

APPENDIX 2

THE BEDFORD FAMILY

GROSVENOR BEDFORD (d. 4 November 1771) served as HW's deputy at the Exchequer for sixteen years.¹ According to information supplied to Dr Paget Toynbee by one of Bedford's descendants, he was the son of Thomas Bedford (1673–1710), a clerk in Chancery, and his wife, Elizabeth, who was a daughter of William Grosvenor of Cheshire. Both Mrs Bedford and her unmarried sister, Anne Grosvenor, were intimate friends of HW's mother, and Sir Robert Walpole appointed Anne Grosvenor to the office of house-keeper at Somerset House, a post customarily held by ladies of good social position.² In 1732 Sir Robert appointed Grosvenor Bedford collector of customs at Philadelphia, a sinecure that he retained until his death.³ Undoubtedly it was because of this long family association that HW offered the position of deputy usher of the Exchequer to Grosvenor Bedford the day after the death of the former deputy, William Swinburn.⁴ Bedford, to whom the post had been promised, immediately accepted it (HW's deed appointing him, dated 21 August 1755, is now wsl). In October HW gave Bedford the use of a house in New Palace Yard that was one of the perquisites of the office of usher of the Exchequer.⁵ At some later time he moved to Brixton Causeway, Surrey.⁶ Grosvenor Bedford married before 1742, but we do not know the name of his wife. He had at least two sons,⁷ one of whom died before 1814.⁸

His other son, Charles Bedford (ca 1742–1814), became a clerk in the office of the usher of the Exchequer in 1762⁹ and continued in that capacity until 1774, even though his father, who died in 1771, had been succeeded as deputy usher by Joseph Tullie.¹⁰ When Tullie

1. GM 1771, xli. 523; MANN vii. 343.

2. Paget Toynbee, 'Horace Walpole and "Mrs G",' *Times Literary Supplement*, 16 Dec. 1920, xix. 858.

3. HW to George Grenville 7 Sept. 1763; George Grenville to HW 8 Sept. 1763.

4. HW to Grosvenor Bedford 21 Aug. 1755.

5. HW to Grosvenor Bedford 16 Oct. 1755.

6. HW to Grosvenor Bedford 27 Feb. 1771; H. B. Wheatley, *London Past and Present*, 1891, i. 276.

7. HW to Grosvenor Bedford 23 Sept. 1761.

8. GM 1814, lxxxiv pt i. 701.

9. *Court and City Register*, 1763, p. 116.

10. *Court and City Register*, 1773, pp. 103–4.