

This transcription is wholly the work of Philip Eley.

1116
Barnford August 28 1704

Exploring your of the 17th July & clear it of the 16th August
I have not yet received your letter of the 17th July & am
not able to answer it at present but I shall endeavour to
do so as soon as I can. I am not able to say whether
I shall be able to go to the place you mention or not
but I shall endeavour to do so if I can. I am not
able to say whether I shall be able to go to the
place you mention or not but I shall endeavour to
do so as soon as I can. I am not able to say
whether I shall be able to go to the place you
mention or not but I shall endeavour to do so
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I shall be able to go to the place you mention
or not but I shall endeavour to do so as soon
as I can. I am not able to say whether I shall
be able to go to the place you mention or not
but I shall endeavour to do so as soon as I can.

Rich: Gault

Received
of the sum of
£ 100
the 28th of August 1704
John Gault

These for M^r Tho:

Speering at Paulsgrove
in the parish of
Wimmering

Blandford August y^e 18th 1707

Speering yours of y^e 17th of July & alsoe y^t of y^e 6th of August I have rec^d but it was at London when y^e first Came to my lodging & y^e last I recd ye 14th of this instant as to y^e perticel time when y^t work was done it is impossible for mee to recollect my memory after soe many years but I dow very well remem^{br} y^t it is Raild one both sids / & one of y^e times was when y^e draw bridg was new Mead / which as neer as I Cann recollect my memory it was about y^e year 1678 or 79 I am not positive & I doe well remember y^t M^r Cousens sonn Will': was y^e Cheefe manager of y^e worke sume time after y^t y^e dams at each side of y^e ffort wear Blowed up & y^e Spring tyds ceame in through the trench & flowed ... sume time almost a farr as Causham Leane? wee sent to y^e Last Governer to desyer it might bee mead up but hee did not answer our requests & I aplyd my selfe to Coll' Norton to speake with y^e Govrner I mett hime sume time after & hee told mee the Governer had desired hime to doe it & y^t hee should bee repaired & Coll' Norton did imploy men & p^d them & I beleve y^e Governer or sume other of the Kings Offecers did pay y^e Coll' for hee never demanded anything of us of y^e parrish some time before I left ye parish there was a littell breach mead in y^e South Side of y^e Stone bridg into y^e halfe moone as wee ... to Call it & there was a dispute whether it did belonge to y^e Government being in y^e fortifications or to y^e tything of Hulsey & it was agreed y^t it did belonge to y^e Government & therefore not repaired neer y^e seame time there was a littell breach made in one of y^e arches of y^e stone bridge & y^t was argued whous right it was to repaire & severall did aferme y^t they had heard a report it was built one a publick account but whether of the Government or by y^e hundred of Portsdoune was out of there memories the worke being soe littell wee Chose rather to pay y^e mony then to make forther Inquieries as for the mending y^e Cartway in the fort between y^e Drawbridg & y^e Stone bridge & laid stones upon y^e stone bridg to keep hime frome wearing y^t wee alwais did & I hope our Case to preserve hime will not bee brought as an argument again[st] y^e parrish to Injoine them to repaire hime / after I Came to Causha[m] to live sume Ainchent men did tell mee they did remembr

when there was noe fence in y^e East side of M^r Brewnings [torn]
mersh? & y^t M^r Brewnings land did joyne to y^t which now is M^r [torn]
upon his land M^r Brewning hath told mee hime selfe y^t he [torn]
hath demanded satesfaction of y^e Goverment but never recd an [torn]
before ye fortifications weare raysd M^r Bruning repaired
y^e sea banke & if y^e Goverment build a house & rays severall
other works it is reasonable hee should be presumed
harmles upon y^t land / this is in answer to what you have
writt as neer as I Cann recollect my memory not else but y^t I
ame your loveing friend to serve you in what I Cann /

Rich: Gravett