

beleue a lye, y^e great difference of opinion in this point amongst the learned and experienced occasions much perplexity in minds lesse exercised, and so not so well fitted for judging.

J haue now made shift to lengthen this letter even to the exercise of your patience, but cannot doubt of your excusing a fault, w^{ch} my condition secures you from being committed often. J shall be glad to hear of your receipt of this at your first leisure, and of your resolve as to the affair of Gloucester²³ (if it be determind) and when J may hope to see you here.

Monsieur van Hellmont has now given one of your Remarkes to Mr Wilson,²⁴ so that there remaines but one undisposed of.

J shall ever remaine,

Dear Doctor,

Your very affectionate and obliged Friend,

ANNE CONWAY.

Bedfordshire County Records.¹

1824. 14th January. Letter from Jeramy Willis to Lord —.

“ Mr. Samuel Reeve, one of the surveyors of the road of Leighton Bussard, requested I would see your lordship on the subject of a letter he wrote relative to a bridge blown down at a flood on the 31st of October last, at the end of the town of Leighton Bussard, standing upon the stream dividing the counties of Buckingham and Bedford. I understood the object to be if the court of Quarter Sessions will assist in rebuilding the bridge.”

Letter dated at Leighton, from Samuel Reeve to Lord Tavistock.

“ As one of the surveyors of this town, I beg leave to inform thee that an application will be made to the court of Quarter Sessions at Bedford for the repair of a bridge which divides the counties of Bedford and Buckingham and the parishes of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade, which was washed down by the late calamitous flood ; fearing thy health may not permit thy attendance at the Sessions, and feeling the importance of the assistance and influence, we have taken the liberty of soliciting that thou would request the chairman (W. Wilshire, Esq.), with whom thou art intimately acquainted, to give his sanction and assistance in promoting the interests of this town by a grant from the court ; it is unquestionably a county bridge. Similar application will also be made to the court for the county of Buckingham, and we hope, by a grant from each, the parishes will be enabled to compleat the bridge in a proper manner, without being affected much thereby.”

²³ Dr. Henry More accepted a prebend in the church of Gloucester in 1676, being collated to it by Lady Conway's brother, the Lord Chancellor ; he soon resigned it, however, to Dr. Edward Fowler, formerly incumbent of Northill, co. Bedford, and later Bishop of Gloucester.

²⁴ Not identified.

¹ *Bedfordshire County Records. Notes and Extracts from the County Records—Comprised in the Quarter Sessions Rolls from 1714 to 1832. Volume I., published 1907.*