

1804 - My bachelor house, tho' not very elegantly furnished, containing a good deal of room, was frequently favored with the company of my married friends & their ladies, my husband, Mrs Compton & her daughter (since my dearest wife, then educating at Mrs Suttons, Twickenham) Mrs C. Lawrence & the branches of our family, who often depicted the enmity of a solitary country residence. Ioston however had little externally to tempt a visit from a fair sex, being totally without pleasure garden walks, or grounds - Instead of London drove this summer to Liverpool, & meeting with an acquaintance, Mr Boughton, who was proceeding to his relations at the Lakes took him there in my carriage, & a second time enjoyed the town of Windermere, Bleaswick Sea, & Ulwater, near which is Dale-main, the fine place of Mr Hasell, where I was very hospitably received & was to have been my companion - The weather however tempting us, & being both disengaged, a trip to the neighbouring Kingdom was as soon agreed upon as proposed, & we turned our horses head towards Carlisle & Glasgow, passing Greta Green along range of lower hills, (this Moffat, the Harrogate of the Scots) to Douglas mill & Hamilton, whence, having taken in the way all the magnificent scenery of the Clyde & Lanark, we reached Glasgow - This appeared a much nobler city than I expected, but it has since as well as, Edinburgh I understand, been very greatly improved - We proceeded to the singular fort-ress of Dumbarton, & Loch Lomond, finding the latter, alas, almost in a fog - From hence by Dalhousie we arrived at the ancient metropolis, being much pleased with the fine view of it & the hills of Galloway with its Islands from Roberton House - remained at Edinburgh a few days, visiting Holy well House; Leith town & harbour, and the objects with a stranger's attention -

1799 - became soon acquainted with a families residing near Ioston, the late Lord Vernon's being a secret, but only at Ioston in winter months, spending the autumn in Wales - Mr Duffett as usual occupied the baronage then, & had under his care the other abbeys, ^(since forfeited) ^{the lawless & several other young men with whom I was then, & have since been intimate -} commenced farming under my unfavourable auspices, the summer being unusually wet, & fatal to my hay crop, much of which was ruined off by the floods - paid Twenty Pounds for two tons of old hay, & had to send to Derby for it - found the manure extensive, & well stocked with game, which my friends soon came to assist me in hunting -

1800 - During the winter & spring began to hunt regularly with Lord Vernon's ground, then under a excellent management of Mr Duffett, & soon became the hunting ground of most of the gentlemen composing the field, among them the late Lord G. Talbot, his nephew Lord & the Mr Magdalen, old Mr. Fitzherbert, & Mr. Alderley, the Shapley Mundy's, & Charles of Newcastle, the Reverend (since Lord W.) lately settled at Downage, Mr W. & Sambrook Esqrs, with many others often at Ioston - Sir H. Every & E. Mundy Junr (old school fellows) had just married, & were living at ^{father of some party} Eglington & Wotton not far distant - Submitted also to the Derby Harriers, & became a member of the County Hunt that, the dinner of which at that time were well attended - My Mr & Mrs Yampson's kind wife had always a bed at their house when I wished to be in Derby, which gave me favourable opportunities of attending the Races & Asbury's Meads, & other parties of a season - visited occasionally at Longford and Colleston, where the present Sir C. Mundy then resided in the family of his uncle, a Doctor, who occupied the Hall -

1001 - Spent the winter & spring of this year much as the last, partaking of the Christmas festivities of Ludbury, which generally consisted of theatrical entertainments very well got up, a twelfth night ball to the county families, & dance on Miss Vernon's birth night to id farmers, & domestics - a barber from Boles & other messicks also embraced the company in the great hall, fine works being displayed on the lawn - at this period the beautiful Forest of Needwood being uninclosed, when the winter hunting ceased, had often delightful rides in it during April & May, with the young fox hounds, then stopping to scent hare, & frequently very lively bursts - became acquainted with Mr Gistone of Great Lodge, & his brother living at Holly Bush, both in the thickets of the forest, & an friend Mr Pringle, a vicar of Hambury - one road only then crossing Needwood to Lichfield, & leaving all other parts of it in winter - to nearly impassable - usually paid a visit to London in June in my carriage, & took up my abode at Fladgate Hotel, the chief quarters of my brother for several years - Had the honor this year (if I recollect right) of being Steward at Derby Races with Godfrey (General) Mundy, & a good show of company on the old Race course in Sinfie Moor - invited shooting parties & hunting friends in id winter, being myself well horsed with four good hunters Worcester, Gamble, Blackmore, & id - & very favorite hack, Snap, bought at Cambridge, & one or two young colts breaking in -

1002 - Taking some interest in farming, & having a dairy of 20 cows, whose cheese sold well, I became member of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, now no more, & frequently attended its meetings & committees,

1802 - at this time also bought my Leicestershire property at Whittington, now much improved by fencing, draining roads, & the enclosure of Charnwood forest, the allotments from which, exclusive of what I sold, added to the estate render it 360. acres including a young wood of 24 - The country being now, as it was called, at Peace with France, after my visit to London, repaired to the Lower Court, Mr Trevanion being then member for that town & his sons my friends, staying there - was in hopes of finding it easy to make a short trip to Paris, but met with many obstacles, which induced me to give up.

1803 - War again raging, & the threats of invasion by Napoleon having roused the spirit of the Nation, all classes were called upon to stand forward in its defence, among which Foster & Tupton producing two or three scores of heroes, led the honor, in company with a sort of military caste then at Chichester, of attempting to drill them for some months - more regular corps of volunteers however having been formed in the larger towns & parishes, & I joined, as lieutenant, that of Ludbury, generally acting with a smaller company at Bouridge, Capt Lambert as senior commanding the whole - nearly six thousand men were regimented in id county of Derby, & would have soon have been fit for local duty, if wanted, & capable of sending many fine detachments to id regular forces Besides these military services was at different periods invested with the civil & parish offices of overseer of the Poor, & Roads; and was occasionally summoned ~~to the grand jury~~ as no freeholder of Derbyshire on the grand juries -

was sold
 probably to
 Mr. Maltman

I commanded this company of 120 men
 soon after & until the general reduction
 of the volunteer force

Hall Family Papers and Sugar Plantation Records

1709 - 1892

MSS.0220

Oversize: FB-226-69

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS -
Thomas Kirkpatrick Hall, Memoir fragment
(pp. 5-8) [North Midlands], 1799-1804



Copyright: UC Regents

Use: This work is available from the UC San Diego Libraries. This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

Constraints: This work is protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). Use of this work beyond that allowed by "fair use" requires written permission of the UC Regents. Permission may be obtained from the UC San Diego Libraries department having custody of the work (<http://libraries.ucsd.edu/collections/mscl/>). Responsibility for obtaining permissions and any use and distribution of this work rests exclusively with the user and not the UC San Diego Libraries.