

Theme 1 - South Nottinghamshire Election

Subtheme3 - Personalities

Transcripts for other primary sources

Contents

- o Pw H 517/1 – Extract of a letter from 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne to 4th Duke of Portland; 3 Mar. 1846
- o Ne C 4592 – Letter from the Duke of Hamilton to Lord Lincoln; 11 Feb. 1846
- o Ne C 4597/1-2 – Letter from Lord Lincoln to 'Sir'; 26 Feb. 1846
- o Ne C 4647 – Letter from Lord Lincoln to R. Milward; 4 Mar. 1846
- o Ne C 4596 – Letter from Edward Dawson, Reform Club, London, to 'Sir'; 19 Feb. 1846
- o Ne C 4616 – Letter from G.T. Whittington to Lord Lincoln; 16 Feb. 1846
- o Ne C 4624 – Letter from J.W. Lee to the Committee of the Earl of Lincoln; 20 Feb. 1846
- o Ne C 4625 – Letter from Edward Woollett-Wilmot to Lord Lincoln; 20 Feb. 1846
- o Ne C 4626 – Letter from James J. Peach to Lord Lincoln; 21 Feb. n.y. [1846]
- o Ne C 4627 – Letter written from Bolton Street to Lord Lincoln; 21 Feb. [1846]
- o Ne C 4628 – Letter from J.F. Beckwith to Lord Lincoln; 21 Feb. 1846

Where the commentary refers to only sections of letters, these passages are shown in red.

Contents

Pw H 517/1 – Extract of a letter from 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne to 4th Duke of Portland; 3 Mar. 1846

Clumber.
March 3.
1846

My dear Duke

I Shall be Most Exceedingly anxious to know how all has gone off this day in this Divn. of the County & what may be the State of the Poll this night - I anticipate nothing but the most decisive & satisfactory [p 2] Success - but still I shall be glad to know it - & to have it confirmed by the undeniable fact-

I deeply regret that this unnecessary annoyance expence & trouble, shall have been caused however indirectly, as I hope, by Lincoln - poor fellow he seems to have lost all right judgment & proper feeling - but when he can abandon his father, it may be expected that he will [p 3] not be very scrupulous about other matters - He seems of late years to have taken quite a new nature upon him, & in confidence I may tell you that my grief & affliction is such as to embitter every hour of my life -

I have diverged, I Was about to ask you to communicate to me this night the state of the Poll when you receive it –

And now my dear

Ne C 4592 – Letter from the Duke of Hamilton to Lord Lincoln; 11 Feb. 1846

Private

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Transcripts are provided by Dr Richard Gaunt and edited for the purposes of this project by Lynda Carter.

Hamilton Palace
Febry 11th 1846=

My Dear Lincoln -

Report says that you are gone down to secure your reelection for your division of Notts, in opposition to your father - a step a father never can approve - Instead of opposing the Duke, go to him, fall upon your knees, & ask his blessing & his support - A son cannot humiliate himself before His God or His Parent -

You know how much I admire your ambition, & exalt in your success - If you are committed - can my name assist you? I have no money to offer at present, but if you can secure a thousand pounds for your election, by my putting my name to yours, & thus making a double security - do it - directly - I am Yours affectly

Hamilton

The right Honble
The Earl of Lincoln

Ne C 4597/1-2 – Letter from Lord Lincoln to 'Sir'; 26 Feb. 1846

Stoke Hall
26. Feb. 1846.

My Dear Sir

I think you will see that it is impossible for me to place myself in a position to incur a second defeat in my own County and I cannot think that after a canvass has been carried on by Lord Henry Bentinck for ten days there can be any fair prospect of success if I were to come forward in opposition to him -

There are [p 2] also considerations which make it difficult for me to come forward now for the Northern Division. My doing so would with some fairness be characterized as the contest which is just over has most unfairly been - a requisition from a majority of the constituency would have materially altered the case but this is now [p 3] impossible -

As regards Lord H. Bentinck I Should feel no delicacy in being his opponent - The Duke of Portland's conduct in this Division of the County relieves me from any obligations of respect and friendship as regards him - but I would not willingly lay myself open to the imputation of disturbing the peace of the County when it is impossible [p 4] for me to form any opinion as to the chances of a successful issue -

I confess moreover that I cannot undertake a struggle a second time within a week with the Duke of Portland's purse - I am no ashamed to avow the smallness of my means - The money for the late contest must all be borrowed, and tho' in that case I had ample justification for incurring [p 5] the expence I could not reconcile it with my sense of duty to my Family to volunteer a fight with an Adversary whose expenditure Would be lavish & unscrupulous.

I am &c &c &c
Signed Lincoln

I Shall be in Nottm after the declaration to-morrow on my way to London –

Ne C 4647 – Letter from Lord Lincoln to R. Milward; 4 Mar. 1846

Sir

The experience of the last three weeks has established so accurately the value to be attached to any assertions made by you that I should not think of discussing "facts" with you even if the impertinent tone of your letter did not disentitle it to any reply -

It is as well that I should [p 2] at once say that my sense of your whole conduct throughout the late election is such that I shall decline holding any communication with you.

I am happy to think that much as I have been pained by the proceedings of many I am not [p 3] compelled to alter my habits of intercourse and correspondence with any other Person in the County than yourself.

I am
Sir
Yr Obedt Servant
Lincoln

Ne C 4596 – Letter from Edward Dawson, Reform Club, London, to 'Sir'; 19 Feb. 1846

Reform Club
Feby. 19. 1846.

Sir

Lord Lincoln's circular together with the request of my answer has only this morning reached my hands. If I had been in the country I should have made a point of attending at the nomination on Saturday - I the less regret my inability to do this as my very small interest in the County of Nottingham would [p 2] make my attendance a matter of no importance either to his Lordships interest or the furtherance of the great Principles at stake. I hear but one opinion among free traders as to their obligations to Lord Lincoln for the sacrifices & exertions he is making - I shall endeavor to discharge my share of them by giving him a very hearty vote at East Leake on Tuesday next.

[p 3] I have the honor to be
Sir
Yours very obedtly
Edward Dawson

Ne C 4616 – Letter from G.T. Whittington to Lord Lincoln; 16 Feb. 1846

My Lord

I cannot refrain from thus giving expression to my admiration of your Ldship's lofty national & unanswerable addresses to the Electors of South Nott's; & further to express my ardent hope that yr Ldship may still represent that division of the County, despite ignorant [p 2] and selfish opposition -

It would have afforded me infinite gratification could I have promoted your Ldship's interest; but vote there I have not & presume that otherwise no personal exertions of mine can be of service -

The interest I feel for the important national cause in which your Ldship has [p 3] has so brilliantly & constitutionally embarked, is somewhat augmented by having a Brother & Brother in Law resident in yr. County (at Tuxford) the former a medical man, the latter a farmer, and both being landed proprietors there; nevertheless, holding opinion I know, with yr Ldship. I [p 4] I trust that, under these combined circumstances, yr Ldship will pardon, if not appreciate my intrusion.-

I have the honor to be
Yr Ldships
Mo. ob. st. &c
G.T. Whittington

Whitmore House
Nr Guildford. Surrey
16 Feby. 46-

Ne C 4624 – Letter from J.W. Lee to the Committee of the Earl of Lincoln; 20 Feb. 1846

Newark 20 Feby 1846.

Gentlemen

Convinced that the South Notts Election will not at all affect the Corn Question, now before Parliament, I cannot deny myself the gratification of recording my vote in favor of the Right Honle the Earl of Lincoln, for whom Personally I entertain the most profound respect, and if the Committee think there is any voter who has not promised his vote, whom I could influence I will with pleasure call upon him. -

I have the Honor to be
Gent
Yr very hble St
J.W. Lee

Ne C 4625 – Letter from Edward Woollett-Wilmot to Lord Lincoln; 20 Feb. 1846

Worksop –
Feby-29th 1846-

My Lord,

After much consideration, and a great fight with my own private wishes I have decided not to appear at the Nomination to-morrow - my reasons for so deciding are 1st that my presence could not gain you a vote, nor in any way further your Election - 2nd that I am still the Duke's Agent, and his views being now well known, my appearance in public might only tend to irritate His Grace and your Opponents, and give grounds for the now generally beleived [sic] falsehood, that I have canvassed his Tenants in your favour - a course I could not as an honest man adopt, but one I have the credit of both in Notts and Derbyshire - Do not

suppose it is cowardice, or that if I could be of any use I should be absent - I have written strongly to R. Holden and J. Storey who both broadly asserted in Derby the other day that I had canvassed all the Tenants, and would hear no denial from my Brother - I have written to Mr. Tallents and Mr. Rawson as to Money - and purpose being at Nottm on Saturday Eveng to make arrangements as to Conveyances &c - The Duke has not been written to as to the Funeral at Ranby - With every hearty wish for your success - and much chagrin at not being on the hustings, I remain, My Lord,

Yr. Obligd and Obdt. Servant,
Edw Woollett Wilmot –

For the Earl of Lincoln
Newark –

Ne C 4626 – Letter from James J. Peach to Lord Lincoln; 21 Feb. n.y. [1846]

Holme Pt
Febry 21st

My dear Lord,

I assure you it is a matter of real regret to me that I find myself shut out from the power of acceding to your request. It was not till after Mr. Vernon left me the other day, that I awoke to the recollection of having told Mr. Hildyard, (who happen'd to fall in with me at Kirklington) that tho' nothing [p 2] shd. induce me to swerve from my fealty to your Lp., both on the score of personal regard & my estimation of your public claims upon us, yet on the present occasion I was prevented from appearing on either side; & shd., therefore, not vote against him. I feel, therefore, that your Lp will agree with me that, having so committed myself, under the impression that I cd. not [p 3] put off my visits into Northamptonshire without giving offence, I cd. not honorably recal my promise. -

Under these circumstances I can only offer you our sincere (tho' empty) wishes; - deploring at the same time a certain address in the last Nottm Journal very deeply!! -

I remain, my dear Ld,
Yr's truly & faithfully
Jas. J. Peach

Ne C 4627 – Letter written from Bolton Street to Lord Lincoln; 21 Feb. [1846]

Bolton Street Feb. 21.

Bravo. Bravissimo. my dear Lord. Go on as You have begun and rest assured that whether you succeed or not, this contest will be no fruitless one to you. I hear but one Voice in Your favour. Even [p 2] Protectionists wish you success and our bold and manly Bearing has much contributed to this. I cannot resist the Pleasure of writing it to you.

I very earnestly hope you will succeed, but I own I am not so sanguine as others. My Regard for you makes me [p 3] too much listen to my fears. In general, people here look forward to your success with a great deal of confidence and will be much disappointed at your Failure. God grant it may not be so.

How is it that you, who can do so well at the Hustings, [p 4] are intimidated by that vulgar House of Commons. You must really mend this. Now that we know your quality, we shall look for something. We know it is in you and it must come out of you. You have now taken in men's minds a conspicuous Station among [p 5] the eminent public men of your day. Your light must not go out for lack of oil.

I went to your house this evening, for which you had the goodness to set down my name and I do not think it is matter of vanity to say I could have often [p 6] been in the house as well as any and better than most. We doctors are certainly not orators, yet I never heard such indifferent speaking at a doctors assembly, Scott crazy, Miles twaddly - Northland tipsy Douglas prosy. Ward only smart. But it was a very dull affair.

[p 7] I am glad to hear a better account of Lady Lincoln.

Was the accident at Hamilton veritable or only humbug? What pity the old fellow had not slipped his wind.

Ever my dear Lord
Most truly yours
N Gairdner

[p 8] Am I wrong in attributing some lines concerning you in the daily news yesterday to Mrs. N.? I think I recognize her mystical vapoury sentimental stile [sic].

Ne C 4628 – Letter from J.F. Beckwith to Lord Lincoln; 21 Feb. 1846

East Retford.
21 Feb. 1846.

My Lord

I regret that, from unavoidable circumstances, it will not be in my power to record my vote in your Lordship's favor on Tuesday next, yet I assure you, that it will afford me much pleasure, should you be returned for South Nottinghamshire.

I remain
your Lordship's
faithful Servt
T.F. Beckwith