The Devonshire Collection Archives

GB 2495 DF5

Papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, (1808 - 1891)

1838 - 1896

Catalogued by Louise Clarke; revised by Fran Baker, Chatsworth House Trust
Administrative/Biographical History:
William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, was born on 27 April 1808, the eldest of the four children of William Cavendish and his wife, the Hon. Louisa O'Callaghan, eldest daughter of Cornelius O'Callaghan, first Baron Lismore. His grandfather was George Augustus Henry Cavendish, 1st Earl of Burlington; William Cavendish, 4th Duke of Devonshire, was his great-grandfather. William Cavendish was styled as Lord Cavendish between 1831 and 1834; as Earl of Burlington between 1834 and 1858; and as the 7th Duke of Devonshire between 1858 and 1891. The changes in his title are reflected in the descriptions of documents, for example he will be referred to as the Earl of Burlington in diaries dated between 1838 and 1858 but as the 7th Duke of Devonshire in diaries dating from 1858 onwards.

Cavendish’s father was killed in a carriage accident in 1812. He was educated at Eton College and Trinity College, Cambridge, and took his BA and MA in 1829, when he was second wrangler and first Smith’s prizeman. In June 1829 he was returned as MP for Cambridge University, and two months later he married his relative, Lady Blanche Georgiana (1812–1840), fourth daughter of George Howard, 6th Earl of Carlisle, and favourite niece of William George Spencer Cavendish, 6th Duke of Devonshire. Blanche, almost a child bride, was as serious, earnest, and devout as her husband. They had three sons and one daughter: Lady Louisa Caroline Cavendish (later Egerton, 1835–1907); Spencer Compton Cavendish (1833–1908, later 8th Duke of Devonshire), Lord Frederick Charles Cavendish (1836–1882), and Lord Edward Cavendish (1838–1891).

When her uncle (the ‘bachelor duke’) took to religion in the 1830s, Blanche was a source of support and encouragement to him in his new-found sense of sin. When she died in 1840 (her doctors said of ‘great nervous debility’, but more probably of tuberculosis since she had been coughing blood) her uncle was almost as desolated as her husband.

Cavendish had no great political ambitions. He was ejected by Cambridge University in 1831 because he had taken the family Whig line in supporting the Reform Bill; he was immediately found another seat in the Fitzwilliam borough of Malton, and he was then translated to the Cavendish family Derbyshire seat when the incumbent, his grandfather, was created Earl of Burlington later that year. He was rarely heard from again in Parliament after succeeding to the Burlington title and estates in 1834. Those estates, in north Lancashire and Sussex, had come to the 4th Duke of Devonshire by marriage (along with vast Irish estates in Cork and Waterford), and had been left by him to his third, but second surviving, son.

He and his wife were greatly attached to the houses on the Burlington properties – Holker Hall in north Lancashire, and Compton Place in Eastbourne. The death of his wife at first turned Cavendish into a recluse at Holker, looking after its famous herd of shorthorns and resisting the 6th Duke’s suggestion that he should move to Chatsworth with his four young children. Very soon he threw himself into the personal management of his estates which was to occupy the rest of his life. Furness was the first to absorb his attention, when he and the other great landowner in the neighbourhood, the duke of Buccleuch, played leading parts in launching
the Furness Railway in 1843; this was designed to facilitate the transport of their slate and iron ore to the coast at the village of Barrow. Then from 1848 Cavendish became interested in the development of Eastbourne, and over the next forty years his investments in waterworks, gasworks, pier, and park, along with his patronage and the measures of his estate office to control the tone of development, were held to have been largely responsible for making Eastbourne into 'the Empress of watering places' (Eastbourne Chronicle, 4 June 1904). He also contributed to the development of Buxton as a watering place.

Furness was a different story. There nothing less was afoot than the creation, virtually from scratch, of a whole new industrial district, and the Duke found himself, sometimes reluctantly, drawn into the leadership of this process. The rise of Barrow as an industrial town, which began with the establishment of the Haematite Steel Company in 1859, was most directly associated with the enterprise and capital of the major industrialists, H.W. Schneider, Robert Hannay, and Sir James Ramsden. Behind them lay the capital and commitment to the economic expansion of the region manifested by the Duke. He never adopted a rentier attitude towards this part of his possessions; far from simply pocketing his mineral royalties and railway dividends he regarded it as a matter of self-interest and moral duty to use them to finance the further development of the region; and this continuing stream of investment, coupled with his close attention to all the businesses with which he became involved, made him into a regional entrepreneur of the first rank. The Park-Vale iron ore and Furness Railway ventures led on, with convincing economic logic, to his active involvement in the steel company and in the Barrow docks, once more in partnership with the duke of Buccleuch; and thence to the shipbuilding company which became the Naval Construction and Armaments Company (eventually sold to Vickers in 1896). He also invested in a shipping company and, using the growing pool of potential female labour created by the growth of Barrow and its male-dominated industries, in a flax and jute company.

Even before he succeeded to the dukedom Cavendish had committed more than £100,000 to Barrow enterprises. He then discovered that the 6th Duke had left the Devonshire estates saddled with debts of £1 million. He took measures to curb expenditure, and considered selling parts of the estates. He was persuaded that this would lead to loss of influence and social humiliation, and increased his exertions to nurture the great Barrow boom of the 1860s and early 1870s. Investment in the Barrow ventures increased steadily and for a while the dividends from them soared, so that at the peak in 1874 the Duke, with a gross income of more than £300,000, was probably the richest individual in the land, with more than half of his income coming from Barrow. Some of the inherited debt was cleared, but the Barrow investments necessitated some fresh borrowing, so that the overall debt remained much the same. Then, after 1874, misfortune struck. First, the whole British economy suffered a setback, and second, Barrow was hit especially hard by the ending of the ‘Bessemer boom’ in the steel industry (stimulated by Sir Henry Bessemer’s process). The Duke’s income from the Barrow enterprises collapsed from £150,000 a year in the early 1870s to barely £8000 a year at the end of the 1880s; in the same period he poured money into 'his' firms in a frantic effort to prop up the ailing steel, shipbuilding, shipping, and jute companies, so that at his death he left debts of some £2 million, all sunk in what had turned into unproductive investments. His eldest
son, Spencer Compton Cavendish, 8th duke, was left to sort out this financial mess, and was astonishingly successful in the task.

The 7th Duke never appeared in society in London, reserving his public life for more serious pursuits, notably the support of higher education. He was the first Chancellor of the University of London, from 1836 to 1856, and an important influence on its early development. He was Chancellor of Cambridge University from 1862 until his death; he was Chairman of the Royal Commission on Scientific Instruction and the Advancement of Science, which sat from 1871 to 1874; and he provided for the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge in 1874. He was a considerable benefactor of Owens College, Manchester, and of the Yorkshire College of Science, Leeds; when these colleges became part of the new federal Victoria University in 1880 he was its first chancellor.

Cavendish supported Irish disestablishment in 1869 but opposed home rule and became a Liberal Unionist in 1886. Elected a Fellow of the Royal Society on 10 December 1829, he was made an honorary LLD of Cambridge, as well as being nominated a Knight of the Garter in 1858 and sworn of the privy council in 1876. He died at Holker Hall on 21 December 1891 and was buried at Edensor, close to Chatsworth, on 26 December. He was survived by his eldest son and his only daughter, Lady Louisa Caroline (d. 1907), who married Rear-Admiral Francis Egerton in 1865. His two younger sons, Lord Frederick Charles Cavendish and Lord Edward Cavendish, predeceased him. Lord Frederick was murdered hours after his arrival in Dublin as Chief Secretary for Ireland in May 1882, in the Phoenix Park killings.


Custodial History:
Most of the material in the collection was created or acquired by William Cavendish, 4th Duke of Devonshire, and remained within the family; 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 consists of personal papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire. It includes 33 of the Duke’s diaries covering the period 1838-1890. There is also a series of accounting records which includes: 15 volumes of summaries of the 7th Duke’s household and personal expenditure from 1858-1886; the Duke’s personal account books from 1858-1888; and individual receipts and payments for transactions carried out by William Cavendish when he was styled Earl of Burlington.

Family correspondence represented in the collection includes: a volume of copies of family letters; the correspondence of the Duke’s wife, Blanche Cavendish and his mother, Louisa
Cavendish; letters sent from the Duke's grandson, Victor Cavendish; letters sent by the Duke's sister, Lady Louisa Egerton; and letters from the Duke's son, Lord Frederick Cavendish, sent home from a trip to America in 1859. There are also resolutions of condolence sent to the Duke on the death of his son, Lord Frederick Cavendish in the politically-motivated Phoenix Park murders in 1882 and other papers of the Duke concerning his son's death. Non-family correspondence includes letters to Richard Almack concerning a house sale at Strawberry Hill House, letters from the Rev. E. Baines, a letter from writer Elizabeth Gaskell, and other general correspondence. The correspondence includes some letters which post-date the Duke’s death as there is a selection of letters that are addressed to his daughter, Louisa Egerton, in the years after her father’s death.

Finally there is a series of ‘other papers’ of the 7th Duke of Devonshire, including: a guestlist for Chatsworth House from 1863; a copy of the Cambridge University Reporter - Report of the Meeting for procuring a Portrait of the Duke; a memorial to the Duke; a notice showing rules for the tenants of Holker Cottages, December 1840; formal addresses presented to the Duke; and William Cavendish’s sketchbooks, with sketches drawn in Russia, where he accompanied the 6th Duke in 1826.

System of Arrangement:
The material has been arranged into the following four series:

- DF5/1: Diaries, 1838-1890
- DF5/2: Accounts, 1858-1890
- DF5/3: Correspondence, 1840-1896
- DF5/4: Other papers, 1840-c.1891

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.

Much of the material remains in the copyright of Chatsworth House Trust, but some is also subject to third-party copyright. It is the responsibility of researchers to obtain permission both from Chatsworth House Trust, and from the any other rights holders before reproducing material for purposes other than research or private study.

Extent:
8 boxes

Language of Material:
DF5: Papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, (1808-1891)
1838-1896

English.

Preferred Citation:
Devonshire MSS, Chatsworth, DF5.

Related Material:
Further correspondence of the 7th Duke of Devonshire can be found in the following collections in the Chatsworth Archives: Correspondence Series 2 (GB 2495 CS2); the 6th Duke’s correspondence series (GB 2495 CS6); and the 8th Duke’s correspondence series (GB 2495 CS8).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF5/1</th>
<th>Diaries of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</th>
<th>22 January 1838 - 3 August 1890</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This series consists of the diaries of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, from 22 January 1838 to 3 August 1890.</td>
<td>33 volumes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There is a handwritten index to the diaries, held in a separate collection (see NAT/125/1-6).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/1</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 1</td>
<td>22 January 1838 - 4 April 1840</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diary endorsed &quot;Diary of my Grandfather when Lord Burlington in 1838&quot;. The first of two volumes endorsed as Volume 1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/2</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 1</td>
<td>15 July 1838 - 14 March 1839</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The second of two volumes endorsed as Volume 1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/3</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 2</td>
<td>15 March 1839 - 13 June 1839</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/4</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 3</td>
<td>6 April 1840 - 24 July 1842</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/5</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 4</td>
<td>28 July 1842 - 10 October 1844</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/6</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 5</td>
<td>13 October 1844 - 16 July 1846</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/7</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 6</td>
<td>18 July 1846 - 22 August 1848</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DF5: Papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, (1808-1891)
1838-1896

1 item

DF5/1/8 Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 7 25 August 1848 - 28 March 1850
   1 item

DF5/1/9 Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 8 29 March 1850 - 16 March 1852
   1 item

DF5/1/10 Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 9 18 March 1852 - 31 July 1853
   1 item

DF5/1/11 Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 10 1 August 1853 - 3 April 1855
   1 item

DF5/1/12 Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 11 5 April 1855 - 5 January 1857
   1 item

DF5/1/13 Diary of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, Volume 12 6 January 1857 - 10 August 1858
   1 item

DF5/1/14 Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 13 11 August 1858 - 21 May 1860
   1 item

DF5/1/15 Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 14 22 May 1860 - 16 December 1861
   1 item

DF5/1/16 Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 15 18 December 1861 - 20 April 1863
   1 item

DF5/1/17 Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 16 21 April 1863 - 11 September 1864
   1 item

The Devonshire Collection
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/18</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 17</td>
<td>13 September 1864 - 4 May 1866</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/19</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 18</td>
<td>5 May 1866 - 15 September 1867</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/20</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 19</td>
<td>16 September 1867 - 3 May 1869</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/21</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 20</td>
<td>4 May 1869 - 1 October 1870</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/22</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 21</td>
<td>2 October 1870 - 23 April 1872</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/23</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 22</td>
<td>24 April 1872 - 15 November 1873</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/24</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 23</td>
<td>16 November 1873 - 22 October 1875</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/25</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 24</td>
<td>9 May 1876 - 5 June 1878</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/1/26</td>
<td>Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 25</td>
<td>7 June 1878 - 2 June 1880</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 item

DF5/1/27  Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 26  3 June 1880 - 25 November 1882  Item
1 item

DF5/1/28  Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 27  26 November 1882 - 6 May 1884  Item
1 item

DF5/1/29  Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 28  6 May 1884 - 31 January 1886  Item
1 item

DF5/1/30  Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 29  2 February 1886 - 2 January 1888  Item
1 item

DF5/1/31  Diary of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Volume 30  5 January 1888 - 3 August 1890  Item
1 item

DF5/1/32  Recollections of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, on Relvil's sermon at Caton Church  30 June 1839  Item
1 item

DF5/1/33  Diary of William Cavendish  1820  Item
1 item

DF5/2  Accounts of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire  1858 - 1890  Section

This series includes 15 volumes containing summaries of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire's household and personal expenditure from 1858-1886. It also includes the Duke's personal account books from 1858-1888 and individual receipts and payments for transactions carried out by William Cavendish, when he was styled as Earl of Burlington.
22 volumes, 41 items

DF5/2/1  
**Summaries of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

Volumes listing the departments on which money was spent. The volumes show expenditure on things such as: interest, annuities, insurance, allowances to children, rates and taxes, wages, provisions, board wages, cellars, furniture and repairs, fuel and light, stables and carriages, washing, personal expenses, servants liveries, travelling and carriage of goods, books and stationery, medical attendance, clubs fees, subscriptions and donations, gardens, children miscellaneous, elections, petty expenses, estates, investment and succession duty.

The volumes mostly cover expenditure for individual years, with three volumes giving summaries of expenditure over a number of years.

16 volumes

DF5/2/1/1  
**Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

2 volumes

DF5/2/1/2  
**Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

1 volume

DF5/2/1/3  
**Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

1 volume

DF5/2/1/4  
**Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

1 volume

DF5/2/1/5  
**Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

1 volume

DF5/2/1/6  
**Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire**

1 volume
<p>| DF5/2/1/7 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1864 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/8 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1865 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/9 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1866 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/10 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1867 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/11 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1868 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/12 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1869 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/13 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1858 - 1866 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/14 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1865 - 1872 | Item |
| DF5/2/1/15 | Summary of the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire | 1883 - 1886 | Item |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subseries</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2</td>
<td>Account Books of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>1853-1890</td>
<td>Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2/1</td>
<td>Account Book Showing the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>January 1858 - October 1863</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2/2</td>
<td>Account Book Showing the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>November 1863 - December 1869</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2/3</td>
<td>Account Book Showing the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>January 1875 - July 1881</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2/4</td>
<td>Account Book Showing the Expenditure of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>August 1881 - December 1888</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2/5</td>
<td>Passbook for a bank account held by William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>1887 - 1888</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/2/2/6</td>
<td>Passbook for a bank account held by William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
<td>1889 - 1890</td>
<td>Item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DF5/2/3 Individual Receipts and Payments for Transactions Carried Out by William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington 1840 - 1850 Series

41 items

DF5/2/3/1 Rent Payments to the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers 1845 - 1846 Item
Rent payments for property in the Manor of Sutton, Somersetshire.

2 items

DF5/2/3/2 Receipts for building work undertaken in Eastbourne 16 June 1840 - 20 November 1840 Item
Edward Maynard’s account.

3 items

DF5/2/3/3 A Letter and Receipts concerning the Purchase of Great Northern Railway Bonds 1850 Item
1 letter and 5 receipts for the purchase of bonds by Henry Godwin.

6 items

DF5/2/3/4 Correspondence concerning payments to Decimus Burton, Kelk and Co and Chittenden and Arnolds 7 September 1848 - 18 December 1848 Item
Two letters concerning accounts. One letter concerning payment to Decimus Burton for work undertaken at Eastbourne and No.10 Belgrave Square and one letter detailing payments to Kelk and Co and Chittenden and Arnolds.

2 items

DF5/2/3/5 Receipts of payments made by Joseph Paxton from the private accounts of the 6th and 7th Dukes of Devonshire 1857 - 1858 Item

23 items

DF5/2/3/6 Receipts of payments for work undertaken at the Lismore Estate under the 7th Duke of Devonshire 1858 Item
DF5/2/3/7 An account with Mansfield F Mills to the Duke of Devonshire for metal rails from Holmwood Colliery to Derwent Brick and Tile Yard 1858 Item

DF5/3 Correspondence of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 1840 - 1896 Section

This series largely contains letters sent to and from family members, including: a volume of copies of family letters; some correspondence of the Duke's wife, Blanche Cavendish and his mother, Louisa Cavendish; letters sent from the Duke's grandson, Victor Cavendish; and letters sent from the Duke's daughter, Lady Louisa Egerton.

It also includes resolutions of condolence sent to the Duke on the death of his son, Lord Frederick Cavendish and other papers that the Duke had collated concerning his son's death.

There is also non-family correspondence including letters to Richard Almack concerning a house sale at Strawberry Hill House, letters from the Rev E Baines and other general correspondence.

There are some letters which post-date the 7th Duke's death as the letters within the file DF5/3/3/8 were also addressed to his daughter, Louisa Egerton.

887 letters, 34 items, 2 volumes and 6 files

DF5/3/1 Family and Personal Correspondence of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 1819 - 1889 Series

6 files and 123 letters

DF5/3/1/1 Letters from Blanche Cavendish to William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington December 1829 - August 1839 Subseries

A loose bundle of 45 letters and manuscripts written by Lady Blanche Cavendish to her husband, William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington. Also includes one letter to William from his brother George and verses in the hand of Blanche.

The items include: Nos 1 to 37: Letters from Lady Blanche to Lord William Cavendish from the year of their marriage until a year before her death; Nos 38 and 39: Verses in Blanche's hand; No. 40: 1831 notes by Blanche from Faber on the prophecies; No.41: letter from Blanche to Queen Victoria on the occasion of her wedding
1840; No.43: Lord Burlington, words on the death of Blanche; No. 45: George H Cavendish to William Cavendish, letter from Cambridge 1831.

45 letters

DF5/3/1/2 Letters from Lord Frederick Cavendish to [William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington] and Lady Louisa Cavendish

Includes letters sent by Lord Frederick Cavendish, who was travelling in America in 1859, sent to his father William Cavendish, Lord Burlington, and his sister, Lady Louisa Cavendish. The letters were sent from Cincinnati, Boston, Baltimore, Charleston and Savannah.

15 letters

DF5/3/1/3 Letters from Lord and Lady Edward Cavendish to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire

Letters cover a variety of topics, covering family and political matters, including: 4 December 1857, a letter sent from Cambridge, referring to Edward attending a lecture by Dr Livingstone; 8 June 1868, a letter concerning the naming of Victor [Lord Edward's son, later 9th Duke of Devonshire] after Queen Victoria and Princess Christian who wished to be his godparents; 16 February 1877, a letter concerning a burglary at St George's Hill, the home of the Duke's daughter, Louisa Egerton; and 2 May 1881 and 4 May 1881, 2 letters concerning Lady Edward giving birth to a stillborn child.

6 files and 2 letters

DF5/3/1/3/2 Letters from Lady Edward Cavendish to [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire]

Letters addressed to 'Uncle Burlington' from Lady Edward Cavendish. The letter dated 27 July 1876 concerns an invitation issued to Lord and Lady [Listowel]. Letter of 12 January 1887 is written by Lady Edward on behalf of Lord Edward who was
recovering from an illness.

2 letters

DF5/3/1/4 Letters sent to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire by his grandchildren 1876 - 1878; 1880 - 1881; 1887 Subseries

Includes letters sent to William Cavendish by his grandchildren, Victor Cavendish (18 letters), Dick [Richard] Cavendish (5 letters), and John Cavendish (2 letters).

25 letters

DF5/3/1/5 Other letters sent by family members to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 1866; 1889 Subseries

4 letters and 1 volume

DF5/3/1/5/1 Letters sent to [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire] by Lady Constance Campbell 28 November 1889 - 18 December 1889 Item

Letters addressed to 'Great Uncle' [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire] from Lady Constance Campbell concerning the purchase of a collie puppy.

3 letters

DF5/3/1/5/2 Letter sent to William [Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire] by Lady Caroline Lascelles 15 August 1866 Item


1 letter

DF5/3/1/5/3 Copies of family letters of William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington 1835 - 1853 Item

Volume containing 4 pages of copies and extracts of family letters concerning William Cavendish, Lord Burlington, and his family. These letters mainly follow the progress and health of Lord
Burlington's son, Lord Frederick Cavendish from his birth to early adulthood. The volume also includes a description of Lady Burlington, written by her sister, Harriet, Duchess of Sutherland and two inserts.

1 volume

DF5/3/1/6 Family and Personal Correspondence of William Cavendish, Lord Cavendish; Mrs Louisa Cavendish and Blanche Cavendish

Correspondence of William Cavendish, future 7th Duke of Devonshire and his family members. The majority of the letters are family correspondence. They include: letters written to and from William Cavendish by various correspondents; letters written to William Cavendish's mother, Louisa Cavendish, some concerning the education of her son; and letters written by his wife, Blanche Cavendish, sent to her mother.

32 letters

DF5/3/2 Letters and papers concerning the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish

1 box

DF5/3/2/1 Resolutions of Condolence sent to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, on the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish

Includes 672 resolutions of condolence and sympathy letters; a telegram sent by the Lord Lieutenant to the Home Secretary announcing the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish; a copy of a message sent out by William Harcourt offering a reward for information leading to the conviction of Lord Frederick's murderers; a volume of the Eucharistica, Meditations and Prayers, with an inscription dedicated to Frederick Cavendish by [Lady Lucy Cavendish], June 1864; 2 newspaper extracts concerning Lord Frederick's death; a copy of a letter addressed to Lady Lucy; 2 copies of letters written by Lucy Cavendish concerning her feelings after Lord Frederick's death, including one written to 'Aunt Fanny'; a poem written by F T Palgrave, dated 20 June 1882; and a list of subscribers to Lord Frederick Cavendish's memorial fund, dated 20 July 1883.

17 bundles: 677 letters, 5 items and 1 volume
DF5: Papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, (1808-1891)
1838-1896

DF5/3/2/2 Papers collated by William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire on the Death of Lord Frederick Cavendish 1882 - 1883 Item

Items concerning the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish. Eleven items from an envelope marked Holker Hall - newspaper cuttings, memorial inscription, a letter from H Cowper to Lady Frederick Cavendish and 5 pages of notes written in pencil. Also includes 3 sermons written in memory of Lord Frederick Cavendish, a letter and a poem addressed to the Duke of Devonshire; a proposed inscription for cross at Bolton Abbey and an extract from the parish of St Mark's [newsletter], the parish in which Lord Frederick Cavendish was a trustee.

18 items

DF5/3/2/3 Letter from Thomas Nugent to [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire] 14 May 1882 Item

A letter sent to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire by Thomas Nugent, following the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish in the Phoenix Park Murders. Nugent talks about religious issues in Ireland as a factor in the murders. Also includes lists compiled by [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire noting Liberal Societies and Clubs. It is unclear why the lists were stored together with the letter from Thomas Nugent.

1 letter and 7 items

DF5/3/2/4 Letter from W H Hayne to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 12 June 1882 Item

A letter enclosing a sermon concerning the murders at Phoenix Park, Dublin.

1 letter and 1 item

DF5/3/2/5 Letter from Thomas Whitaker to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 3 May 1883 Item

Whitaker encloses a copy of the Ilkley Free Press and verses written in the memory of the Duke's son, Lord Frederick Cavendish [enclosures not present].
1 letter

DF5/3/3 Collections correspondence of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 1838 - 1896 Series

Correspondence relating to the collections of the 7th Duke (books, manuscripts, coins etc), and the history of the Cavendishes.

55 letters and 3 items

DF5/3/3/1 Letters forwarded to William Cavendish concerning a Cavendish Coat of Arms found in Cavendish, [Suffolk] 1833 - 1834 Item

Correspondence of George Cavendish, 1st Earl of Burlington and Lord Charles [Cavendish] concerning a Cavendish Coat of Arms found during renovations to a property in Cavendish, [Suffolk]. The letters were forwarded to George Cavendish, 1st Earl of Burlington's grandson, William Cavendish (later 7th Duke of Devonshire).

5 letters


Letter thought to have been sent from the Earl of Burlington to Mrs Robinson concerning furniture. A list of Italian sketches is attached with a note saying that the sketches were received December 1839.

1 letter

DF5/3/3/3 Letters sent to Richard Almack by William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington 1842; 1846 Item

3 letters from William Cavendish, Lord Burlington addressed to Richard Almack, Sudbury. The letter dated 1842 refers to a sale to be held at Strawberry Hill House that year and the two letters of 1846 concern an oak cabinet offered to Lord Burlington by Richard Almack.

4 letters

DF5/3/3/4 Letter sent by Lord Richard Cavendish to an unknown recipient 21 July 1859 Item

Letter written by William Cavendish, the 7th Duke of Devonshire's brother, Lord Richard Cavendish to an unknown recipient. The letter concerns Lord Richard returning Senior's journal to the recipient.
and requesting other works. Sent from Compton Place, Eastbourne, Sussex.

1 letter


This file includes letters sent to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire concerning items in his library collection. The letters are as follows:
2 letters concerning an application from George H Moore, Superintendent of the Lenox Library, New York, to procure a transcript of a play in the John Philip Kemble collection written by Col Hunter.
9 letters from Dr Grosart (1881-1883) and 1 draft response from the Duke
2 letters from/concerning Mr Grigg concerning the photography of *The Merchant of Venice* (1600) and other works by Shakespeare.
2 letters from Alexander Smith of the Hunterian Club concerning the loan of the first edition of Thomas Lodge's 'Looking Glasse', 1594, to the Club.
Also includes 2 pages of unidentified notes.

15 letters

DF5/3/3/6 Letters from Reginald Stuart Poole of the British Museum, concerning the cleaning and arrangement of coins for William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire 28 July 1879 - 4 August 1879

3 letters

DF5/3/3/7 Letters sent to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire by Dr Grosart 1883 - 1884

4 letters addressed to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire from Dr Grosart, concerning his research towards a publication of a biography of the 1st Earl of Cork. Found with the letters is a transcription of one of the letters, an extract taken from one of the letters and an unidentified note.

4 letters and 3 items


The Devonshire Collection
Letters addressed to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire and his daughter Lady Louisa Egerton concerning research and enquiries about the manuscript collections held by the Dukes of Devonshire. The letters date beyond the 7th Duke's death as the letters were also addressed to his daughter, Louisa Egerton.  

**DF5/3/3/9** Letters from J [Pycroft] Collier concerning letters of his father, John Payne Collier  

January 1884  

Includes two letters from J [Pycroft] Collier concerning letters of his father, John Payne Collier. When sorting through his late father's possessions, Collier found a large copy of the "Handbook of Chatsworth and Hardwick" in which was found correspondence of John Payne Collier concerning missing leaves from the play "King Johan", a play purchased by Collier on behalf of the 6th Duke of Devonshire. In his second letter Collier forwards the three letters concerning the missing leaves on the request of Lady Louisa Egerton.  

5 letters  

**DF5/3/10** Letter from William Clement Kendall to [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire]  

25 September [1887]  

Concerning a medal commemorating an ancestor of William Kendall, namely Sir John Kendall the Knight of Rhodes and St John of Jerusalem, that Kendall believes to be in the collection of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire. Kendall asks if the Duke would be willing to part with the medal.  

1 letter  

**DF5/3/4** General Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire  

1837 - 1890s  

A small group of incoming and outgoing letters of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire.  

29 letters  

**DF5/3/4/1** Mounted envelope originally containing a letter from William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington to Reverend Henry Thompson  

29 January 1837
The letter originally enclosed within the envelope was not present at time of cataloguing.

1 item

DF5/3/4/2 Letter from H Blunt to William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington [1840] Item

A letter of condolence [the letter is undated, but perhaps sent on the death of Blanche Cavendish, Lady Burlington?].

1 letter

DF5/3/4/3 Letter from William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington, to Mrs Stanford [1840] Item

Lord Burlington writes to [Stanford] concerning the health of Blanche Cavendish, Countess of Burlington, and asks [Stanford] not to bring their children to see their mother due to her illness. Written from West Hill, Surrey. The letter is undated.

1 letter


Letter from Caroline Norton concerning a pamphlet she forwarded to him concerning laws affecting women (pamphlet not present at time of cataloguing).

1 letter

DF5/3/4/5 Copy of a letter from R C Hubberty to William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington 22 June 1853 Item

R C Hubberty writes concerning the education of William Cavendish’s sons Lord Frederick Cavendish and Lord Edward Cavendish. Sent from West Deeping.

1 letter


1 letter

DF5/3/4/7 Letter from James [Simpson] to [William Cavendish], Earl of Burlington 19 May 1857 Item

1 letter


Letter from Elizabeth Gaskell concerning the return of two letters sent to her by Patrick Brontë which she had forwarded to the late 6th Duke of Devonshire. Includes a transcript of Patrick Brontë's letters.

1 letter


1 letter


A response to [the publication of unspecified correspondence]. The sender mentions that many letters have already appeared in the Duke of Bedford's correspondence. Sent from The Grange, Alresford.

1 letter


1 letter

DF5/3/4/12 Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to Schulz 6 December 1864 Item
Due to the death of Lord Carlisle the Duke will not be able to see Schulz. A transcript of the letter is attached.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 June 1865</td>
<td>Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to Reverend J K Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 February 1866</td>
<td>Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to Reverend [G] R Macllwaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 July 1866</td>
<td>Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to a member of the Sussex Archaeological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April 1870</td>
<td>Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to Mr Wheatley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 September 1871</td>
<td>Letter from [William Cavendish, 7th Duke of] Devonshire to J Hibbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 April 1876</td>
<td>Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to Reverend E Baines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/3/4/19</td>
<td>Letter from Lord Minto to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/3/4/20</td>
<td>Letter from Lord Minto to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thanks the University of London for sending a Resolution of Condolence following the death [of the Duke's son, Lord Frederick Cavendish.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Letter of religious writing with reference to a religious pamphlet sent to the Duke of Devonshire by Thomas Lloyd Brown (pamphlet not present). Written from Leeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/3/4/24</td>
<td>Letter from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to an unspecified recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Duke is unable to attend a Board [of Guardians?] meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF5/3/4/25</td>
<td>Letter from William Andrew to an unspecified recipient</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letter concerning the situation of a man named Charles Fearn [of Church Broughton?] and the sale and state of cottages once owned by him. Andrew writes that the cottages are owned by the Church not the Duke of Devonshire. Sent from Church Broughton Vicarage, Derby. Appended to the letter is also a very fragile letter thought to have been sent to the Duke of Devonshire by Charles Fearn concerning the same matter.

2 letters

DF5/3/4/26 Note from William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire to an unidentified recipient 24 July 1884 Item

The Duke is advising the recipient that he will call later that afternoon to view "the group of the Mayor & Aldermen of the Borough of Eastbourne" [The First Mayor, Aldermen and Clerk of the Borough of Eastbourne, by Henry Gales.]

1 letter


1 item

DF5/3/4/28 Petition from the Bell Ringers at the Parish Church of Edensor to the Duke of Devonshire [Late 19th Century] Item

An undated petition sent to the Duke of Devonshire by the Bell Ringers at the Parish Church of Edensor asking the Duke to obtain new bells for the Parish Church. Please note that the item is undated, however three of the petitioners, Benjamin Hulley, George Booth and George Mather appear in the Chatsworth 1890 Pensions Book, listed as residents of Edensor.

1 letter


Letter enclosing a prospectus (no longer extant) on a work on "Aerostation" by Hatton Turner, trying to elicit a subscription to the book.

1 letter
This series includes a guestlist for Chatsworth House from 1863; a copy of the *Cambridge University Reporter* - Report of the Meeting for procuring a Portrait of the Duke; a notice showing rules for the tenants of Holker Cottages, December 1840; formal addresses presented to the Duke; and William Cavendish's sketchbooks, with sketches drawn in Russia, where he accompanied the 6th Duke in 1826.

11 items, 1 file and 3 volumes

**DF5/4/1** Guestlist for Chatsworth House  
A list of company staying at Chatsworth, November 1863  
1 item

**DF5/4/2** Copy of *The Cambridge University Reporter* - Report of the Meeting for Procuring a Portrait of His Grace The Chancellor  
A bound volume.  
1 volume

**DF5/4/3** Memorial to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire  
Memorial written after the death of the Duke of Devonshire. The memorial list is uncertain of the name of the Duke and records the name William Spencer Cavendish, 8th Duke of Devonshire with a question mark. Internal evidence suggests that the memorial is for William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire.  
1 item

**DF5/4/4** Notice Showing Rules for tenants of Holker Cottages  
December 1840  
1 item

**DF5/4/5** Formal Addresses presented to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire  
1861 - 1899  
4 items

**DF5/4/5/1** Formal Address presented by the Mayor, Alderman and Burgess of Cambridge to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire  
11 June 1861  
Item
Address to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire on his appointment as High Steward of the Borough of Cambridge.

1 item

DF5/4/5/2  Formal address presented by The Corporation of the city of Carlisle to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire.  8 September 1899  Item

Address to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire on his visit to the city of Carlisle for laying foundation stone of Church of St Aidan.

1 item

DF5/4/5/3  Formal Address Presented by The Committee of Management for building the Public Hall at New Mills to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire.  9 September 1871  Item

Address to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire on his visit to the town of New Mills for the opening of new Public Hall.

1 item

DF5/4/5/4  Formal Address presented by The Corporation of the City of Manchester to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire  14 July 1880  Item

Address to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, in his capacity as Chancellor of the Victoria University, on the occasion of his visit to Manchester to inaugurate said university.

1 item

DF5/4/6  Royal Warrant appointing William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire as Lord Lieutenant and Keeper of the Rolls of the County of Derby  7 May 1858  Piece

1 item

DF5/4/7  An extract of bequests made [by William Cavendish, 6th Duke of Devonshire]  [c1850]  Piece

Extract showing bequests made by [William Cavendish, 6th Duke of Devonshire], to his nephew William Cavendish, Earl of Burlington and others.

1 item
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF5/4/8</th>
<th>A plan of a stained glass window erected by men employed at The Haematite Iron and Steel Works to commemorate the death of Lord Frederick Charles Cavendish</th>
<th>[1883]</th>
<th>Piece</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Design for a commemorative window erected in memory of Lord Frederick Cavendish, the second son of the 7th Duke of Devonshire, who was killed in Dublin on 6 May 1882.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 item</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF5/4/10</th>
<th>Papers relating to the funeral of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire</th>
<th>1891; 1898</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Papers relating to the funeral of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, includes notes made on the Duke's funeral, lists of the names of bearers and those who worked on the grave, measurements of the Duke's grave and coffin and a journal of labour showing payments made to those who were connected with the arrangements for the interment of the Duke.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Also includes a seemingly unrelated letter from E Twigg and Co to J P Woodhead at Chatsworth concerning the price of mosaic tiles, dated 21 May 1898.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 file</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF5/4/11</th>
<th>A prayer to William Cavendish, Duke of Devonshire, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge</th>
<th>June 1862</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A handwritten Latin prayer to William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, which was held in the chambers of Cambridge by William George Clark.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 volume</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF5/4/12</th>
<th>William Cavendish's Russian Sketchbooks</th>
<th>1826</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two sketchbooks used by William Cavendish when he accompanied the 6th Duke of Devonshire on his embassy to Russia in 1826.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 volumes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DF5: Papers of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, (1808-1891)  
1838-1896