

To Mr Henry Davenport  
To be Leaf att y<sup>e</sup> coach  
House at Worster  
Tautfor

Att Worfield near Bridgnorth

Mr Henry Davenpoart

yours Rec<sup>d</sup> Currant I Obsare the Contents I have fulley agreed wt<sup>h</sup> Althawes to pay his fright at Bristall Both for your goods & M<sup>r</sup> Jobbers so if you hadn't Orded Pircks to tack Coir of ye goods M<sup>r</sup> Jobber h<sup>d</sup> Writt M<sup>r</sup> Mastinas to pay fight for y<sup>e</sup> same I tack, butt M<sup>r</sup> Jobber now desirs y<sup>e</sup> Pircks may do ilt I have shipd for your Acc<sup>t</sup> on Board y<sup>e</sup> Diana Tho<sup>s</sup> Burnard Marster two hundrd of your 17 foot Nearve deaills att 20 s per lb fright & 1 pipe of Wine 2 Cases of Iron 1 Case wt<sup>h</sup> marble Seastron 1 stovegrate 5 Iron gates y<sup>e</sup> fright all together for M<sup>r</sup> Jobbers geed thirtey shilling which is spesefid in y<sup>e</sup> Bill of Lading which this Nite I have in Cload to M<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Percks desiring him to pay y<sup>e</sup> fright of y<sup>e</sup> same as agreed for I hope y<sup>t</sup> I shall send y<sup>e</sup> Remandor of your deaills this Weeck I w<sup>d</sup> have p<sup>d</sup> y<sup>e</sup> fright of yourd but thay wanted their money att Bristall

I am S<sup>r</sup> Your humble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
To Cum for Sell I Leond Phillip

Lambath Ay  
Y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1704

poach heep

To Mr Henry Davenport  
To be left att ye poast house  
At ye Sitey Bath nr Wells

Mr Hen. Davenport

S<sup>r</sup>

yours Recd Currant dated Bath y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> this instant & Observe y<sup>e</sup> Contents I am sorry their was a mistack in Wrighting for did Expect a line from you first to advise us who to Consign your goods to, if I hadn't bein favord w<sup>th</sup> yours should have writt to you this poast ass followth, I have all Ridey ship<sup>t</sup> for your Acct on board y<sup>e</sup> 3 Samous Peter Athawes Master seven hundred twenty one 1 of Jo<sup>b</sup> wh<sup>t</sup> dram deaills which you bot, & by y<sup>r</sup> Order of M<sup>r</sup> Jobber have Consind them to M<sup>r</sup> Martin Junas Attorney at Law at Bristall or his Oder and by y<sup>e</sup> same ship have sent for y<sup>e</sup> Acct of M<sup>r</sup> Jobber nine hundrd of 10ft y<sup>o</sup> Ltana & light Chairs, Consind to y<sup>e</sup> same Mr Martinas as I agreed, w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Marster to Carey your do<sup>b</sup> dram deaills for twentey six shillings per lb & for M<sup>r</sup> Jobbers es att sixtien shillings per lb his fright to be paid att Bristoll upon delevey of y<sup>e</sup> goods by Mr Martinas Jamas or his Ordr which is menshond in his Bill of Loading I don't doute ils meeting w<sup>th</sup> due horner, I hope by tusdays poast to give you a line y<sup>e</sup> your 17 fr deaills will be shipt for your Acc<sup>t</sup>.

I think if I am not mistachen I gave you An Acct of sevrall soarts of deaills & ye prises however shall forth Acquaint you as followth [costings of various items] this may be sumthing of an insight to you as for y<sup>e</sup> Norway Oak we don't much deaill in it but if you give me aney Orders will do for you as for my Self I am S<sup>r</sup>

Your humble Serv<sup>t</sup> to Cum  
For Self & Comp<sup>y</sup> Leonr<sup>d</sup> Phillipps

Lambath August ye 6<sup>th</sup> 1724

NB this day M<sup>r</sup> Jobber was heir & Red your letter he desird me give his servis to you w<sup>th</sup> all y<sup>e</sup> you w<sup>d</sup> pay y<sup>e</sup> fright of his deaills or Order M<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Perks to do it for I gave him y<sup>e</sup> Bill of Loading & he ~~writes~~ in Closes itt to M<sup>r</sup> Martinas this poast & desirs him to give it to M<sup>r</sup> Ja<sup>c</sup> Percks as you hav nwushons, I w<sup>d</sup> be glad you w<sup>d</sup> faver me w<sup>th</sup> a nother

No 3

To Mr Henry Devenport  
at his house in Worfeild near  
Bridgnorth  
Shropshire

Mr Henry Devenpoart

I Recd Line from you dayted Bath 8<sup>th</sup> of this Instant in answer to which I writt you be fore & sent you a letter in answer to yours on y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> & derecktd itt for you at y<sup>e</sup> poast house at Worster till Cauled for but have heird nothing from you since – my last was to advise you I had shipt for your Acc<sup>t</sup> on board y<sup>e</sup> Diana Thos Burnard – Marster two hundred of your 17 foot Nearve deaills & Consind them to Mr Jn<sup>o</sup> Percks or his Order paying fright for y<sup>e</sup> same forty shillings – I have also this day shipt for your Acct y<sup>e</sup> Remaindor of your deaills on board y<sup>e</sup> Rising sun James Powel Marster y<sup>e</sup> is seven hundred of 17 foot daills Consind to Mr Jn<sup>o</sup> Percks or his Order who I have writt to this poast & in Closd y<sup>e</sup> Bill of Loiding fall so agreed Wth Powell for Percks to pay him twentey shillings a hundred fright upon delevey of y<sup>e</sup> goods I Could have sent your deaills souner if w<sup>d</sup> have given y<sup>e</sup> Comon price but wass

willing to wait for a better Opertunity which I have mett wt<sup>h</sup>all to send them for Les money by one 1/3 then Ever deaills of such arise welss sent for I will indever to see Mr Hohn a bout y<sup>e</sup> Other deaills he shall think propr for you if you wd be so good as Order me wh<sup>t</sup> Money you shall think propr by y<sup>e</sup> maelpoast itt will be of a singleur Servis to

Your humble Servt to  
Cum<sup>d</sup> for Self & Comp<sup>ny</sup> Leonar<sup>d</sup> Phillipps

Lambath August ye 28<sup>th</sup> 1724

No 4

ffor  
Henry Davenport Esqr  
at Worfeild near Bridgnorth  
Shropshire

Cross post

Worcester Jan y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1725

Deare Brother

It is so loange sence I heard from my friends at worfeild that I am all mo afraid to enquier the reason for fear is shod be want of health in your family I hope this will find you all well this very coald sharpe whether wi,<sup>ch</sup> has been very sevar this week, I hope Master Bill'ey keeps from coald I must tell you I have ben in sume conserne for him for fear the whether shoud be to hard for him but I hope his Nurse is carful of him for I am shure he is worthen a rearing and I daire say he must be a great favorit among: you I expect I shall see my Nephew Shell as he returnes to Eatton, I hope M<sup>r</sup> Stubbes has deliverd the Mortgaged to you from M<sup>r</sup> Slaney for y<sup>e</sup> two hundred Eighty Eight pounds, wi,<sup>ch</sup> he keep for sume raisson to excquet at Burmegem if he has not given it you I desire y<sup>e</sup> favour of you, to send to him for it, and breing it me, when you come with your son, give my servis to my sister Dav: and tell her I shod be glad to know if my peacd of Dyopor wair dun, I am shure y<sup>e</sup> weave cannot worke such whether as wee have had last wek, and if it is not wove it will disopoint me having it whitter, in March, wi<sup>ch</sup> is y<sup>e</sup> only time for it cause this importuned trouble I give you and y<sup>e</sup> last of this serible for I fear y<sup>e</sup> post will be gon before I can wish you & yours a happy new year & many of them, I am

Dear Brother your affection  
Sister & servent  
M Hallifax

If you remember thires half a yar arears due to me from Micklemas last past wi<sup>ch</sup> I desir you will bring wi<sup>th</sup> you, or send it by your son for I hav: no way to gett it return<sup>d</sup> sence I finished my letter y<sup>e</sup> post has brouat me in one from you, Daithed y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of this Instant, so it has laine till now sume whear.

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Governour Boone's in  
new Bond Street  
London

Dear Papa

I Received yours this Instant, & am sorry to find y<sup>t</sup> you should think y<sup>t</sup> my idleness, should hinder your seeing my Tutor; at y<sup>e</sup> same time I do assure you he was far out of order all y<sup>e</sup> next day, or else I am sure w<sup>c</sup>ould not have come with no bad account of me and am sorry to find you should deny me my request, who I do assure you from this time following y<sup>t</sup> I shall stick at no Request in ye world from you, Master Whitmore hath Askt me to Breakfast with him, two or 3 time and my Couzin likewise, but had none wherewithall to return y<sup>e</sup> favour, tis but seldom as to myself y<sup>t</sup> I drink any, but should be glad to have it to pay a favour, I should never drink it at any unseasonable hours, I finish my task Greek & Latin two or three days ago I am very sorry to find My Uncle Boone, is so ill. I desire my Duty to him, if you would be pleas'd to grant me my Request, I do assure you will save you y<sup>e</sup> money some other way: if you would I should acknowledge it as a great favour this all:

From  
Your most duty  
Full & obedient son  
Sha Davenport

Frebruary y<sup>e</sup> 2: 1725

Henery Davenport Esqr att  
Gener<sup>l</sup> Boones In new Bond  
Strett Near Pickadelly  
London

Parden [hole] trouble w<sup>ch</sup> is to intreett y<sup>e</sup> faver of A Line whether you have payd y<sup>t</sup> Bill to M<sup>r</sup> Rynes if not I begg you will ples to order it as soon [as] you cane if it sutts with y<sup>r</sup> convention to don it A Monday or teusday [hole] it will be very faraisable by [hole] I am to have generall things to buy in toun for my [hole] am [hole] [w]illing to send money ~~when~~ since you was pleased to paye it in London & in so dowing it will save y<sup>e</sup> expence of paying ye return by

Sr [hole] [most] obeydent Humble  
Sarvant E Grone

Eatton  
Thursday feb 17 1725-6

ffor  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Charles Boones Esq<sup>r</sup>  
house In new Bond Street  
London

fe<sup>br</sup>: ye 28th

Deare Brother

I received yours this Morning before your Man John went back he came yesterday with y<sup>e</sup> box you order<sup>d</sup> & left all your famely well, M<sup>r</sup> John tok y<sup>e</sup> box to y<sup>e</sup> Coach but they whod not carri it under five shillings wi<sup>ch</sup> we thought an extravegent price so our Car=r going out to day we thought it better to send it by him & he will be in London Friday in y<sup>e</sup> Evening, I hope he will breing it safe for he alway<sup>s</sup> carris for me, & very carful, its sent by Barrot y<sup>e</sup> Worcester Car=r who puts up at the Bell Inn in whood Street, this is I think all I need say in answ<sup>r</sup>, to y<sup>e</sup> first part of your letter; what follows nex must relait to y<sup>e</sup> other part of yours, as to y<sup>e</sup> gentlemen you happend to be incompeny wi<sup>th</sup> who naimend my naime must be sumbody very importunait to begin a discourse before straingers, of there I find he knows nothing off, & to spread a report & at y<sup>e</sup> sam, time give his Judgme<sup>t</sup> what anyone shod marry me for shoes him that spock, it to be a coxcoom, let him be who he will, being I find he did not kno: who he spock of, & if I had been seventy- years of Age he could but have maid such a refletion, altho: I my self may be of that opinion that no one whod car: to marry me, or any other widow but for what we have, but y<sup>e</sup> world need not bessen them selves so much about me, in my youanger day<sup>s</sup> I was thire petty & now in my latter end of my day<sup>s</sup>, I am envied, & it is nothing elies makes people trouble them selves so much about my maring but I find if I did marrey it whod be a greater crimne in me then other peorson thir is such ado maid about nothing, for if I had any thoughts to olter my condission I hope I shod take car not to throw myself a way for as I was once capable of making one good choice I shall content my self w<sup>th</sup> that without making a second tryall, I am shure no owne can say that Doc<sup>t</sup> Hallifax marrid me for my money, and what he gave me in love I hope not to give any away in folley, for as I have hitherto endeverd<sup>d</sup> to behave myself wi<sup>th</sup> that gravety & reserveness wi<sup>ch</sup> became my husband<sup>s</sup> widow & no way lesson y<sup>e</sup> credid of my family I hope you need not be ashamed to Justefey my conduct wi<sup>ch</sup> I thank you for, & shall alway<sup>s</sup> take car: to act in all I do w<sup>th</sup> casion let y<sup>e</sup> spitfull world say what it will I hope god in hom I trust is still my directer: as for y<sup>e</sup> Countrey Minister as y<sup>e</sup> person means, I believe it<sup>s</sup> one not contemptble perhap<sup>s</sup> as well borne as himself by all account as I have heard of his famely, his perfirment<sup>s</sup> the very best in all Worcestershire &, his owne perpetuall aVonsall a fine house & gairdens \* I believe a good Estait besids so he had no great occations for my money, & I am shure I had non for his, & as for Age I believe we wair much upon y<sup>e</sup> levill this gentleman sum mounths ago offerd himself to me & cam wi<sup>th</sup> a very good carrecter so y<sup>e</sup> gentleman tho spock of it oaght to have dun Justis if he had herd one thing, he might another & not conseld y<sup>t</sup> – but a person of this account was at his liberty to porpos himself in a respectfull maner to any Gentlewomen, & we at our liberty to accep<sup>t</sup>: or refus wi<sup>ch</sup> we pleas, so following my owne inclenations without being directed by y<sup>e</sup> world I denid him & intierly putt him off not finding myself under any nesesity to to marry, but I don't think myself obliged to tell every importuned boddy my thoughts or make them of my Councell as I have no entension to olter my station I thought it

not needful to say anything of what happens of y<sup>s</sup> kind before altho: perhaps I have had more then once applecations of y<sup>s</sup> kind from very desirving person but sence I have nothing to recommend me but my money I will take car: who ever has that shall desirve it I believe I have tierd you as well as my self wi<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> lenth of this scribble wi<sup>ch</sup> is in hart for Dear of losing y<sup>e</sup> post before I can only tell you that I am your affect<sup>e</sup> Sis: & Serv

M Hallifax

No 8

ffor  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Governo<sup>r</sup> Bohoon's  
In New Bondstreet  
London

Sr

I have the favour of Your's have paid Mr Billingsley the £100 you ordered and have given Directons to saw out the Stuff for your back stairs. As I remember you were speaking to me in London that you were Desirious of haveing the 2 Little Meadows called Aston Moores Sold by Jack Barret to ffelton the Taylor whose purchase is at a Stopp and I beleive they may be had. the Difficulty in their proceeding I find is their being Quirated Land and who Should pay the fine Be pleased to Lett me Know Your pleasure.

Old Barret is just now Dead and Cowshill .wathill I doubt not will be Sold I have Lent £200 upon them for my Cheirly and Mr Barret has been talking of falling the Timber upon Cowshill w<sup>th</sup> ay – I am Informed is worth more to Stand, and I have, I think, putt an stop to the fall at present. I am told there will be some jious & bidding ag<sup>t</sup> you, therefore the first good oppportunity that offers If you have a mind of them You should not lett slipp, and therefore have this timely noetise from Sr

Your oblig<sup>d</sup> hum' ser<sup>t</sup>  
Wa: Stubbs  
7<sup>o</sup> Mar: 1725<sup>o</sup>

No 9

To  
Henry Davenport Esqr  
This

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Mr Baldwin sent over to desire if you will not make use of the Timber as is at the Town Mills; to let him know as soon as possible; he having an opportunity to dispose of it to Oakes of Bridgenorth; my Uncle Eykyn gives his duty to you and desired me to let you know that the Baily Child has bin at his house, and he told him he thought he could get leave of you to take your Dogs and kill him a Hare which he seemed to be very fond of; if you will give him leave, and my Uncle says he has an order for some Dutch Elmns and if you have any you will dispose of, he desires you will let him know; he having an order for more then he hath of his owne; -According to our Hon<sup>rs</sup> commands I have sent the account of the Teems (Viz) Oct<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> the Oren plowed; and the Cart Teem carry'd dung from the ditch to the walk Leasow 9 Load; the Coach Horses at Worcester; 26<sup>th</sup> the Coach Horses came home from ditto; the Cart Teem dung 6 Load ditto as Last day; and old Timber from the old house to the new one: 2 Load; and the Oxen plow<sup>d</sup>: y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> the Coach Teem rested; the Cart Teem and Francis Pooles Stone from the Mills 4 Load; the Oxen at Plow ditto; the 28<sup>th</sup> the oxen ditto; the two Horse Teems Brick from Cranm<sup>y</sup> to the new House 8 Loads y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> the Coach Horses Stone from the Mills 2 Load the Cart Teem carry'd the Hampers of Beer to Bridgenorth to come to Toune; and brought a Load of Oates home; the Oxen Plowed ditto peice; Mad<sup>m</sup> Ivorys Frank being small she gave me this Sheet of Paper to write upon: to come in the Frank: I am Honoured S<sup>r</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> moste obedient Hum<sup>ble</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>  
at command  
John Devey

Worfield Oct y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1726

No 10

To Henry Davenport Esqr  
at Governors Boone  
in New Bond Street  
London

Lacock Nov<sup>br</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> 1726

Dear B<sup>r</sup>

I shall be glad to hear how you all got to London particularly an acct of my sisters condition. On Wensday I paid M<sup>rs</sup> Halifax 68-11-7 & took up y<sup>r</sup> receipt I came home Thursday when I found an humble petition from M<sup>r</sup> Overon for his five pound due at Mich; I beg D<sup>r</sup> B<sup>r</sup> you will be so kind as to pay it for me or I will either pay y<sup>e</sup> like cusin to Mrs Halifax for you or confirm some way or other to send it you before you leave London. I know you have more time there upon y<sup>r</sup> hands, than when surveying y<sup>r</sup> workmen att Hawn; therefore expect to hear from you y<sup>r</sup> news of y<sup>e</sup> own & how my boy Jack does. My humble service to Dear Bab I am very sincerely & affect<sup>ly</sup> yrs

John Talbot

My Br Ivory gives me hopes of spending his Xmass w<sup>th</sup> me

I beg you will enquire whether Mr Overon be not at my Aunt Talbots in town.

No 11

Hond: Sr

I received yours the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant, and According to your command I went to Wood about the Crests, and by the Slaters measure it will take ten doz: which Wood has promised to pick the best burnt and finest he hath: and bring them in his Cart this day to the new House; M<sup>r</sup> Loyd hath been over and hath Lay'd some of the Gutters and they are Caste Eight pound and a half per foot; he desires you to send an Order by the next poste if you would have the Sisterns painted or plane for they wanted have them up to secure the Building from being D'ashed; and he desires to know of you would have the Top Cornish covered with lead or not, if covered it will take a flashing nine Inches broad; the Lead is all used; and Loyd and the other workmen say the Roof will take five Tun more Lead then we have at Least; so Loyd desires you to send an order the next poste where you will have it from; the workmen being in fear they shall stay for want of it; M<sup>r</sup> Cooke tells me they are in hopes to finnish the Brick work and Chimneys this next week; the remainder of thee Slates Arrived last Thursday and we carry'd them all home with the Teems mentioned in the Teem Account; M<sup>r</sup> Billingsly Gives his Humble Service to you and desires you<sup>d</sup> not forget the Excizeman M<sup>r</sup> Sanders; the Slaters have begun to put the Slates on the House yesterday and they looke very Neate; we have finished dunging the Shop Leasow, and had finished soing but it Rained very hard in afte part of the day; Madam Ivory Gives her Service to you and my Lady and Miss Davenport and she omitted writing this parte to let me have the Frank my Letter being Large – but she ordered me to give you an Account that they are all well;

The Account of the Teems (Viz)

Oct <sup>r</sup> y <sup>e</sup> 29 <sup>th</sup> the Cart Teem Oates from Bridgenorth.....	
The Cart Teem Stone from the Mills.....	2 Load
the Oxen at Plow in the Shop Leasow.....	
y <sup>e</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup> the 2 Hors Teems dung to ditto.....	20 Load
the oxen Plowed ditto peice	
Nov <sup>r</sup> y <sup>e</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> all ditto.....	
y <sup>e</sup> 2 <sup>d</sup> the Cart Teem dung ditto.....	10 Load
the Cart Teem Brick from Cranmer.....	4 Load
the Oxen at Plow ditto.....	
y <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> The Coach and Cart Teems and Mr Billingsleys	
Sum: Bradburnes and M <sup>r</sup> Pooles Carry <sup>d</sup> Slates from the Mills.....	12 Load
Ditto Stone and Laths.....	2 Load
the Oxen ditto at Plow.....	
y <sup>e</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> the Coach Horses, Timber from the Wheeld Green to the	
new House.....	2 Load
the Cart Teem Brick from Cranmer.....	4 Load

the Oxen ditto Plowed

This day all gone a Hunting; I am

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> moste Obedient  
Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant at command  
John Devey

Worfield Nov y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1726

No 12

ffor

Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Govern<sup>s</sup> Bohoon's  
In New Bond Street  
London

S<sup>r</sup>

I Should be thankfull If you will please to favour me w<sup>th</sup> a Line whether you can w<sup>th</sup> couviency supply the Gent I spoke to you of before you Left the Country w<sup>th</sup> the £6000 and If you can ab<sup>t</sup> what time you can have It ready that we may come to some resoluons ab<sup>t</sup> givinge nootice to the persons that are to receive It

Seeing your name in the return of Sherriffs I should be glad to Know If you intend to accept that office. If you Doo the sooner you Enter upon It the better It will be for your Undersherriffe

My wife Joyns in her Service to M<sup>rs</sup> Davenport and directs me to acquaint her that there is a very good Coller of Brawn betwixt twenty & thirty pound, ready whenever she has occasion for It. I was glad to hear at Worfeild on Thursday last that you & your family were got well to Town. Old Mr Eykon is Dead

I am always S<sup>r</sup>

Your most obligd  
Hum Servt  
Wa. Stubbs  
7<sup>d</sup> Nov 1726

If you advance the £6000 I can pay In w<sup>t</sup> money I have of your's to make up

No 13

ffor

Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Charles Boone<sup>s</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup> house  
In New Bond Street

London

Worcester No<sup>bre</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1726

I received your letter Deare Brother and was glad to hear by it that you & your women got safe to London I must owne I was consernd for my Sister being so hurrid as she was that Morning she left me, you do mighty well in bestoing a good head and shout of Cloaths upon your daughter, it was what she wanted I believe pretty-much, and I daire say she will desirve your kindness to her, M<sup>r</sup> Talbott called upon me a whensday in his way to Laycok and paid me y<sup>e</sup> money, the remainder of it I paid acording to your orders, to Mr Devey who was hear a Satterday wi<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> box wi<sup>ch</sup> he sent by y<sup>e</sup> Coach to day, & will I sopose be wi<sup>th</sup> you to night, the only newes I have to send you is that Cos: Bromly of Abberly berrid his Lady last friday, to y<sup>e</sup> great afflic<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> whole famely, and ended by all that knew her she is much lemented, my servis to my Sister Davenp<sup>t</sup> & Miss Betty and tell her Miss Sally Broster is at Counsellr Willes house in Lincolns Inn fild, she has writ downe to know whear she may wait upon your Daughter but you have not sent me word whear you Lodg:so I am still in y<sup>e</sup> dark: but venter to direct to you this way, but when any of you writ next, tell me whear you be, excus: hast for y<sup>e</sup> post will be gon befoer I can tell you that

I am your affectionat  
Sister, and Servant  
M Hallifax

No 14

To Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup> at Charles  
Boone's Esq<sup>r</sup> in new Bond Streat  
London

Dear Papa

The time being now expired, I make bold to trouble you with this short Epistle, hoping y<sup>t</sup> this will find you well after your Journey, I must beg y<sup>e</sup> favour y<sup>t</sup> you would send me Clarendons History of his own times having read all y<sup>e</sup> books I have in my Study, so being advised to read them by my tutor as the most improving, I must be idle till you send me them for having no other's but what I have took care to peruse thorough, The tea you promised me is not as yet sent, tho a full month since, and being twice, or thrice disappointed, I have nothing more to add; only y<sup>t</sup> we young gentlemen go home on y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> of December, this concludes from believe me

Your most dutyfull  
& obedient son  
Sha Davenport

My Duty to Mamma  
& love to my Uncle.

The tea is just come

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>

H<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I received yours dated 8th Instant; and we have had some complaints from Pigford for Stone which I endeavour as much as possible to prevent; and he was with me last night for more money, I tolde him that I had wrote to you about the money and you was surprised to heare he wanted money so soon; he seemd very Angrey and told me he would send to M<sup>r</sup> Smith for money this day, I offered to venture to let him have £5;-:- more but he said he could not doe with less then twenty; he Oweing the workemen some as he is going to discharge; soe he had none Henry Smith has brought up a Lad in of Stone and we are in hopes to get it home this day and Monday though the Road is very bad; M<sup>r</sup> Cooke tels me they are in hopes to get the Attick Cornish up great part of it the next week and the Chimneys are almoste done now; we have finnishd hedging the Turnups from the Building and are going to divide them, and my Uncle designs to put in some Sheep in one part to have them flat against you come in the Country; Wenlock Fare is on Wednesday sevensnight if you please to have any cattle bought there for the Turnups; I am Informed there is an estate will be sold called St James nar Brigenorth, which I thought it was my duty to let you know; but it is kept private at present; The Account of the Teems is (Viz) the Coach Teem Stone from the Mills 2 Load the Cart Oates from Bridge 1 Load the Oxen ffinish<sup>d</sup> plowing the 7<sup>th</sup> Instant; 8<sup>th</sup> the Coach Teem Stone ditto the Cart Teem Brick from Cranm<sup>r</sup> 4 Load; the Oxen Trowse from the flegy peice and Timber from the old house to the new one; 9<sup>th</sup> the 2 Hors Teems Brick from ditto 6 Load the Oxen Trowse to the Turnups ditto 3 Load y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> the Hors Teems Stone from the Mills 4 Load the Oxen ditto Trowse 3 Load; 11<sup>th</sup> the Cart Teem Timber from the Mutlands 3 Load the Cart Teem Brick ditto 3 Load;

I am Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>  
Y<sup>r</sup> moste Obedient Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
John Devey

Worfield Nov<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1726

I

M<sup>r</sup> Loyd has been over about Lead worke at the new Building, and he says the Top Cornish cannot be done with less then Nine Inches; he is gone to Shrewsbury to see about the Lead and designs to order two Tun; I hear there is as good at Corbrooke-Dale as that we have from Mr P<sup>r</sup>ichard, and at a Cheaper rate; so I speake for but two Tun, to M<sup>r</sup> Prichard; if you please to give me an order to have the Lead from the Dale I will go up and buy what we

may want more; you did not mention in your last Letter if you would have the Top Cornish Leaded or not, but the workemen tell me if it is not it will spoile all the other worke; the Chimneys are finished and the top Cornish is moste got up; and they are in hopes to set it this week, the Stone cutters are makeing the Earns; and the Carpenters are making the Centers for turning the Arches; I think the Slates goe on but verry Slow; my Uncle Eykyn gives his Duy to you and desires to know if you would have any Cattle bought for the Turnups; wenlock Fare being a good place; and is on this day sevensnight; the Gardener tels me the Garden Glass Frames are out of order and begs you will send an order who you will have to repara them and says you told him you would send down some Lifts for Nailing Trees which he desired me to remember you of; I have been with M<sup>r</sup> Bathe and Bradburne for money and the have neither of them any at present, and if there be any Cattle bought; we shall want an order for money. The Teems goe on very constant in the Carriage but the Roads be verry bad; M<sup>d<sup>m</sup></sup> Ivory tels me she has but three ffanks left and does not write this poste, and she ord<sup>d</sup> me to give her service to you and my Lady and Miss Davenport; and that she and Miss Lucy and master be all verry well; I am Hn<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> moste Obedient and  
Moste Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
John Devey

Worfield 16<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1726

No 17

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup> at  
Gouvernour Boones in new  
Bond Street  
London

Eaton Nov<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1726

To Cry, Peccavi, Dear Papa for my unthankfullness in my last, for my books you promised, instead of diminishing would only be an aggravation & addition to my crime. I am advised to get Plutarchs Lives & moralls: which I beg you will send me, these books not only furnishes ones memory with the Lives, and Characters of y<sup>e</sup> greatest Heroes in History, but also is of great profit in my Schoole Buisnes, which will be great satisfaction to my Masters. The one furnishes us with Examples for verses, the other for theame, not only y<sup>t</sup>, but to know the Characters of these great y renowned. Heroes will be of great use in my Reading other Books, where the Lives of the great men are mentioned, it will make them easy to be understood. I hope you will grant my Request which will be very servisable and acceptable to

Your Most Dutyfull  
Son: S Davenport

No 18

Hond Sr

I received yours dated the 15<sup>th</sup> Instant and M<sup>r</sup> Pigford has no received any money of M<sup>r</sup> Smith since you Left the Countrey, but Fifty pounds, which he tels me was due to him for the Stone worke; he has wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Smith but has had no Answer; how much money he has write for he will not tel me; and he is so Angrey he Swares he will never receive any more money but from M<sup>r</sup> Smith; I beg<sup>d</sup> of him not to make any disturbance and tolde him if he wanted money I would write to you as I may have an order for some more but he is so ltempered I don't know what to doe to keep him without Complaints. The affare of buying Cattle at Wenlock Fare was mentioned in my last letter; I am verry much concerned to have you thinke the Teems are not Active in the buisness, and if you was to see how durty and bad the Road is both to the bricks and stone you would be concerned to have the Roades so very durty and such wet weather; though we have Carry'd all the Brick, and Stone that is ready to Carry at this time; As I wrote your Hon<sup>r</sup> in my Last account I am Affraid you will thinke the Slates goe on but Slow; but I do all I can to forward them I have got Tho: Shaw to Carry up the Slates for them and would get them more Labourers but they tel me that none but the Labourers that you saw when the was dresing the Slates can bring the right Slates as they want when they call for them; it is a beautyfull cover and is admired by all that I speake of it for the finest that ever they see; As I wrote in my Last letter to your Hon<sup>r</sup> Loyd went to Shrewsbury and M<sup>r</sup> Prichard sent me this Letter as I have sent you with mine; I am Informed by M<sup>r</sup> Loyd that the Lead at the Dale will be delivered much sooner; and Cheaper by 7s per Tunn, and the master of the worke will stay the thee weeks or a month for the money; so for fear the Building should stand I design going to the master who will be at Shrewsbury this day, and buy what wee shall want; as the workeman tel me it will take foure Tun at least, and if I can have it it will be 7s per Tun besides Carriage from Shrewsbury Cheaper then Mr Prichards; I am

Hon<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Your moste  
Obedient Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
John Devey

Worfield Novr ye 19<sup>th</sup> 1726

No 19

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>

H<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I have been at Shrewsbury to speak to M<sup>r</sup> Prichard about the Lead as I wrote you in my last Letter and Prichard will let you have no Lead till he is pay'd the Ballance in his Letter as I sent to you, nor then except you give him 7s 6d per Tun more then it is sold for in other

places; so I went and bought of M<sup>r</sup> Powes of Shrewsbury Three Tun at Fourteen pounds per Tun; and it will be delivered on this day and to prevent the Building staying for want of the Lead M<sup>r</sup> Boucher of Bridgenorth Let me have fifty pounds I giving my Note per your use; which money he designs to write to you to order pay'd for him in London; the Lead comes to Forty two pound and the other Eight pounds I hope will make up what money will be wanting to buy cattle at Wenlock Fare, as madam Ivory tels me she has mentioned in her letter to you; I am forc<sup>d</sup> to goe to Shrewsbury this day with the money for there is no Lead can be had till the money is pay'd, We have put Twenty four Sheep in the Turnups last saturday and my Uncle Rowley tels me he will kill three of them in a short time being they was fed in the Turnups last year; I am

Worfield Nov<sup>br</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1726

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Yr moste  
Obedient Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
John Devey

No 20

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Governor Boons Esq<sup>r</sup> in  
in new Bond Street  
London  
Free Jo<sup>n</sup> Weaver

H<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Mr Devey says he hath writt to you to know if you'l please to have any more money paid you in the Country if you'l please to favour me with your pleasure upon that account I shall be I shall be allwaies ready to observe your commands. Mr Ivory had £50 of me on Monday I humbly beg that you'l send me word whether I shall order any one to call upon you for the money or whether you'l be pleased to send me orders to draw on you and if you want any more returns to the value of one or two hundred pounds I shall be ready to obey your orders. I gave your man [wkman?] of the [Jeinge?] of M<sup>r</sup> Apleyond who thought the estate called St James and it not being paid for it must be sold againe I finde many one enquireing after it but a friend of mine will be conserved in the sale if you have any inclination that way please to signefie your pleasure and I will serve in what I am Able I humbly beg you'l please to present my Humble duty to my Good Lady and accept the same to your selfe from  
Sr your Hon most dutyfull Obedient Humble Servt    George Bousher  
Bridgnorth Nov 23<sup>d</sup> 1726

Sr The Widdow fformor says she wants her tenne pounds if you'l give me order I will pay her

No 21

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Charles Boones Esq<sup>r</sup> in new  
Bond Street near Hanover Square  
London

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I received yours dated 22<sup>d</sup> Instant and according to your commands I have advised with M<sup>r</sup> Pigford about the Stone, and he tels me he is in hopes to have the Urnes up in three weeks at farthest, and he hath agreed with Higin to get the Stone for the Hall steps at Earton that being much the best stone; and he designs to set some of his men to worke the heavy Large stone at the Quarry to save carriage, he says he hath received no money of M<sup>r</sup> Smith yet, not what he will let him have he can't tell; but he will have none of me at present, I give him very good words and endeavour all I can to please him, and he is not quite so peevish as he was; the Slaters begin to mend their Rate of working and I have perswad<sup>d</sup> them to take Tom: Shaw to forward them as much as possible, and to get a nother man to lay Slates; they have Done the back, ffront and the West end, and the Gutter next the west end, and half the South ffront; I have received the 3 Tun of Lead from the Dale at £14 per Tun, which is 7s 6d per Tun cheaper then M<sup>r</sup> Prichards; when I went to Shrewsbury to pay for the Lead he came to my Quarters and abused me verry much, and called me a pimping Dog for endeavouring to hinder him in Selling of his Lead and said he had agreed for all the Lead at the Dale, and Swared I should have none und<sup>r</sup> £14:10s per Tun, but I had the Luck to be befoe him which he is verry mad at; I tolde Loyd what you mentiond about his day worke and he says he will doe more per day then if you was at home; the workemen be Guttering the white furlong and we design floteing it verry soon; my Uncle Eykyn and me was at Wenlock fare, and bought four Cows for the Turnips; and there is 43 Sheep and 4 Cows in now, and I hope the Turnips wil prove verry well; I have received no money of Bathe nor Bradburne nor will they not pay me any at present; The Nailer has brought in his bill and William Powell, the Slaters, and Wood, and all want money; Mad<sup>m</sup> Ivory tels me she don't write this poste and ordered me to Give her Service to you to tel you that She and miss, and master be all well; I am

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Your moste  
Obedient Servt at comm<sup>d</sup>  
John Devey

Worfield Nov<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 26 1726

The Account of the Teems (Viz)

Nov <sup>r</sup> y <sup>e</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup> The Coach Teem and the Oxen Plow <sup>d</sup> Stuble	
the Cart Teem Oats from Bridge	1 Load
y <sup>e</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> the Coach Horsses and Oxen Plow <sup>d</sup> ditto	
the Cart Teem Brick from Cranm <sup>r</sup>	3 Load
y <sup>e</sup> 22 <sup>d</sup> the three Teems Plow <sup>d</sup> ditto Stuble	
y <sup>e</sup> 23 <sup>d</sup> The 3 Teems finnished PlowingStuble	
y <sup>e</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> The Cart Teem Oates from Brigge	50 Srikes
the Coach Teem Straw from Holton and a Load Faggets home, the Oxen ployd	
y <sup>e</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup> the Coach and Cart Teems Lead from the Mills	3 Tun 56lb

the Oxen Brick from Cranm<sup>r</sup>

3 Load

The Road being bad I design setting the Oxen to plow the Broom'y peice

No 22

To

Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup> at Go  
vernour Boones in new Bond  
Street  
London

Dear Papa

Yours I received the 21<sup>st</sup> of this Instant & perused with a greater Pleasure than it was possible for you to have done by mine, which you are so kind as to say you did) I am very glad you have them by you, for it would scarce be of any signification to have sent them now, the Holy day's are so near, yet I am in duty bound to return my hearty thnaks in a manner as becomes a gratefull son to an obliging father, yet I want words to express myself, as I ought, for when one comes to be of an age, as I am to Consider what Pair & trouble it is to a Father to bring a son up, & in return of this ungratefullness is all his thanks, surprise confounds me & makes me think humane nature is turn'd up side down. Thanks & gratitude is y least a son can return erga Parentes, or to his parents for all the Concern & trouble he hath had for him. He ought to try all way's to make such returns as are in my Power & then think I have done nothing but what I ought, No Praise I merit, none I desire, or deserve sure one ought not to be praised for doing ones duty, but if any thing extraordinary the some praise is got, which is impossible for a son to do to a Father, y<sup>t</sup> is so very obliging as you As to my Couzin's verses they were very good, yet I do assure you if it will be of any satisfaction to you, you shall see some of my performance, & I beleive you will hear as good an Account of me, from M<sup>r</sup> Thackery, as of him, which I have and will continue to try to deserve. The Greatest reason of M<sup>r</sup> Nick Herberts going to the University was I beleive y<sup>e</sup> sole reason of his age and stature, not but y<sup>t</sup> he was schollar enough, which I hope I shall very soon be. I beg you will let me know what day & how I am to come to London this with my Duty to my Mamma & love to my Sister Betty, is all from him who Promises that to space of time, or distance of Place, shall never change the Resolution I have made of being

Your most dutyfull &  
Obediant son usq ad  
aras S davenport

Eaton Nov<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1726

Thre is nothing here with me except my boots y<sup>e</sup> rest are in y<sup>e</sup> Country

Saturday 26 Novem<sup>r</sup>  
Saturday 3 Decem<sup>r</sup>  
Saturday 10 Decem<sup>r</sup>

No 23

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Charles Boones Esq<sup>r</sup> in new  
Bond Street near Hanover Square  
London

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I received yours dated y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>br</sup> and as to Mr Pigford he is so stist though I always obliged him what I could, yet he will not tel me what money he hath rece<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Smith but he goes on with his buisness very quiet; I told him you ordered me to tel him what money he wanted he may have now or when you come down, which I hope will be verry soon for the whole Country is in want of so good a Govrn<sup>r</sup>; as weell as my self; I hope the Slaters goe on faster then they did; they have got one man more that Lays and I hope they will goe round the House in 9 or 10 days more; as to M<sup>r</sup> Prichard he told me he will have no part in the worke, but swares he will trouble Loyd for workeing in his pot; the Lead I bought is all used and it will take two Tun and a half at least more and it is my desire ti get it Cover<sup>d</sup> before you come down soe I design to buy the Lead with part of the Forty pound you ordered me of M<sup>r</sup> Boucher; we have almost done Guttering the mead<sup>ws</sup> and design flateing the white-furlong very soon; there is in the Turnips the 43 Sheep mention<sup>d</sup> in my Letter before, and the two Oxen and five Cows; I have Spoake to M<sup>r</sup> Stubbs twice and he promised twice to send his man over but he did not come, and since he came and I was at Shrewsbury; soe it is not done yet, but I will get it done as soone as posible; According to your commands I went to M<sup>r</sup> Boucher with his Letter and he was at Shrewsbury Fare; the Brick Layers have turned the Arch over the Great Parler and are now turning the Stare Case Arches; Master Davenports Great Coate is in the Chest; and his Boots be at home verry safe I am

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>  
Y<sup>r</sup> moste Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
John Devey

Worfield 3<sup>rd</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> 1726

Mad<sup>m</sup> Ivory ordered me to give her Service to you and the Ladys, and they are all well, but she don't write this poste.

The Account of the Teems (Viz)

The 26 <sup>th</sup> Novr the 2 Horss Teems Brick from Cranm <sup>r</sup>	8 Load
The Oxen plow <sup>d</sup> in the Broom hill	
28 <sup>th</sup> the Oxen ditto	
the 2 Horss Teems ditto Brick	2 Load

And Stone from the Mills	2 -
29 <sup>th</sup> the two Horss Teems and Sam: Bradburnes Carried Lime from the Mills	6 Load
the Oxen plow <sup>d</sup> ditto	
30 <sup>th</sup> the 2 Horss Teems Stone from the Mills	2 [Load]
And Brick ditto two Load the Oxen plow <sup>d</sup>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Dec <sup>r</sup> the 2 Horss Teems Stone from the Mills	4 Load
The Oxen Straw from Hilton	2
Y <sup>e</sup> 2 <sup>d</sup> the 2 Teems Brick from Cranmer	8 Load
The Oxen plow <sup>d</sup> ditto	

No 24

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I received Yours last Night dated Decem<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> and according to your commands I have sent the Horsses all but Cooper, who is so Lame he cannot come; so to prevent your being anyway disapointed of the five you ordered, I Hired one of M<sup>r</sup> Millnor of Bridgenorth, the Price he says he will Leave to you; your Boots and Furniture and pistolls and the two great Coates; Master Davenports Boots and Your Whip Will: Stockalls Pistolls and Furniture with the Blunderbuss; and will obey your commands in sending the Coach and Horsses to Merriden, but your Hon<sup>r</sup> did not order which Horss you<sup>d</sup> have to make up the set, so the men say they design to bring Catcher; Sam: desired me to tell you he wants a Coach Whip and can't get one in the Country so begs you<sup>d</sup> order him one from Town he having none to drive you down with; we have had a Verry hard Frost this two last days and was forced to get the Horss<sup>s</sup> Shod on sunday, I had not time to get the Blunderbuss set in order in the Country since you ordered it; but all the other things I hope be in good order: I wish your Hon<sup>r</sup> a good journey and am

Hon<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Your moste  
Obedient Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servan  
John Devey

Worfield Decem<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1726

No 25

Ffor  
Henry Davenport Esqr  
at Worfeild near Bridgnorth  
Shropshire

Cross Post

Apr ye 17<sup>th</sup> 1727

it is so loang sence I heard from my friends at worfeild that really I live like one destitud of relations so sildum seeing or hearing from them, but however that sh'ant descuridg: me from sh'oing that respect wich is due to my Brother Davenport, therfoer this waits upon you to aquaint you wi<sup>th</sup> an affair, that if you ar serprized at it, I don't whonder for I am serprized at my self, but it is plaine we ar not our owne keepers or in our owne powers, so that nothing is to be wonerd at under ye son etc:

now to y<sup>e</sup> matter in hand wi<sup>ch</sup> is to consult you about an offer maid me by way of Marridg: a stait I thought never to enter into again, & have putt by severall offer of this kind, but this Gentleman is y<sup>e</sup> same I mensioned to you aboue a year sence when if you rember you writ to me from London upon this subject, and I think I then told you he had visited me sum tim but I had denid him and put him of as I thought wi<sup>th</sup> great resalution, but he has had so many freinds of his side, having so Generll a good carrecter that people of the besst rank bothe in towne & coundrey have courted for him, and he has upon all occations renewed his applecations without any encorridment but rather y<sup>e</sup> contrary wi<sup>ch</sup> I have been wonderd at for, that I did not consider of it & excep<sup>t</sup> of him, for no widow or maid of y<sup>e</sup> Besst fourtun upon y<sup>e</sup> plaice who'd refuse him besids myself, when he makes such offers, so I have at last told M<sup>r</sup> Suttan I whod consult my Brother who I was shure whod not be biast by any Intrest but act y<sup>e</sup> part of a freind and whod lay befoer you his prepossall's wi<sup>ch</sup> he desir<sup>d</sup> whod do or give him leave to wait upon you, y<sup>e</sup> latter I denied him as thinking it not so proper at present, as to his famely, he is a Gentleman & related to y<sup>e</sup> chife fameley<sup>s</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Suttons his Mother was a grand Daughter of Bishop Prideauæ who's xtaine naime he bairs, & upon this occasion he will take his Doc<sup>t</sup>: of Divenety degrees lest for want of that it shod be an ablection wi<sup>ch</sup> ended it was, now as to his carrecter he is generally recond by ever boddy to be a whorthey honist good naitured man, & the Arch Deacon who is my pirtickler freind dus assure me he answers that Carrecter & is recond y<sup>e</sup> most considerable Clargeyman among them, as to his peerson it is plaine his Age much about my owne, but to his sercumstances very good he has maid it appears to me he has severall thousand pound in his pockit besids an estait in land, and another in reversion his Pars'nage of wi<sup>ch</sup> he is Patron as well as Incumbent, he letts for betwen five or six hunder pound the year tho: whorth more bisids a good house & Gairdens

now to his prepossalls, first for me to settle all I have in y<sup>e</sup> world upon my self, & to be put into trusteas hands that if I dey before him, I can give it away by will as freely as I can do now, and a reserve of sextey pounds a year to bey me Cloathes that I might not be without y<sup>e</sup> comand of Money, at his Death he gives me one thousand pound in Money for ever to despose of wi<sup>th</sup> my owne, and one hunder<sup>d</sup> pound a year rent charg: for my life, this to be actuly settled upon Marrig, by sids what he may give me in his will at last, but if I Insist upon more at present & my Brother dus think he has dun enough for me when he has settled this, lett him but say what more he whod have him do that is in any reasonable way & but in his power, he will do it as a testemoney it is not for Intrest he mary<sup>s</sup> me, so I think I am rather boat then soald wi<sup>ch</sup> I was resalved to be if I chaung<sup>d</sup>; my condision, I am to keep my house I now live In redy firnished as it is, to live in towne in y<sup>e</sup> winter and y<sup>e</sup> Coundrey in y<sup>e</sup> summer, when this is dun I shall rune no haserds as to my substance, yet for all this advaintuges, I find a great diffeculty to gett over the questain whether I shall marry or not, and if I thought after liveing more then five years by my self, and eating & drinking alone in a solletry way, had not paid y<sup>e</sup> fewnerall wright to the Besst of husbands, I shod not marry upon any tirmes,

I have said all y<sup>e</sup> descorridger thing<sup>s</sup>, I coud think of to M<sup>r</sup> Sutton, I have told him I believe he tock me to be younger then really I was, and if he marrid me for Hirs he might be disopointed, as to that he answerd he left it to god, and if I have no Children of my owne I had near relations that had, wi<sup>ch</sup> was more then he could say for he had non but very distant relations wi<sup>ch</sup> had no expation from him, and he whod never marry a young woman that was to lerne to be a wife, for y<sup>e</sup> custums of y<sup>e</sup> present times did not educait thir youath: to be a companion for one of his pufesshion or Age, and his wife I think was at least twelve years older then him etc: and now Brother I know you may very well answer that you nor any freind can judg what is agreeable to me in this affair wi<sup>ch</sup> is trew and I think I have considerd all the Inconveniency<sup>s</sup> as well as coveniency<sup>s</sup> & previd=d against them as farr as I am able, and the only motive wi<sup>ch</sup> prevailes is a countrey life fo[r] to be allway<sup>s</sup> in a towne as I am was never plesant to me unless I could fall into y<sup>e</sup> way of gaiming & y<sup>e</sup> diversions wi<sup>ch</sup> others pertack of, I may live as many year by my self as I have dun, if I marry I have y<sup>e</sup> prospick of liv=y in a way I have been use to, wi<sup>th</sup> a Coach and other conveniency<sup>s</sup> about me, only a more plenttiffull fourtun then ever I had, or coud have expected at this time of day, this y<sup>e</sup> only temtasion wi<sup>ch</sup> has gott me over thus far: excuse y<sup>e</sup> lenthe of this, but I was willing to unbossume my self to you & lay all thing<sup>s</sup> bef'oer you & now I have to desire you not to communicat this to any but my Sis: Davenport whos opinnion I depend upon & shall writ to her very soon, if M<sup>r</sup> Addumson gett<sup>s</sup> what I have hear told you by y<sup>e</sup> end, it will be all y<sup>e</sup> country over so I beg: it may be keep from his knowledg, and that you will let me hear from you a soon as you can, for your aprebasion will be great gyed to Deare brother

your affection Sister  
& Servent: M hallifax

Seris to my Sister excuse hast for y<sup>e</sup> post is going out

No 26

To  
Henry Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>  
at Worfield Neare Bridgnorth  
In Shropshire  
By Way of London

Shardlow 3d April; 1728

Sr

I hope the Clean Deales I sent came safe to hand and gave good Content I should be very glad to have y<sup>e</sup> pleasure of receiving your further Commands for either a p<sup>l</sup>cell of Oak or Deale in w<sup>ch</sup> I will come as lowe in my prices as possible to encouridg you to be supplied from this part of the Country.

I have now a p<sup>l</sup>cell of Clean Deales 11 & 12 foots y<sup>t</sup> I can sell at £14:10:0 per lb Delivered at Burton w<sup>ch</sup> is very cheap I have Choyce of common Deales both Double & Single y<sup>t</sup> I can sell verry Cheap I am

Sr, Yo<sup>l</sup> Most Obliged S<sup>l</sup>vant

Leon<sup>d</sup> Fosbrooke

I hope y<sup>e</sup> Roades will be good shortly so y<sup>t</sup> Carridg may be had reasonable