

BR29 Papers and correspondence of Emily Mary Temple, Viscountess Palmerston, formerly Countess Cowper: correspondence between Lady Palmerston, and her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb, later Lord Beauvale; letters to Lamb from his father, Peniston Lamb, first Viscount Melbourne.

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| 1/1-9 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: social gossip; the latest political news; news about her children; should she use cypher when writing to Frederick [BR29/1/6]; her movements around England from Panshanger to London and Brighton; her health; news of mutual friends and acquaintances including Lord Egremont; Princess Lieven; Prince Paul Esterhazy; Nieman; Henry Luttrell; General Mackenzie; Lady Euston; Lord and Lady Worcester; William Temple; Lord George; Henry Cowper; [Prince] Leopold [of Saxe-Coburg], later Leopold I of Belgium; the Duchess of Kent; Lady West. | [1817, 1819] |
| 2/1 | Very short letter from first Viscount Melbourne, to his son Hon Frederick Lamb: he and Emily are getting well, his own nerves have improved, and Lord Cowper wishes to return to Panshanger, so they will be leaving 'here' [Brighton] soon. | 4 Dec 1820 |
| 3/1-11 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb:
thanking him for gifts he has sent, and mentioning things she would like from Paris; news about the New Year's ball [BR29/3/1]; the weather; comments on her health, and news about her children; news of Elizabeth Conyngham, and about Marchioness Conyngham's affair with the King [BR29/3/3]; news about Queen Caroline's trial and a settlement made for her during King George IV's lifetime [BR29/3-5]; her brother George's return from India [BR29/5]; current politics and the election in March 1820 [BR29/4-6]; foreign affairs (Italy, Russia, France); about Frederick using a cypher if he wants to write anything he doesn't want seen by those in his office [BR29/7]; the Queen's decision to take Cambridge House; visits to the Opera. Acquaintances mentioned are: the family of James Edward Hubert Cecil Salisbury, 4th Marquess of Salisbury; Lord and Lady Dacre; the family of Henry Stephen Fox, third Lord Holland | Jan-Mar [1820],
some n.d. c.
1820 |
| 4/1-12 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: about social engagements and family news; visits to Brighton, Petworth and London [BR29/4/1]; comments about friends and acquaintances including Prince and Princess Lieven, the Duke of Wellington, the Leveson-Gower family, the Conyngham family: comments about the King and the Queen [29/4/3]; the public enquiry into the Queen's conduct, which took place in the House of Lords from 17 August-10 November 1820 Queen [29/4/7-12]. | 21 Apr-5 Oct
1820 |
| 5/1-9 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: much detail about her health and her children; Queen Caroline and the withdrawal of the bill [about the Queen] from the Lords because it would not have passed Commons [BR29/5/4]; comments on how the government and the opposition have mismanaged the Queen's case [BR29/5/1-]; about friends including Henry Bathurst, third Earl Bathurst and his family. | c. 10 Oct-Dec
1820 |
| 6/1-14 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: miscellaneous pages, most of which are from letters to Frederick. At least two letters, which are not to Frederick, date | c. 1817-22, c.
1840s |

to post 1839, as Emily is using the title Lady Palmerston. The earlier pages discuss politics and the present government, the future of Frederick's diplomatic career, and the government in Portugal.

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| 7/1-13 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: social engagements; her dislike of gambling [BR29/7/5]; the suicide of Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, 2nd Marquess of Londonderry and Foreign Secretary, and Lady Londonderry's reaction to her husband's suicide [BR29/7/7]; speculation over who will take Londonderry's place in the Foreign office and how it will affect Frederick's diplomatic position in Frankfurt, and much discussion about the pending changes in the government [BR29/7/7,9-10]; the health of their father. Friends and acquaintances mentioned include: Henry Petty-Fitzmaurice, third Marquess of Lansdowne; William Wellesley-Pole, elder brother of the 1st Duke of Wellington; Princess Charlotte Augusta, daughter of George IV; Charles Cavendish; Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington; the Conyngham family and Lady Elizabeth Conyngham's interest in Frederick [BR29/7/8]; Charles Jenkinson, 1st Earl of Liverpool; Dorothea, Princess Lievin; the family of Henry Stephen Fox, third Lord Holland; John Russell, 6th Duke of Bedford; Henry Bathurst, third Earl Bathurst and his family | 17 Jan [1822]
-7 Oct [1822] |
| 8/1-9 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: discussion about the pending changes in the government [BR29/8/1-2]; Frederick's diplomatic post in Frankfurt and other possible posts for him; the movements of the King [George IV]; gossip about the King's entourage including his advisors, Sir William Knighton and Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, and his mistress Marchioness Elizabeth Conyngham [BR29/8/2]; the offer to Frederick of the post [in England] of Under-Secretary, and his decision to turn it down; Emily departs for Brighton the following day, and hopes while there, to have the opportunity to speak to the King about Frederick's diplomatic future [BR29/8/3]; life in Brighton including visits to the Pavilion; her efforts to talk to the King about Frederick's prospects; the suggestion that Frederick return home and speak to the King himself [BR29/8/4-9]; the King's comments about some of his ministers and the current political situation [BR29/8/6]; Emily's comments about George IV [BR29/8/8]. | 8 Oct [1822]
-16 Dec 1822] |
| 9/1-11 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb: domestic and social arrangements; the filling of various diplomatic posts and Frederick's diplomatic career; recent politics; the health of their father, and of the King (George IV); the Duke of Wellington accidentally shot Lord Granville in the face, injuring him greatly but missing his eyes [BR29/9/4]; thanking Frederick for sending her such lovely gifts from Paris, including shawls, handkerchiefs, gowns and shoes [BR29/9/10-11]; the illness and death of her brother-in-law, Spencer Cowper [BR9/7,9]; comments about the current 'unhealthiness' of London and the family's intention of going to Brighton on 27 March [BR29/9/11]; mention of family, friends and acquaintances including the Lievens, Conynghams, Lady Stanhope, the Hollands, George Canning. Some of the letters are incomplete. | 7 Jan 1823-14
Mar-1823 |
| 10/1-9 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb in Frankfurt and Paris: at the beginning of April she is writing from Brighton, but by the end of the month the family have returned to London. The letters discuss the health of the | 3 Apr 1823-24
Jun 1823, Dec
1823 |

King (George IV) who is suffering from very bad gout, but he has greatly improved by the end of June [BR29/10/8]; comments about her family and social life; she offers their gas light shares to Frederick [BR29/10/5]; she has heard that Frederick has asked for leave from his post in Frankfurt [BR29/10/6] and a few weeks later that it has been granted and she hopes he will return home [BR29/10/8]; Madame Lieven is unwell [BR29/10/6]; her disappointment at hearing about Elizabeth Conyngham's intended marriage to Lord Burford, son of the Duke of St Albans, who it is said is an ill-tempered idiot; later reports that the marriage will not take place delight everyone, but especially Emily who had been matchmaking between her brother Frederick and Elizabeth [BR29/10/6,8]. The first part of BR29/10/9, postmarked 29 Dec 1823, is missing.

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| 11/1 | One letter from Honourable Frederick Lamb to his sister, Lady Cowper: The letter is not dated, nor is it possible to say where it was written from. Frederick does say, however, that there is '..... some hitch keeps hanging on about my getting away', and later that he wishes his sister was there, so he could show her the place and then travel back with her. He writes about the society of the town, then spends the rest of the letter writing about people's natures and generally philosophising. | <i>n.d.ca</i> 1823-1824 |
| 12/1-2 | Two letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb in Madrid: Frederick has now been posted to Madrid where he arrived on 2 June 1825. The letters are about visitors to Panshanger including the Villiers, the Dawsons, their brother William Lamb, the Worcesters, Edward Montague, Charles Greville, Lord and Lady Salisbury, Lady Sarah Bailey and Count Esterhazy; the expected dissolution of the government has been put off for which she is glad as it has saved her brothers George and William from the 'bother' of having to campaign until the following year; about the increasing insanity of her brother William's wife Caroline, and their separation; Lord Jersey's illness; plans to travel to Paris in October. | 3, 26 Sep
[?1825] |
| 13/1-17 | Letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb in Madrid: Emily's concern about her son Fordwich who is recovering from an illness he contracted while visiting Frederick in Milan; the trip was good for Fordwich and has opened up his ideas about the world, but she wonders what he should do as a career and eventually asks for a commission for him in the army [BR29/13/1-2]; the activities of her other children and the health of their father; they now find themselves more financially comfortable having inherited from her mother-in-law, Lady Cowper, who died at the end of 1826; much discussion about the current political upheaval, fears of the breakup of the government over either the Catholic [Emancipation] question or the question of the Corn Laws, and the problems caused by Liverpool and Canning's continued ill health [BR29/13/2-3]; speculation as to whether Liverpool's ministry will survive, and who will replace him and the other posts in the new ministry; at the beginning of April the King asks Canning to form a new ministry which creates more political turmoil; the Duke of Wellington's decision to resign from his post as Commander-in-Chief; she is very happy for their brother William [Lamb] who has been nominated as Chief Secretary of Ireland, and has also been elected for the borough of Newport; by the beginning of May the political turmoil is starting to settle down, Emily is sure the Duke of Wellington will eventually return to his post, and Fordwich has just joined his regiment; Canning's death at the beginning of August means | 1 Jan-27 Aug
1827 |

further rearrangement of offices, but things now appear more cordial and free from jealousies [BR29/13/14]; Frederick has been granted leave [from Madrid] [BR29/13/15]. The last three items appear to be parts of three different letters [BR29/13/15-17].

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| 14/1-2 | Two letters from Lady Cowper, to her brother Honourable Frederick Lamb in Vienna: an unfinished letter in which Emily describes the progress of the Reform Bill, and the political upheaval it has been causing. The second letter again mentions the continuing political upheaval, and the results of the elections which followed. | 31 May, ?12
Dec [?1832] |
| 15/1-4 | Letters from Lady Palmerston to her brother Frederick Lamb, Lord Beauvale: discussion of Palmerston's eastern policy and his support of Turkey [BR29/15/1-4]; the death of Henry Stephen Fox, Lord Holland [BR29/15/2-3]; reference to Frederick's decision to marry [BR29/15/3]; the supposed intrigue to bring about Palmerston's retirement from their brother's [Melbourne] government and Palmerston is still busy with what is left of the Eastern Questions[BR29/15/4]. | 12 Oct-17 Dec
1840- |
| 16/1-8 | Letters from Lady Palmerston to her brother Frederick Lamb, Lord Beauvale: discussion about her arrangements for late summer and the suggestion that Frederick and his wife join her on the Isle of Wight where her daughter, Minny, has taken a house at Ryde; unrest in Spain and discussion about the Queen of Spain's marriage; social gossip and engagements; Bresson and Flahault both wish to be French Ambassador to London; Palmerston's advice to Queen Victoria and Albert in their diplomatic efforts to communicate with and advise the Queens of Portugal and Spain. Several of the letters are incomplete. | n.d. [?1847] |
| 17/1-5 | Letters from Lady Palmerston to her brother Frederick Lamb, Lord Beauvale: about political events in France [BR29/17/1]; Brunow [the Russian Ambassador] has returned from a trip home elated at his favour with the Emperor and Empress, and amused at the Russian ideas about life in England [BR29/17/42 incomplete]; Palmerston's support of Louis Napoleon gave [Prime Minister] Lord John Russell the excuse to dismiss the Foreign Secretary, much to Emily's indignation; Palmerston's refusal of Lord John Russell's offer to be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland [BR29/17/3-5]. | 21 Jan [1849]-
[8 Jan 1852] |