Dear Mary

It was I that desired Bob to let you know, how glad I should be to see you in Town. I now repeat the same thing to you myself, & shall be obliged to your Mammary if she can spare you the beginning of next week, the but for a few days. the letter of attorney, wh. I send inclosed, is not meant to hinder your journey, but that in case your own inclination does not serve, or your Mammary is not able to spare you, Dolly may be empowered to act for you, for, as you have already go at Mittonities, I thought you would like to buy in there (while they are so low) than into any other of the funds. the expense of this is a trifle, wh. I shall be glad to pay myself, if you will come instead of it, it makes it useless.

The Receipt is to be sign'd, & witness'd; & the two Witnesses required to the letter of attorney should specify their place of abode. you will enclose, & send them both carefully to your Sister; but (as I said before) I should much rather see you in person. let us know by tomorrow night's post. Adieu, I am your friend & servt

Eray.

May 3. 1759. Gloucester direct.

M's 0: is never good for any thing, but when she is laid up, & can do nothing: as she recovers, she recovers her Tantrums, & her Iniquities.

Compts to your Mammary, & Grand-Papa.
THOMAS GRAY, A. L. S., 3 May 1759, to Mary Antrobus.

Dear Mary
It was I, that desired Bob to let you know, how glad I should be to see you in Town. I now repeat the same thing to you myself, & shall be obliged to your Mamma if she can spare you the beginning of next week, tho' but for a few days. the letter of Attorney, wth I send inclosed, is not meant to hinder your journey, but that in case your own inclination does not serve, or your Mamma is not able to spare you, Dolly may be empower'd to act for you, for, as you have already 50£ N: Annuities, I thought you would like rather to buy in there (while they are so low) than into any other of the funds. the expence of this is a trifle, wth I shall be glad to pay myself, if you will come instead of it, & make it useless.

The Receipt is to be sign'd, & witness'd; the two witnesses required to the letter of Attorney should specify their place of abode. you will enclose, & send them both carefully to your Sister; but (as I said before) I should much rather see you in person. let us know by tomorrow nights post. Adieu, I am your friend & Servt

T Gray.

May 3, 1759. Gloucester-Street.
Mrs O: is never good for any thing, but when she is laid up, & can do nothing: as she recovers, she recovers her Tantrums, & her Twegues. Compt's to your Mamma, & Grand-Papa.

ALS, 1 page. Single sheet, 19.9 x 16 cm.
Laid paper. Watermark: upper part of crowned oval.
Provenance: Newton sale, 14 May 1941. Tipped in to no. 183, Elegy Wrote in a Country Church Yard (London, 1751). Published, with 1 substantive and 2 accidental variations from the Lewis MS, in Correspondence, II, 620–621 (no. 293).

Notes: 1. Mary Antrobus, who nursed Gray in his final illness, was his second cousin, maternal. "Mamma" was Mrs. William Antrobus (widow of Gray's uncle); Dolly (Mary's sister) was Mrs. Richard (Dorothy) Comings; "Grand-Papa" was Mary's maternal grandfather, Thomas Nutting, Alderman of Cambridge; Mrs. O[llisfe], Gray's aunt Jane (whom he never mentioned favorably

Transcription from:
in his letters), and Mary’s brother Robert complete the Antrobus roster for the letter in hand.

2. The price, as of 27 April 1759, of new South Sea Annuities was 81\(\frac{3}{4}\) pounds—down from the 2 April price of 83\(\frac{7}{8}\) (Gentleman’s Magazine, April 1759, p. 196).


From page 44 of Kendall, 1970