

# Bess of Hardwick's Letters

**Letter ID: 084 (URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=084>)**

From: Gilbert Talbot;

To: Bess of Hardwick;

Date: [July 1577?]

Summary: Gilbert Talbot writes to his stepmother and mother-in-law, Bess (countess of Shrewsbury), with apologies for his blunt style in reporting conversations he has had with his father (Bess's husband, George, sixth earl of Shrewsbury) regarding herself - Gilbert acting as an intermediary between the two during a period of marital discord. A postscript advises about certain Scottish sellers of linen who carry letters of importance for Mary Queen of Scots.

Archive: Folger Shakespeare Library, Cavendish-Talbot MSS, X.d.428 (111)

Delivery status: to Bess, sent

Letter features: Seal intact - no. Ribbon/floss – no. Letter packet - slit and band

Hands: Gilbert Talbot | archivist |

Version: 1.0

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## People Associated with Letter 084: Gilbert Talbot

Gilbert Talbot (1552-1616) was the son of George Talbot, sixth earl of Shrewsbury, and his first wife Gertrude (née Manners; d.1566). Gilbert was the second son but as his older brother Frances died in 1582, Gilbert succeeded to the earldom and became seventh earl of Shrewsbury after his father died on 18 November 1590. After his father's marriage to Bess (and to serve their interests), on 9 February 1568 Gilbert was married to Bess's daughter from her second marriage, Mary (née Cavendish). That is to say, Gilbert was married to his step-sister, at which point Bess became both his step-mother and mother-in-law. (At the same time, his sister Grace was married to Bess's eldest son Henry.) Gilbert and Mary were known for living large and eventually relations between Gilbert and his father Shrewsbury deteriorated over what Shrewsbury saw as his son and daughter-in-law's careless spending and the resultant debt. Gilbert also became notorious for his quarrelsome disposition. His relationship with his father suffered further damage when he accused him of siding with his wife Bess during their marriage breakdown. After his father's death he became engaged in litigation with Bess over the will (a legal battle which Bess won). Then, in 1594, he challenged his brother, Edward Talbot, to a duel amidst allegations of poisoning. These and other feuds were often long-lasting and expensive and left Gilbert with many enemies and debts. Gilbert had five children with Mary. His two sons, George and John, died in infancy and therefore his three daughters became joint heirs to their father's titles and great estate: Mary Herbert, countess of Pembroke (d. 1650), Elizabeth Grey, countess of Kent (1582-1651) and Aletheia Howard, countess of Arundel (b. After 1582, d. 1654).

Other letters associated with Gilbert Talbot:

- 4 November 1570 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=171>)
- 28 June 1574 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=80>)
- 14 May 1575 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=81>)
- [October 1575?] (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=218>)
- 13 October 1575 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=217>)
- 20 February 1575/6 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=165>)
- 28 May 1576 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=82>)
- 1 August 1577 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=85>)
- [30 June 1578?] (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=83>)
- 13 February 1578/9 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=166>)
- 28 February 1578/9 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=174>)
- 11 September 1580 (Recipient)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=154>)
- 31 January 1580/1 (Recipient)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=228>)
- 31 January 1580/1 (Recipient)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=227>)

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[19 September 1583?] (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=86>)

[February 1589] (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=87>)

1 July 1589 (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=88>)

28 February [1597/8?] (Recipient)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=187>)

[November 1604] (Author)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=177>)

15 January [1606] (Recipient)(URL: <http://www.bessofhardwick.org/letter.jsp?letter=180>)

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## People Associated with Letter 084: Bess of Hardwick

Born Elizabeth Hardwick (in c.1521/2, d. 13 February 1608), the woman known to posterity as Bess of Hardwick married four times during her life, as a result of which her name changed from Hardwick to Barlow (or Barley), Cavendish, St Loe and then finally (when she was countess of Shrewsbury and then dowager countess) Talbot. As one of the five children of John Hardwick (1495-1528) of Hardwick, Derbyshire, and his first wife, Elizabeth (née Leake), Bess had three sisters (Mary, Jane and Alice) and one brother (James). The Hardwicks were established Derbyshire gentry who had inherited a modest manor house and c.400 acres in and around Hardwick. But when John died in 1528, and their lands were seized by the crown, Bess faced hardship. Bess's mother quickly remarried but her new husband, Ralph Leche of Chatsworth, Derbyshire, brought little land or money to the marriage, and three more daughters were born (Bess's half-sisters Elizabeth, Jane and Margaret). Little else is known of Bess's childhood but, while still young, she was married for the first time, to Robert Barlow (or Barley) of Barlow, Derbyshire, sometime in or before 1543. Barlow died in 1544 and Bess received a small inheritance. In 1547 she married the twice-widowed Sir William Cavendish, treasurer of the king's chamber. Bess and Cavendish had eight children, six of whom survived: Frances (1548), Henry (1550), William (1551, from whom the dukes of Devonshire are descended), Charles (1553, from whom the dukes of Newcastle and Portland are descended), Elizabeth (1554) and Mary (1556). Probably due to a mixture of affection and shared social ambition, Bess's second marriage was happy and fortuitous. She was now moving in courtly circles and experiencing (for the first time) considerable wealth. In 1549 Cavendish and Bess bought the estate of Chatsworth, which was held jointly in both their names and which he and then Bess, following Cavendish's death in 1557, ambitiously rebuilt. Soon after her second husband's death, and sometime before Elizabeth I's accession (in 1558), Bess married Sir William St Loe, a wealthy widower of ancient noble pedigree. St Loe was captain of the guard to the young queen and in addition to further improving Bess's finances, he also brought her into the queen's inner circle and she served briefly as a gentlewoman of the queen's privy chamber (in 1559). The marriage seems to have not been without affection; however, the two would have spent most of it apart - he serving the queen in London and Bess mostly at Chatsworth. Upon St Loe's death (probably in 1565), Bess inherited most of the estate. In 1567 Bess married for a final time, to George Talbot, sixth earl of Shrewsbury, one of the richest and most powerful men in England. To consolidate the union of their fortunes, the couple had Bess's eldest son, Henry, marry Shrewsbury's daughter (from his previous marriage), and Shrewsbury's eldest son, Gilbert (later the seventh earl), marry Bess's daughter, Mary. Also around this time, Shrewsbury was appointed to be the keeper of Mary Queen of Scots (from 1568-84). At first, relations between Bess and the Catholic Scottish queen seem to have been amicable; however, relations deteriorated all around as Bess's marriage to Shrewsbury broke down in the 1580s. An infamously nasty and highly public legal battle over estates ensued and finally the courts resolved that Shrewsbury provide Bess with a sizeable income from 1587 onwards (Shrewsbury died in 1590). In 1582, Bess took charge of the upbringing of her orphaned granddaughter, Arbella Stuart (1575-1615), claimant to the English

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and Scottish crowns. In 1587, Bess undertook her remarkable building works at Hardwick: the house now known as Hardwick Old Hall was complete by 1591; next to it, the extraordinary building now known as Hardwick New Hall was complete by 1599 and is one of the greatest architectural ventures of Elizabethan England. It was at Hardwick that Bess spent most of the remainder of her life, much of it devoted to caring for and managing Arbella, who came to loathe her existence in Derbyshire and devised several bizarre plans for her escape (to Bess's great distress). Bess also quarrelled with her eldest son, Henry, and disinherited both him and Arbella in her will. She left most of her estate to her beloved and faithful son, William Cavendish, who continued her great dynasty into the seventeenth century.

## Normalised view of Letter 084

My duty most honourably Remembred I truste your Ladyship will pardone me in wrytinge playnely & truly, altho it be bothe bluntley and tediously. I mett my Lord at bolsor yesterday aboute one of the clocke who at the very fyrste was rather desyrouse to heare from hence, then to inqyre of Kyllingeworthe, quoth he, gilbert what taulke had my wyfe with yow marry my Lord quoth he I it hathe pleased her to taulke with me once or twyse synce my cumminge, but the matter she moste spake of is no smale discomforte for me to vnderstande then was he very desyrouse & bade me tell him what, I began./ Truly ser, with as greved a mynde as ever I sawe woman in my lyfe, she toulde me your Lordship was vehemently offended with her, in suche sorte, and with so many wordes & shewes in your angre, of evell will towards her, as therby your Ladyship sayde, you colde not, but stande doubtfull that all his wonted love & affection is cleane turned to the contrary for your Ladyship further sayde, you had geven him no cause at all to be offended, you hearinge that your imbroderers weare kepte oute of the Lodge from theyre beddes by Iohn dykensons commandement, sayde to my Lord thes wordes, in the morninge, noone, did you gyve commandement yat the imbroderers shoulde be kepte oute of the Lodge, And my Lord answered no, Then quoth your Ladyship they weare kepte from theyr beddes there yesternyghte, and he that did so sayde Iohn dykenson had geven yat expresse commandement, which my Lord sayde was a lye, And he sayde it was vtterly vntrewe, & so I wolde have gone on to have toulde the reste, howe your Ladyship willed him to inqyre whether they weare not in this manner kepte oute or no, his procedinge into vehement coller & harde speches, but he cutt me of, sayinge it was to no purpose to heare any resytall of this matter, for if he lysted he sayde he cold remember cruell speches your Ladyship vsed to him, which weare such as, quoth he, I was forced to tell her, she scolded lyke one yat came from the banke, then gilbert sayd he Iudge you whether I had cause or not, well quoth he I will speke no more of this matter, but she hathe suche a sorte of varletts aboute her as never restethe carryinge of tales & there vttered cruell wordes agaynste owen chefely and the imbroderers, over lounge to troble your Ladyship with, so beyng alyghted from his horsse all this whyle, sayde lett vs gett vpp and be goynge, and I shall have ynoughe to doe when I cum home, then (quoth I) I thynke my Lady be at Chatesworthe by this tyme, what quoth he is she gone from Sheffeld, I answered by ix of the cloke whervppon he seemed to marvayle greatly, & sayde is her malice suche she wolde not tarrye on nyght for my cumminge, I answered yat your Ladyship toulde me that he was contented at your fyrste cumminge you sholde goe as yesterday which he fursware he never harde of then quoth I, my Lady further toulde me that when your Lordship was contented for her departure that day, he sayde yat he had busynes in the Peake and wolde shortely cum thither & lye at Chatesworthe (quoth he) her goynge away thus gevethe me smale cause to cum to Chatesworthe, but answered not whether he sayde so or not, but I assure your Ladyship before god he was & is greatly offended with your goynge hence yesterday After he had seene all his groundes aboute bolsor and was comen into the way homewardes, he began with me agayne, sayinge yat all the house myghte deserne your Ladyship's stomoke agaynste him by your departure before his cumminge, I answered, besydes yat I sayde before, yat your Ladyship sayde you had very gret & earnest busynes, as

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well at Chatesworthe for your thynges there, as to dele with sertayne freeholders for ser thomas stanhope, but he allowed not of any reson or cause, but was exceedinge angrye for the same wherevppon I spake at large, which I beseche your Ladyship to pardon my tediousnes in repetall therof, or at leste ye moste therof, quoth I, I pray your Lordship gyve me leave to tell you playnely what I gathered by my Lady, I see she is so greaved & vexed in mynde, as I proteste to god, I never sawe any woman more in my lyfe, and after she had toulde me, howe withoute any cause at all your Lordship vttered moste cruell & bytter speches agaynste her, when she all the whyle never vttered any vndutyfull worde, and had particularly Imparted the whole matter, she playnely declared vnto me, that she thoughte, your Lordship's harte was withdrawn from her, and all your affection & love to hate & evell wille sayinge yat you toke it as your crosse, yat so contrary to your deservinges he adjudged of you, appllinge the manyfolde shewes which you so infynitely have made profe, & so forgott no earnest protestacion yat your Ladyship pleased to vtter to me of your deere affection and love to him bothe in healtie & sycknes, takinge it vppon your soule yat you have wysshed his greives weare on your selfe to disburthen & quyte him of, and quoth I my Lord when she toulde me of this her deere love towardes you, and now howe your Lordship had requyted her, she was in suche perplexitie, as I never sawe woman, and concluded yat your Ladyship's speche was, yat now you know he thoughte him selfe moste happye when you were absente from him, and moste vnhappye when you were with him, and att this I assure your Ladyship he melted, and altho I can not say his very wordes weare, yat he had Iniuryed & wronged you yet bothe by his countenance & wordes it playnely shewed the same, and answered, I know quoth he, her love hathe bene great to me/ and myne hathe bene & is as great to her, for what can a man doe more for his wyfe then I have done, and daly doe for her, and so reckened at large your Ladyship may thynke with the moste, what he had geven & bestowed whervnto I coulde not otherwise replye then thus. quoth I, my Lord she weare to blame if she consydered not thes thynges, but I gather playnely by her speche to me, yat she thynkethe notwithstandinge that your harte is hardened agaynste her, as I have once or twyse alredy toulde your Lordship, and yat you love them yat love not her, and beleave thos aboute you which hatethe her, and at your departure I sayde, your Ladyship toulde me, that you verely thoughte my Lord was gladder of your abcence then presence, wherin I assure your Ladyship he depely protested the contrary & sayde, gilbert you know the contrarye, and how often I have curced the buyldinge at Chatesworthe for wante of her companye, but (quoth he) you ... see she carethe not for my companie by her goynge away I wolde not have done so to her for vcli but after this he taulked not muche, but I know it pynched him & in my conscyence I thynke so, but what effecte will follow (god knowethe,) I will wryte agayne to your Ladyship what I fynde by him this day, for yesternighte havinge not talked with any but my selfe, I know that his harte desyred reconsyliation, if he wyste which way to brynge it to passe, The lyvyng god graunte it, and make his harte turne to your comforte in all thynges / To morow he will sende me to Darby aboute Sir thomas Stanhops matter. I moste humbly beseche your Ladyship's blessing to me & myne, george reioyced so greatly yesternyghte at my Lord's cumminge home, as I colde not

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have beleved if I had not seene it. Sunday at ix of the clocke. For godes sake maddame pardone my very tedyouse & evellfavored scryblinge.

your Ladyship's moste humble and obedient lovinge sunne durynge my lyfe

Gilbert Talbott

the hastie lettres from Sir Iohn cunstable was to advertise yat there are ij Scotts yat travell with lynen clothe to sell yat have lettres of importance to this Quene thone of them is brother to curle my Lord huntington lettre was refusall of Land yat my Lord offred him to sell.



## Diplomatic view of Letter 084

[Letter Text]

### [Letter Text: Notes]

X.d.428

(111) [Item number, hand: archivist]

182 [Old foliation/item number, hand: archivist]

161 [Old foliation/item number, hand: archivist]

My duty m: *honourably Remembred* I truste yo<sup>r</sup> La. will pardone <sup>^me^</sup> in wrytinge playnely & truly, altho it be ether <sup>^bothe^</sup> blutley and tediously. I mett my L. at bolsor yesterday aboute one of the clocke who at the very fyrste was rather desyrouse to heare from hence, then to inqyre of Kyllingeworthe, quoth he, gilbert what taulke had my wyfe w<sup>th</sup> yo.<sup>w</sup> marry my L. quoth I it hathe pleased her to taulke w<sup>th</sup> me once or twyse synce my cumminge, but the matter she moste spake of is no smale discomforte for me to vnderstande then was he very desyrouse & bade me tell him what, I began./ † Truly ser, w<sup>th</sup> as greved a mynde as ever I sawe woman in my sam lyfe, she toulde me yo<sup>r</sup> L. was vehemently offended w<sup>th</sup> her, in suche sorte, and w<sup>th</sup> so many <sup>^wordes &^</sup> shewes in yo<sup>r</sup> angre, of evell will towards her, and as therby yo<sup>r</sup> La. sayde, yo<sup>u</sup> colde not, but stande doubtfull of that all his wonted love & affection is cleane turned to the contrary for yo<sup>r</sup> La. further sayde, yo<sup>u</sup> had geven him no cause at all to be offended, yo<sup>u</sup> hearinge that yo<sup>r</sup> imbroderers weare kepte oute of the Lodge from theyre beddes by ~~dykensons~~ Iohn dykensons commandem<sup>t</sup>, sayde to my L. thes wordes ~~noone~~, in the morninge, noone, did yo<sup>u</sup> gyve commandem<sup>t</sup> y<sup>t</sup> the imbroderers shoulde be kepte oute of the Lodge, And my L. answered no, Then quoth yo<sup>r</sup> La. they weare kepte from theyr beddes there yesternyghte, and he that did so sayde Io. dykenson had geven ~~them~~ y<sup>t</sup> expresse commandem<sup>t</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> my L. sayde was a lye, And he sayde it was vtterly vntrewe, & so I wolde have gone on to have toulde the reste, howe yo<sup>r</sup> La. willed him to inqyre whether they weare not in this manner kepte oute or no, his

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proceedinge into vhe vehement coller & harde speches, but he  
cutt me of, sayinge it was to no purpose to heare any  
resytall of this matter, for if he lysted he sayde he cold  
remember cruell speches yo<sup>r</sup> La. vsed to him, w<sup>ch</sup> weare such  
as, quothe he, I was forced to say tell her, she scolded lyke  
one y<sup>t</sup> came from the banke, then gilbert <sup>^sayd he^</sup> Iudge yo<sup>u</sup> whether

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I had cause or not, well quothe he I will speke no  
more of this matter, but she hathe suche a sorte of  
varletts aboute her as never restethe carryinge of tales  
& there vttered cruell wordes agaynste owen chefely and  
the imbroderers, over lounge to troble yo<sup>r</sup> La. w<sup>th</sup>, so beyng  
alyghted from his horsse all this whyle, sayde lett  
vs gett vpp and be goynge, and I shall have ynoughe  
to doe when I cum home, then (quothe I) I thynke my  
La. be at Chatesworthe by this tyme, what quothe he is  
she gone from Sheffield, I answered by ix of the cloke  
whervppon he seemed to marvayle greatly, & sayde  
is her malice suche she wolde not tarrye on nyght  
for my cumminge, I answered y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> La. toulde me  
that he was contented at yo<sup>r</sup> fyrste cumminge yo<sup>u</sup> sholde  
goe as yesterday w<sup>ch</sup> he fursware he never harde of  
then quothe I, my La. further toulde me that when  
yo<sup>r</sup> L. was contented for her departure y<sup>o</sup> that day,  
he sayde y<sup>t</sup> he had busynes in the Peake and  
wolde shortely cum thither & lye at Chatesworthe  
(quothe he) her ~~eum~~ goynge away thus gevethe me <sup>h</sup> <sup>^smale^</sup>  
cause to cum to Chatesworthe, but answered not whether  
he sayde so or not, but I assure yo<sup>r</sup> La. before god  
he was & is greatly offended w<sup>th</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> goynge hence yester=day  
After he had seene all his groundes aboute bolsor and  
was comen into the way homewardes, he began w<sup>th</sup> me  
agayne, sayinge y<sup>t</sup> all the house myghte deserne yo<sup>r</sup> La.  
stomoke agaynste him by yo<sup>r</sup> departure before his cumminge,  
I answered, besydes y<sup>t</sup> I sayde before, y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> La. sayde  
yo<sup>u</sup> had very gret & earnest busynes, as well at  
Chatesworthe for yo<sup>r</sup> thynges there, as to dele w<sup>th</sup> sertayne

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freeholders for ser thomas stanhope, but he allowed not of any reson or cause, but was exceedinge angrye for the same wherevpon I spake at large, w<sup>ch</sup> I beseche yo<sup>r</sup> La. to pardon my tediousnes in repetall therof, or at leste y<sup>e</sup> moste therof

[page break]

, quothe I, I pray yo<sup>r</sup> L. gyve me leave to tell yo<sup>u</sup> playnely what I gathered by my Lady, I see she is so greaved & vexed in mynde, as I proteste to god, I never sawe any woman more in my lyfe, and after she had toulde me, howe w<sup>th</sup> oute any cause at all yo<sup>r</sup> L. vttered moste cruell & bytter speches agaynste her, when she all the whyle never vttered any vndutyfull worde, and had particularly Imparted the whole matter, she playnely deel declared vnto me, that she thoughte, yo<sup>r</sup> L. harte was w<sup>th</sup> drawen from her, and all yo<sup>r</sup> affection & love to hate & evell wille sayinge y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> toke it as yo<sup>r</sup> crosse, y<sup>t</sup> so contrary to yo<sup>r</sup> deservinges he adiudged of yo<sup>u</sup>, applinge the manyfolde shewes w<sup>ch</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> so infyt infynitely have shew made profe, & so forgott no earnest protestacion y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> La. pleased to vtter to me of yo<sup>r</sup> deere affection and love to him bothe in healthe & sycknes, takinge it vpon yo<sup>r</sup> soule y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> have wysshed his greives weare on yo<sup>r</sup> selfe to disburthen & quyte him of, and quothe I my L. when she toulde me of this her deere love towardes yo<sup>u</sup>, and now howe yo<sup>r</sup> L. had requyted her, she was in suche perplexitie, as I never sawe woman, and concluded y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> La. speche was, y<sup>t</sup> now yo<sup>u</sup> know he was thoughte him selfe moste happye when yo<sup>u</sup> were absente from him, and moste vnhappye when yo<sup>u</sup> were w<sup>th</sup> him, and att this I assure yo<sup>r</sup> La. he melted, and altho I can not say his very wordes weare, y<sup>t</sup> he had Iniuryed & wronged <sup>^you^</sup> yet bothe by his countenance & wordes he it playnely shewed the same, and answered, I know quothe he, her love hath bene great to me/ and myne hath bene & is as great to her, for what can a man doe more for his wyfe then I have done for her, and daly doe for her, and so reckened at large yo<sup>r</sup> La. may thynke

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w<sup>th</sup> the moste, what he had geven & bestowed whervnto  
I coulde not otherwise repleye then thus. quothe I,

[page break]

my L. she weare to blame if she consydered not  
thes thynges, but I gather playnely by her speche  
to me, y<sup>t</sup> she thynkethe notw<sup>th</sup> standinge that yo<sup>r</sup> harte  
is as I have sayde hardened agaynste her, as I  
have once or twyse alredy toulde yo<sup>r</sup> Lordship, and  
y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> love them y<sup>t</sup> love not her, and beleave thos  
aboute yo<sup>u</sup> w<sup>t</sup> w hatethe her, and at yo<sup>r</sup> departure  
I sayde, yo<sup>r</sup> La. toulde me, that yo<sup>r</sup> verely thoughte  
my L. was gladder of yo<sup>r</sup> La yo<sup>r</sup> abcence then presence,  
wherin I assure yo<sup>r</sup> La. he depely *protested* the contrary  
& sayde, gilbert yo<sup>u</sup> know the contrarye, and how often  
I have curced the buylde<sup>d</sup> buyldinge at Chatesworthe  
for wante of her companye, but (quothe <sup>he</sup>) you ... see she  
carethe not for my companie by her goynge away  
I wolde not have done so to her <sup>for</sup> <sup>v</sup>cli but after  
this he taulked not muche, but I know it pynched him  
& in my consyence I thynke so, but what <sup>effecte</sup> will follow  
(god knowethe,) I will wryte agayne to yo<sup>r</sup> La. what  
I fynde by him this day, for yesternighte havinge  
not talked w<sup>th</sup> any but my selfe, I know that  
his harte desyred reconsyliation, if he wyste w<sup>ch</sup> way  
to brynge it to passe, The lyvyngge god graunte it,  
and make his harte turne to yo<sup>r</sup> comfote in all thynges  
/ To morow he will sende me to Darby aboute S<sup>r</sup>  
tho. Stanhops matter. I moste humbly beseche yo<sup>r</sup> La. blessing  
to me & myne, george reioyced so greatly yesternyghte  
at my L. cumminge home, as I colde not have  
beleved if I had not seene it. Sunday at ix of  
the clocke. For godes g sake maddame *pardone* my very  
tedyouse & evellfavored scryblinge.

yo<sup>r</sup> La. moste humble and  
obedient lovinge sunne

# Bess *of* Hardwick's Letters

durynge my lyfe

Gilbert Talbott

§

the hastie *lettres* from S<sup>r</sup> Iohn cunstable was to  
advertise y<sup>t</sup> there are ij Scotts y<sup>t</sup> travell w<sup>th</sup> l<sup>yn</sup>e  
lynen clothe to sell y<sup>t</sup> have *lettres* of importance  
to this Quene thone of them is brother to curle  
my L. huntington *lettre* was refusall of Land y<sup>t</sup> my L. offred him to sell.

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