76. Lady Mary Wortley Montague. Edward Wortley Montague owned the Newbold estates for 13 years. He married Lady Mary Pierrepont (born 1689) the eldest daughter of Evelyn Pierrepont, afterwards the Duke of Kingston, whose wife, Lady Mary's mother, was a daughter of Willia, Fielding, third Earl of Denbigh. In May, 1689, their first child was born and christened Mary at the parish church of St.Paul's in the then fashionable district of Convent Garden. At this time, Evelyn Pierrepont's prostpects were not particularly brilliant and he could boast of little but his lineage. At the age of 35, Evelyn Pierrepont became very unexpectedly fifthe Earl of Kingston, inheriting the paternal estate of Thoresby, and, at his mother's death, her propeety in Wiltshire. Lady Lingston died In 1697, leaving three little girls and one boy. Lady Mary spent most of her early childhood at West Dean with her grandmother who died when the little girl was only eight years old and she then returned to her father's house. Lord Kingston had little time or thought to bestow upon his children. However, when he remembered her existence, he seemed to have been proud of his eldest daughter's beauty and precocious intelligence. There is a well known tale of her early debut as a toast of the Kit Kat Club, told by her grand daughter, Lady Louise Stuart. The Kit Kat Club is supposed to have taken its name from Christopher Cat, who kept the Cat and Fiddle Taverm where the Club held its meetings. According to one account, it was founded in 1688 by some men of wit and pleasure, with no political object, but in 1703 it had become the rallying place of the Whig Party.

t./76. Lady Mary Wortley Montague. was the most talked about lady in the county during the reign of George 1. Some of her activities were most extraordinary. However she did not reside at Newbold, as by the time her husband inherited Newbold she lived abroad, apart from her husband, but corresponded with him. One letter from him dated July 14th.1758 was sent from Newbold. After her mother's death she spent much of her timein her early childhood with her grandmother at West Dean, upon whose death,the little girl, then only eight years old, returned to her father's house. As a leader of the fashionable world Lord Kingston belonged to the Kit Kat Club. One dayat a meeting to choose toasts for the year, a whim seized him to nominate Lady Mary, then oly eight years old, a candidate, alleging that she was far prettier than any lady on their list. The other members demurred, because the rules of the club forbade then to elect a beauty whom they had never seen. "Then you shall see her" cried he, and in the gaiety of the moment send orders home to have her finely dressed, and brought to him at the Tavern, where she was received with acclamations, her health drunk by everyone present, and her namewas engraved upon a drinking glass. The company consisting of some of the most eminent men in England, she went from the lap of one poet, patriot or statesman, to the arms of another, was feasted with sweetmeats, overwhelmed with caresses, and what perhaps pleased her better then either, heard her whit and beauty loudly extolled on every side. Pleasure, she said, was too poor a word to express her sensations,they amounted to ecstasy, never again, throughout her whole life did she pass such a happy day. Her father carried on the frolic by having her picture painted for the club-house th t she might ~~xxx~~ be enrolled as a regular toast.

./76. Lady Mary Wortley Montague nee Pierrepoint. Lord Kingston had a town house in Arlington St, but his daughters spent most of their time at Thoresby Hall situated in the Robin Hood country.Lady Mary spent her time mostly reading and writing, occasionally visiting neighbours and maybe enjoying a jaunt to the races at Nottingham. She was proficient in the art of carving. To uote Lady Loiuse Staurt, one of Lady Mary's dexcendants, "the mistress of a country house had not on y to invite, that is, to urge and tease, he company to eat more than human throats could swallow, but to carve every dish when chose, with her own hands. Each dish was carried up in turn, to be operated on by her alone, since the master of the house, posted opposite her, his department was to push the bottle. As for the crowd of guests, the most inconsiderable among them, if surrered through her neglect to help himself to a slice of mutton place before him, would have chewed it in bitterness and gone home an affronted man".There were professed carving masters, who taught young ladies the art scientifically,from one of whom Lady Mary said she took lessons three times a week, that she might be perfect on her father's public days,when, in orderto perform her functions without interruptions she was forced to eat her own dinner alone, and an hour or tow beforehand. She had the run of her father's library. She developed a taste for literature and through mostly her own efforts an education she had far in advance of ladies of that day.She studied Latin under the encouragement of Bishop Burnet who was spiritual adviser to Mary 11. Upon the accession of Wm & Mary he was enthroned as Bishop of Salisburym that being the only seat vacant. He preached the sermon at the coronation of Wm & Mary. Maybe Bishop Burnet was tutor to Lady Mary's brother William when the children stayed with their grandmother at West Dean in Wiltshire.