness Furness last night came to me and before Mr. Robinson, Mr. Carlton's man and Wm. Dent the landlord in great remorse told the whole story how he was forced by Baines to sign the information which was as before expressed he and the other witness likewise deny the words of lawfull and rightfull heir of the Crown. There was no oath at all against him neither will they swear the information as it is laid. This Sir is the truth of this unfortunate accident. I brought him along with me thinking he might have been of use to send upon messages and it is the greatest affliction that ever befell me. I hope in all this time since notice of the new election I have managed with indifferent conduct and with (I am sure) great sincerity and humbly beg your Honour not to impute the sad accident to my mismanagement or charge I am comforted by Mr. Lamb and your friends that this wicked contrivance will in a little time turn to your Honour's interest which will be a great ease to my troubled mind and shall be my prayer as well as my duty and utmost endeavours always to serve you with all fidelity shilst I live,

I am

Sr,

Your obedient and ever faithfull servant

TIM BANKS.

Endorsed:—

TIM BANKS Nov. 1701

For The Hon^{ble}. James Grahme Esqr.

at thr third door in Dover Street,

near Pickadilly

LONDON.

Ro No 10-3

Sr,

I gave you an account from Appleby of the accident that happened there which I doubt not but it will turn upon their owne heads with a vengeance. For I brought a copy of the Mittimus and a paper testifying the two boys' (that signed the information) declaration how they were surprised by Baines to sign it which I showed to Mr. Mayor of Kendall doctor Archer Mr. Lowry and severall others on Sunday – who next day took care to let all the town know the truth and they are still more firm if possible than were before. On Monday I showed these papers to Mr. Saul, Jeffrey Beck and others about Levens, On Tuesday I went to Kirby Lonsdale all the clergy hereabouts and Lancashire meeting at a sermon there where I showed the papers to them all and Mr. Wilson of Park House and a great many who were affronted at the villainy. Mr. Barbon preached there. On Thursday I went again and Mr. Thomas Godsaline had been with Mr. Dalston, Doctor Fleming Thomas Hebblethwaite and others and he met in the street and showed me a paper which was a copy of the information against my man and a sort of certificate to prevent the County believing the paper I produced; so in the market amongst severall of our friends and a great many others I publicly read the copy of the Mittimus and other papers and was desired by severall others to produce them which I did afterwards Mr. Dalston sent for me and told me that I had deposed him in the Publick Market and said he would have satisfaction I told him he should have what he would and that what I had done was to undermine the Country and to show them how he had dealt by you by putting your Honour's name in the Mittimus I told him I would let him see the papers which I did and demanded of him if when he signed the Mittimus he saw a witness he owned before Mr. Wilson and Mr. Godsalve and severall others he did not. After he had read them he would have put them up in his pocket but I caught hold of his hand and took 'em from him. Mr. Husband Mr.

Battersby and a great many assure me that this paper and business has done us a great deal of good – we want nothing but horses and I hope which shall have enough there will want above a 100 in Kendall and Kirkland I am

Kendall 6. Decem. 1701

X Sr,
your most obedient and ever faithfull servant
TIM BANKS

Endorsed:– Tim Banks

Decr. 1701

For
The Hon^{ble}. James Grahme Esqr.
at the third room in Dover Street,
near Pickadilly
LONDON.
TBns.

Appleby 8th Decem. 1701

Sr,

I received yours last night and have sent your Honour a copy of the papers which I have shown to all the Clergy and others at Kirby and Kendall and elsewhere with the copy of the Mittimus of which I gave your Honour an account from Kendall the last post. I am very sure that the other party have done themselves a great deal of hurt by their malicious practices. I came this day to Appleby by Mr. Grahme's order who is now with Mr. Lamb Mr. Sheriffe Mr. Aglionby Mr. Bird Mr. Banks and a great many others. Mr. Lamb presents his services to your honour and received yours last post which he would have answered but having strained his thumb he cannot write 'tis his opinion and Mr. Grahme's that the papers which I have shown up and down publicly is sufficient and has satisfied all men so well there needs no more everyone looking upon the whole matter to be nothing but villanous malice. They have been round this town and hope well to have more votes but believe that notwithstanding they will not return your Honour. Yesterday I was with Thomas Cam to know if we might depend upon his friends votes but he said they would not take the solemn affirmation then I spoke to him to desire his friends to send us horses which he readily promised to do and I hope we shall have horses enough. Hugh Ward Miles Townson and Francis Slyth was with us last night all about us are very firm Mr. Lamb assures your Honour that no care is wanting to serve your Honour and Mr. Grahme.

I am Sr
your most obedient and ever faithfull
servant
TIM BANKS

Appleby 8th. Decmbr. 1701

On Friday the 28th day of November instant at night Mr. Robinson Alderman of Appleby in the County of Westmoreland Edward Addyson of the same Christopher Atkinson of the same and Timothy Banks came into Mr. William Dents House in Appleby aforesaid being the said Banks lodgings and after a little time the said William Dent came into the room and told the company aforesaid that one John Furnesse one of the informers against Arthur Shepherd being a lodger in the same house a minor and a schoolboy was mightily troubled in his mind about the information he had given. And thereupon the said John Furnesse and Tomas Dargue another informer and also a minor came into the same room and declared that neither of them were sworn to their information and were very sorry for what they had done and wished that they had been a thousand miles off. And John Furnesse declared that Mr. Baines sent for him out of the school to the Cloystors being near the church but that place being too publick Mr. Baines carried him into a

room in his own house where his son usually lye and afterwards into his own room (the other places being too publick) and there pressed him to sign the information which the young man John Furnesse a long time refused to do alledging that he could not remember that the said Arthur Shepherd ever said that pretended Prince of Wales was lawfull and rightfull heir to the Crowne of England nor could he ever swear or say the same and offored often to go away but Mr. Baines would not part with him till he had signed the said information. And declared he would not for all the world swear the same because he did not hear the said Arthur Shepherd speak those words

Witness our hands the 29. of Novm. 1701

Tho. Robinson
Edwd' Addyson
Christ. Atkinson
Tim Banks
Will Dent

Endorsed:— Tim Banks Dcmr. 1701

For
The Hon^{ble}. James Grahme Esqr at
the third room in Dover Street
near Pickadilly
LONDON.

The Burrow
of
Appleby }

Fforasmuch as it hath been made appear before me by two Credable witness's, that Arthur Shipherd servant to Mr. Timothy Banks who is Steward or Agent to James Grahme Esq^r: hath spoken very treasonable words agst. his Ma^{tis}. Governm^t in owning the pretended Prince of Wales to be heir to the Crown of this Kingdom – and having this day appeared before me And upon his Examination hath declared he was mistaken therein and did not mean what he so declared. These are therefore to comand you that you take into Custody the body of the said Arthur Shipherd and him in your safe custody keep untill he shall be discharged by our Cours of Law ffail not hereof as you will answer the contrary at your perill. Given and my hand and seal the twenty eight day of November in the thirteenth year of your Raign of our Sovereign Lord King William the third over England and Ammo Domi 1701.

To the Keeper of his Ma^{ties}.
Gaols for the County of
Westmoreland
Thps

J.o Dalston Mayor

Vera Copia Exiat
TIM BANKS
Tho: Robinson.
Edward J. Dixon.

2. The Opinion of Mr. Fenwick. High words and Quarrels over Milnthorpe Mill. 1717-37

This Opinion of Mr Fenwick of Burrow Hall shows how quarrels are exacerbated by the absence of the landlord. Graham was member of Parliament for the County of Westmorland and spent much time in the south. Wilson was a Westmorland man making sure of his rights. If either Graham or his son-in-law had ever met Wilson face to face, the matter might have been easily settled. With hind-sight one can see that Wilson had a

complaint. A solid wooden weir would stop more water than a loose stone one. But had he a right to pull down the offending object? Now read on

A copy of the Case relating Millthrop Mill Dam or Wear with Mr. Fenwicks Opinion.

31st October 1737

The Honourable James Grahame Esq^{re} by Lease of that date demised to Nathan Kilner and John Shaw the water Corn Mill called Millthrop Mill and the Kiln and the Mill house thereto belonging & all the Garths & Gardens thereunto belonging TO HOLD from the 11th day of November next ensuing date of lease for one and thirty years UNDER the yearly Rent of £15 payable at two payments in the year to wit at Pentecose & Martinmas yearly with a Covenant (inter alio) that at the Expiration of the said term the said James Grahame in Consideration of £35 would Grant Leases a further term (of promises) of 31 years under the rent and covenants in this demise Vide lease.

Lessees assigned over their term to John Crosfield and James Birket Vide assignment.

A Commission of Bankruptcy being awarded against John Crosfield and James Birket their Assignees under that Commission assigned over over the premises to Allan Wilson Vide Assignment.

About Six years ago Mr. Grahame died, on whose death the said Premises descended and came to his sole Daughter and heir Catharine now wife of the Right Honourable the Earl of Berkshire, or otherwise this Estate was settled on the Earl & Countesse on their Marriage. If settled on the Marriage, then its imagined Mr. Grahame had no right to make such a Lease & that the Earl of Berkshire may enter upon the possession of the Premises when he pleases. Yet his Lordship hath not thought it Convenient, but lets Allan Wilson still enjoy the premises and accepts his rent. Note the Earl and Countesse of Berkshire are Executors to the said James Grahame.

Case In the latter end of the year 1717 John Shaw his partner and assistants under the Lease of 31st Oct^{br}. in that year Erected a new Mill on the Premises in Lease & pull'd down the old wear or damm which was made of Stone to Millthrop Mill and in the room thereof Erected a wooden wear of the same height exactly with the stone wear which they pull'd down and finished the same in 1718.

That in or about 1720 Edward Wilson Esq^{re} brought an Action against the said John Shaw for damages, as he pretended done him by the Erecting the said wear, pretending it occasioned the waters overflowing his ground which lies to the water opposite to Millthrop Mill and is part of the estate called Dallam Tower, to which Action John Shaw gave £600 Bail the said Mr. Grahame being his Bail that thereupon Mr. Wilson thought it proper to, and did drop his action, since which time the said wear or damm hath remained undisturbed till within this six years.

When Daniel Wilson Esq^{re} Son and heir of the said Edward Wilson deceased, by his servants pulled part of the said Wear or Damm down which was immediately repaired by Birket and Crosfield first Assignees of Lease of 31st October 1717.

That about 10th May last the wear was again pulled down by Mr. Wilson's servants to wit George Shaw, James Barrow, William Martins and other in the presence of Mr. Wilson and his Steward Edward Cook, who stood over looking the workmen and order'd them to pull it down, & that Mr. Wilson particularly called to John Shaw and told him if any person should ask him who pull'd that wear down, he might inform them that it was he, the wear again was substantially repaired by Allan Willson assignee & now possessor under an assignment from the assigness of the Bankrupts Birket and Crosfield.

That on the ninth august last Mr. Wilsons servants to wit Cumings and George Shaw again pull'd down part of the said wear to wit about 20 yards of it in the presence of . . . Hall Esq. and the said Mr. Wilson's Steward Edward Cook who overlooked them and gave them directions which last mentioned breach now remains unrepaired.

That the wear after each of the several reparations was the same in height as in 1718 and that the wear made 1717 & 1718 was of the same height as the wear had been time out of mind only with this difference that the wear of 1717 was stone and the wear then Erected was wood.

NOTE These severall breaches of the wear entirely destroy the benefit of the Corn Mill dureing the time they lay down which the said Mill pays yearly to the Vicar of Heversham four pounds.

That on the said 9th August last Mr. A. a Gentleman of good fourtune and reputation came to the sign of the Kings Arms in Millthrop (commonly call'd blind Robins) a noted Inn, & there in the most publick place of the House to wit the Body Stead of the House, seeing the said John Shaw he gave him a glass of wine & then John Shaw told A; the wear was again pulled down to which A. answered it was right and what he would have done himself, that then Shaw said that he thought that affair had beene Settled to which Mr. A. answer'd that Mr. Wilson had got a letter from the said Earle but the same was a *Scurrilous or Scrub Letter*, and that it was *not like a Gentleman of Honour*: which last words A. repeated once or twice with warmth.

That about the same time B. an eminent dealer and of Great Gharacter, drinking a Glass with some Company at a publick house in Kendal, there happening to be some discourse about Mr. Wilson pulling down Millthrop Mill damm one of the Company said it was a breach of peerage to which B. answered peerage it is Boys play, like playing at Catstick and Bullhead it's mean and little of the Earl of Berkshire to speak of peerage that he undervalued himself and if he know no better he was not the Gentleman he took him for.

Whether as Allan Wilson is in poss'ion of Millthrop Mills by vertue of an assignment from Crossfield and Birket assignees he must bring his action against Mr. Wilson & his servants for pulling down the Wear, or the right Honourable the Earl of Berkshire may proceed ag't the said Mr. Wilson or his servants for pulling down the same for a breach of the priviledge of so Noble a Lord as the present Earl is; if the Latter what is the method of proceeding in that case.

Having view'd the mill-dam in question and talked with two of my Lord Berkshire's witness' as touching the ancient Dam or Wear which stood in it's place in and before the year 1717 – I find it certain that his Lordship has an undoubted right by prescription time out of mind to have a Dam or Wear across the river to supply his Mill with water; but the old or former Dam for that purpose consisted in some parts of it of natural rocks which stood in the course of the river, and in other parts of it consisted of loose stones some set up edge-ways, and others lying flat, & at some distance from each other so that the water might flow between them and run down the course of Rivers and also that the old Dam was much lower in some parts of it than in others & that in the year 1717 or 1718 & the old Dam was pulled down & the present Dam erected and made with planks or boards from oneside of the river to the other, of almost an equal height, and as high throughout as was the old dam in the highest parts of it; and that there are not in the present dam such vacancies as were between the loose stones or rocks of w.ch the old dam consisted; so that the present dam stops and carries to the Mills more water than the old Dam did, & thereby (as Mr. Willson alledged) it causes his ground adjoining to be oeverflowed by the river, but as to that it appears to me, that little or no damage is done by such pretended overflow and if any damage or prejudice is occasioned to Mr. Wilson by this new Dam it is by stoping the fish from going up the river to his fishing above and this appearing to me to be the true state of this case. I have thought it proper to be subjoined as well for his Lordships satisfaction as in order to show the foundations upon which I ground my opinion & upon the whole, I am of the opinion, that it is not advisable for his Lordship to bring any action for pulling down his present Dam, in regard it is I think higher than the old dam & therefore in point of law not to be justified or supported and that it will be most advisable for his Lord'p to lower his present Dam to the height the old dam was, in every part of it as near as maybe & build up the part pull'd down of the same height that the old dam was (all which may be easeyly done) and if after that, Mr. Wilson etc. pull it down to bring an action against him or the persons employed by him in pulling it down.

Whether does the Covenants in the said Lease granted by the said James Grahame oblige or bind his Eeces. or Heirs or either, and wch of them to act specifick performance.

I am of opinion, that if Col.^l Grahame was ceacs'd in fee of the Mill, his heir at Law, My Ldy Berkshire is obliged as such to justify the present tenants of the Mill as to their Dam, and that my Ldy as Executrix is likewise to do it.

Whether the Expressions of A & B as in case of either of them amount to Scandalum Magnatum or whether it would be advisable for his Ldsp to proceed ag^t. them in the House of Peers or by action of Comon Law If in the house of Peers what is the method of proceedings in such a case ther or whether can any proceedings be before the meeting of the Parliament.

The words spoken of his L'dshp are certainly very rude & indecent but I doubt whether they will bear any actions; but as the Dam was last pulled down dureing the Session of Parliament, I think it was a breach of his Lordship's priviledge.

Robert Fenwick
20th Sep. 1736

Endorsed:—

A copy of the Case relating Millthrope
Mill Dam or Wear with Mr. Fenwicks opinion.

3. **Pride before a Fall**

In 1754 Col. Wilson of Dallam Tower died, and there became Herriots due to Levens. By this time the ancient custom of taking Herriots on the death of a widow in kind was almost extinct, and most owners would take money in lieu, that is, compound. The following group of letters show into what pitfalls we may fall by the sin of Pride. In this case the idiotic agent, Thomas Craven was first affronted at the funeral of Col. Wilson as he was not assigned his Master's place whom he represented. He therefore determined to get Herriots which might produce profit for his Master. Dallam in the event came out much the better, and Craven was dismissed by the Earl of Berkshire (later Suffolk and Berkshire) as the last letter from his successor shows. In the event, Craven was proved to be dishonest, a drunk and altogether a disreputable fellow. Cravens, his house in Melling still stands. "Much above his station", as his Lordship was latterly to complain.

Melling the 10th of June 1754

My Lord,

I am not a little surprised having writt twice to your Lordship and have not received one line now cannot tell where to direct to your Lordship tell what will happen.

On the sixth instant I sent to Mr. Murray a bill for your Lordships use for L200 also one for my Ladyship's use value L50.

On Monday last Coll. Wilson was Buried they invited me to his Funerel which I attended as being invited upon your Lordship's account, when I came there was introduced amongst the common people and was the only person that was not invited to Dine except Beethome People and Millthrop which was not to Dine and the only one that had not a hatt band and Scarfe except the People where I was introduced too, they had hattbands and gloves, I had one amongst the rest, I thought it proper to acquaint Your Lordship how I was behaved too as it was upon your Lordship's Account. Upon the Death of Mr. Wilson there become eight Herriotts due, seven in Millthrop and one in Helsington, I sent a Bailiffe to seaze the Herriotts upon which he seazed seven, one Coach, one Charriott, one Silver Punch Bowle, one Silver waiter, one Silver Coffey Pott, one Silver Tankertt, one Silver two Handled Cupp, and for the Eighth he should a Seazed a Coach Horse but did not see him, I afterwards heard she had a Silver Tea Kettle which I thought better than the

Horse, sent the Bailiffe to Helsington to demand it, upon which Mr. Wilson his Brother Parson and Steward absolutely denied she had any such thing and Parson Wilson in a most violent passion asked the Bailiffe of Millthrop what business he had there and bid him begone out of the House, he told him he thought he had and continued with the other Bailiffe after that came the young Collⁿ and told the Helsington Bailiffe he had been with his Mamma, and there was such a thing but it was hers and was at Kendall and that if I seized it I might as well take her Eare Rings I gave for answer, I believed a wife had no right to anything during her Husband's life, and did insist upon the Kettle and sent the Bailiffe to Kendall to demand it, the Housekeeper told him she had not the Key, nor could not gett at it, but there was such a thing there, therefore desire your Lordship's Directions about this affair. Mr. Wilson sent over his Steward to Levens the day I seized the Herriotts to desire I would not represent to your Lordship the Ill useage I received at his Father's funeral it was an overlook, I told him I could not avoid it and believed it to be a willfull mistake, he might give my compliments to his master and I was very sorry for it.

I left all the things upon the Premises, Mr. Wilson desired he might make use of the Coach or Charriott till I heard from your Lordship which I agreed to, upon condition, he took care of them not to be any worse than when seized, Mr. Wilson wants to Compound for the Herriotts I desire your Lordship's answer by the return of the Post and directions about them.

Old Mr. Wilson made a Deed of those several Customary Parcells to his son seven years ago and the Family has kept it secreted till now to keep your Lordship out of a fine about L60 and now have seized Herriotts I think worth £130 or upwards which would abeen saved had young Mr. Wilson been admitted tenant, but truth will come out at last.

I beg my Duty to my Lady and am

my Lord
Your Lordship's most Dutyfull Servant
THO' CRAVEN.

Endorsed:

Mr. Cravens letter – 10 June 1754 –
The Right Hon^{ble} the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire
at Charleton near Malmsburry –
WILTSHIRE.

Thos. Craven to Lord Suffolk.

Melling the 27th June 1754

My Lord,

I rec^d. the honour of your Lordship's letter dated the 15th Instant, your Lordship before this has received an Account from me about the Herriotts. There is eight due to your Lordship, seven within Millthrop and one within Helsington. Your Lordship has the right to seize the best quick or dead goods, which I think we have.

The Tea Kettle I mentioned to your Lordship Mrs. Wilson sent word last Friday she will deliver up, when she goes to Kendall, and says its monstrous insisting upon it, but I have found it out why she thinks it monstrous, Coll.¹ Wilson has left her all the Plait, and all the Linnen about the House.

I now aprihend the Tea Kettle Lamp will be disputed, as not belonging the Tea Kettle, also the Wheels and Carriage of the Coach and Charriott, the Coach taken of the Wheels to Carry Mr. Wilson to the Church, the Charriot was taken of the Wheels by the Steward and others, when they see the Bailiffe going to seize them. I have insisted they are neither Coach nor Charriott without the Carriage and Wheels, and when they are entered to pay duty, is entered as one thing entire, and the Tea Kettle never made use on without the Lamp.

They are now so much affronted at the seasure they would not make use of the Coach or Charriott, after asking leive, for fear of settling them upon the Wheels, but borrowed their Old Friend Hugh Holme's Shays. There can be no Compounding till the above articles is settled, but I

aprehend they will nothing near the value of anything. I desire your Lordship's full directions about the whole affair, which shall wait for till your Lordship answer this. There was two Lords besides your Lordship, Sr, John Pennington and Mrs. Lowther. Sr. John Pennington drive his goods from the premises without offering to Compound, he seized after us, Mrs. Lowther sent a Complimentary letter to Mrs. Wilson, whe would Compound, and if there was any particular thing about the House she had mor liking to than another, she would not seize it. She might a saved herself that trouble the best of the Goods was Seazed before.

I desire your Lordship's answer by return of the Post, with full directions about the whole affair; as your Lordship now by this, understand the whole Seen, and is believed by the imparshal people, the Dalam Tower sett never was so much laid open before.

I beg my duty to my Lady, and am
My Lord
Your Lordship's
Most Dutyfull Servant
THOS. CRAVEN.

P.S. Mr. Wilson has no Coppyhold under your Lordship! Coppyhold pays no Herriotts, neither has your Lordship any in this County in Kirkland. Coppyhold and our Customary Lands is as much differend Customs as Black is from White.

Thos. Craven to Lord Suffolk.

Melling the 10th of Augst 1754

My Lord—

I rec^d. the honour of your Lordship's Letters. I have valued the several Herriotts due at the death of Mr. Wilson as underneath.

	£.	s.	d.
A Coach	18.	18.	0
A Charriott	10.	0.	0.
A 2 Handled Cupp	4.	6.	0.
A Tankertt	6.	9.	0.
A Punch Bowl.....	8.	7.	9.
A Waiter	10.	10.	3.
A French Coffee Pott	7.	0.	
A Coach Horse	15.	2.	0.
	<hr/>		
	£74.	0.	0.

Your Lordship will observe the Bailiffe has maid a Grand Mistake about the Coffey Pott, it only proves to be French, also about the last Herriott he had put the Horse in a list deliverd to Mr. Wilson, though he never see him nor seized him. I have been with Mr. Simpson he advises not to make any dispute between the Tea Kettle and the Horse, as I have put a price equall to the Tea Kettle, as its verry old. The Bailiffe also told me a falcety with regard to Mr. Wilson having a Deed from his Father. He declared he never had any such thing.

I desire your Lordship's directions whether I am to take the sum above. I showed Mr. Wilson your Lordship's order, and told him I would send your Lordship the valuation up, and take your Lordship's direction about it.

I beg my duty to my Lady and am, my Lord
Your Lordship's
Most Dutyfull Servant
THOS. CRAVEN.

(In Lord Suffolk's hand the following:

“Let this be enquired into and rectiy'd if the Herriotts are undervalued; I have not given Craven any answer to this letter.”)

Mr. Martyr to Craven.

Levens 31st October. 1754

Sr,

I have recd, a peremptory Order from My Lord (since I saw you) to Enter on the Rect. & payment of Money forthwith, and to Act as Steward in every respect. And you are required to send me an Exact Accot. of the Cattle, Wood, Venison & whatever else you have sold & only part of the Money recd., distinguishing what has been paid & what remains un paid. Likewise a List of all the Bills that are outstanding & unpaid. And lastly that you close you Acct. without any Excuse or Delay whatsoever, and to pay me such sum of Money as is now in your hands & will fall within the Ballance due to My Lord on Closing your Accont, for which I am authorised to give you a proper Discharge.

I am etc. etc.