

Dunrobin 19th Dec. 1747

saw heartily ~~and~~ ~~drop~~ to quench ~~the~~ but
 my Lady Sutherland is in a very weak condition
 & that it is the opinion of the Doctor, & others here
 that her Lady cannot last many days. She has not
 been able to so much as to turn herself in her Bed
 for several days past without help. Her jaundice
 continues ~~without~~ with her without any turn for
 the better and the Doctor has discovered lately
 that she is affected with Dropsy & symptoms
 of a Dropsy. Dr. attended her Lady.
 Sometime till he had a call to his mother (?)
 who was in a bad way. Dr. Gordon seems
 often to advise with him & Lady Baird (?) has
 been all along acquainted of her Lady's situation
 from time to time & memorials of her case

Dear Sir,

I had your favour of the 7th curt by last Post. The scene must have been exceedingly moving on my Lord & Lordy's receiving the account of the Countess's death. and must have affected all those that had the honour of her Ladyships acquaintance. I assure you her loss is universally regretted all over the country & nothing talked of but her Lady/p great and amiable qualities. Poor dear Lady Betty received the account of her Mama's death (though given her in as prudent a manner as possible by Lady Duffus; with the greatest grief and outcries and with great difficulty could be calmed by degrees; but since she behaves with the greatest composure and more as a woman than as a child. It was proposed by Lady Duffus to carry her immediately to Skelbo

March 29/1747.

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Dear Sir,

I had your favour of the 17th of current by last Post -
The news must have been exceedingly moving on
my Lord & ~~Lady~~ Lord's receiving the account of
the Countess's Death, & must have affected all those
that had the honor of her "last" acquaintance. I
assure her loss is universally regretted all over
the country & nothing talked of but her Lord's great
& amiable Qualities, poor dear Lady Betty
received the account of her ~~father's~~ ^{dear} Death (George)
given her in as prudent a manner as possible
by Lady Duffus, with the greatest friendliness
& with great difficulty could be --- by degrees
but since she behaves with the greatest Composure
& more as a woman than a child. It was
proposed by Lady Duffus, to carry her, immediately
to Skelbo, but as the child did not seem
inclined to go, it was dropped till my Lord's orders
were known - & it has been anew proposed to her
Since my Lord's orders have come - but she still
seems averse to it - & the more that she has
got a little of the cold, & that the small pox

are in the Paris of Dornoch. Sir Ruffus seems to attribute the child's reluctance in going over to the influence of the women servants have over her what is in the I will not determine, but am persuaded the mean nothing but what they think for Lady Bellis's Interest & Good.

The shock I am afraid will have a great Effect on my ^{Lord's} ~~dear~~ health, which I hope in God he'll endeavour to preserve for the Interest of his family & out of regard to the dear & amiable children.

His Lord's letter by the last Post to Carroll gave great satisfaction to him as well as to the others entrusted with the Management of the Affair as his Lord's letter being so particular & clear - relieved them entirely from the apprehension they had as if the friends at Edinburgh might have amused his Lord with the thought of their having taken a particular concern & given full & ^{satisfactory} ~~particular~~ instructions about the interment & how far they have done that it appears his Lord is sensible of as he may be more fully & when his Lord received the copy

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19th March 1744

~~Receiving~~ of his directions sent to Carol
 which he transmitted to Carol which he
 transmitted to his Son the Port after he received
 them. The Entertainment is now fixed to the
 27th & all to proceed conform to his dire-
 ctions. The Berrill letters have been written
 out this day (which occasions my being
 somewhat hurried this ~~last~~ post) & signed by
 Lord Duffus - who is to act as Chief Treasurer
 while he is here also, having come here at the first
 notice sent him. I hope everything will go on in a
 very decent manner. In every matter that
 concerns the family, I assure Carol is in no way
 ways deficient to extend himself to the utmost
 of his power & does not at all save his own pains.
 I wish the family had many such friends that had
 the interest of it so much at heart.

I showed your last to Mr. Turner & Dr. Fardon -
 as you desired me. who both desired to be
 kindly remembered to you - I am

Dr Sir. Your most obedient Servant

Douglas G. Fildes

Dunrobin. 2^d April 1747

I wrote you ~~last~~ in my last Great-Friday
let 27th April was boxed in the morning
that day Lady Sutherland's corpse was
interred & everything done in a very decent
& orderly manner. Cardell & young Ardoch
were the only gentlemen out of the town
excepting Wobles that witnessed the
funerals. Lord Duffus acted as chief
mourner. Camberley & Dr

I have already informed you of - for my part
I have done all that lay in my power for the
success of the (undertaking?) which on account
of several circumstances & disappointments will
after all turn out to be no great account this
year & my concern with the quantity of
grain - to the contrary this year that I
had the charge of added to my former business
(?) you may believe was no small plague
& therefore I'm resolved after this — — no
further concern with the undertaking
the cattle are now all staying here &
no account (?) of the English butchers. — the cattle
was so long kept in want wanting them