U DRI

Correspondence of the Riddell Family

Biographical Background:

George Dalziel Riddell ('Papa') was born on 4 May 1836, the youngest child of Robert and Agnes Dalziel Riddell. His father was the Surgeon of Earlstown, where he died in 1870 aged 79; his mother also died there in April 1879 at the age of 81. George Riddell had two elder brothers and a sister. His eldest brother Robert Riddell was born 29 September 1827, and married Marion Thompson. He is mentioned as 'Uncle Robert' in two letters, and seems to have been living in Scotland in December 1889. His children were Agnes, Robert and Elizabeth Mary. George's other brother, John Dalziel Riddell, was born 17 May 1829 and never married. His sister Agnes Pr[in]gle was born 10 January 1831 and lived until 1888. She married a manufacturer by the name of Charles Wilson in Earlstown in 1850. Their children were Charles, Agnes, Jeanie Thompson, Isabella, Margaret Ellen and Mary Dalziel. Agnes, said in a letter of 29 January 1889 to be George Riddell's favourite niece, married Walter Birrell.

George Riddell married Laura Mary Gosling ('Mother'), daughter of General H.C. Gosling of the Madras Army. The identity of her brothers and sisters is unclear. A letter of October 1889 reveals that her 'eldest brother Harry ... passed into the army and became a very rising Officer'. An eldest sister, Aunt Annie, married Fred Hope. Annie and her two children died of cholera in 1864, and Fred was drowned while Aide de Camp to Lord Napier when Governor of Madras in 1866. Another Fred, 'Uncle Fred', is said in a letter of August 1888 to be her brother, and three letters refer to an 'Aunt Susan'. An 'Aunt Fanny' is referred to in another letter, though whether she was a sister of Laura is uncertain. An unmarried 'Auntie' is frequently mentioned, and in a letter of May 1889 is said to be Laura's sister.

U DRI/177-178 provide some details of George and Laura Riddell's children and their fate beyond 1890. Laura Anne Susan Dalziel Riddell ('Bluebell') was born 28 April 1870, and was educated primarily at the Leipzig Conservatoire for Music. She married Rev. Frederick William Pakenham Gilbert M.A. of Trinity College, Dublin on 3 November 1894. Their children were Vernon Dalziel Riddell Pakenham, Man[...]n Dalziel Pakenham and Elaine Mary Dalziel Pakenham.

Henry Charles Riddell ('Harry') was born 4 August 1871, and was educated at Harrow School and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Other information about his adult life is lacking in the collection, although he is said to have died 6 October 1936.

George Augustus Riddell ('Tim') was born 24 March 1874, and was educated at Harrow School, as well as spending one year at the Leipzig Conservatoire for Music. He entered the army, serving in the South Wales Borderers 24th Regiment, later 22nd Cheshire Regiment. He fought in the First World War at Gallipoli, and was then on General Sir Stanley Ma[u]d's staff at Baghdad. During the Second World War he worked at the War Office. He died in about 1950.

Custodial history:

Donated by Dr JPN Phillips, Department of Psychology, University of Hull, 20 August 1998

Description:

The main focus of these letters is personal. They provide a valuable source of information about the life of British citizens in India, the upbringing of children, education, social values, and the conduct and beliefs of the British upper classes. The genealogical information contained within the letters and accompanying notes is of value to those with an interest in the Riddell and associated families, as well as their friends and acquaintances in both Europe and Asia.

The movements of the family prior to August 1882 are uncertain, although the letters reveal that the family had first arrived in India in 1867, that circa 1879 they had moved from Mominabad to Bolarum, a district of the cantonment of Secunderabad, and that in May 1881 they had all returned to England. In the spring of 1882, Mr. and Mrs. Riddell and their son George returned to Bolarum, Mr. Riddell being appointed Medical Officer to the 1st Cavalry, Hyderabad Contingent, with the rank of Surgeon Major. Laura and Henry remained in England. Laura attended a school run by Mrs. Donaldson in Earl's Court, South Kensington. Henry attended Bowden House School in Harrow, a preparatory school for Harrow run by Mr and Mrs Darnell. A letter from Mrs Riddell of 3 March 1886 contains details of Henry's arrival at Harrow School. Laura and Henry's school vacations were spent with a variety of family friends, among them the Darnell family in Harrow, Mrs Kelso in Ealing, Mrs Stone at Marcham Priory and Mrs Wood.

From Bolarum, a letter which can be dated March 1883 describes Mr and Mrs Riddell's and George's journey west to Mahableshwar, a leave station near Bombay, where they seem to have stayed until at least the end of May. From then until November they were back in Bolarum, where they enjoyed a high society lifestyle, hosting dinner parties, attending dances and balls and other such functions. By April 1884, they were back in Mahabaleshwar, returning to Bolarum separately during the latter part of May. A letter of 15 June describes their return to their house in Bolarum after a stay in Poona, to the east of Bombay. Their high society lifestyle continued, with a letter of 17 August 1884 describing a trip to the races, a ball at the Public Rooms in Secunderabad, a dance at the Residency and dinner with Sir Charles and Lady Gough.

In December 1884, George Riddell's Regiment left Bolarum for a hill station at Hingoli. A letter of 8 December from Camp Jogumpeth, 45 miles from Bolarum, describes their departure from Bolarum and the progress of the march. By early April 1885, the family had moved from Hingoli to Matheran, a leave station just outside Bombay. The following month they returned to Hingoli, travelling from there to Bombay late in May. By 14 June they were back in Hingoli, and a letter of that date describes their new house there and their hopes to leave Bombay on 1 October.

In March 1886, George Riddell was appointed Principal Medical Officer to the Indian contingent in Suakin, . In a letter of 10 March, Laura Riddell describes her husband's departure for Suakin, leaving her and George in Matheran. Despite plans for George to return to England alone, a letter from Mr Riddell dated 20 April reveals the decision for George to remain in India and for them all to return to England together.

In May 1886 the family returned to England for a year's leave, resulting in an eleven month absence of letters. In April 1887, towards the end of their leave, Mr Riddell took his children Laura and George to Germany to study at the Leipzig Conservatoire of Music. They lodged with Mrs Irvine, first at 49 Hohe Strasse, and then at 52 Elisenstrasse, Leipzig. In June, Henry joined his siblings in Germany for a three month holiday. Towards the end of 1887,

relations between Mrs Riddell and Mrs Irvine became strained, largely as a result of Mrs Riddell's belief in the inadequacy of Mrs Irvine's care and the education of her two children. In August 1888 George left Leipzig to study at Trinity College in Stratford, under the care of Mr Brackenbury. By 26 February 1890, George had left Stratford and had been placed with Mr Woods at Harrow, in preparation for his entry to Harrow School.

Laura left Leipzig in April 1889, lodging with Mrs Willes at 44 Comeragh Road in West Kensington, London. Various possibilities were raised for her immediate future, among them going to Italy to study, a return to Germany under Auntie's care, and joining her parents in Mandalay, but none came to fruition. In the autumn of 1889, Laura was proposed to by Alec Crombie, a union which was regarded with some scepticism by her parents in view of her youth and inexperience and his inadequate financial means.

Henry provided his parents with ample reason for complaint. A letter of 5 October 1889 laments his utter failure in his recent examination, and hopes for him to enter the Indian Civil Service were dashed by his academic under-achievement. Instead, he seems to have set his hopes on passing the Sandhurst Preliminary Examination and entering the army, much to his mother's distress.

Meanwhile, Mr and Mrs Riddell had returned to India alone late in April or May 1887. They set sail in the 'S.S. Victoria', passing though the Bay of Biscay, the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea, and staying upon arrival in the Esplanade Hotel in Bombay. By early June, Mr Riddell had received a posting to Mandalay in Burma as Deputy Principal Medical Officer with the rank of Surgeon Colonel. He and his wife travelled by train to Madras and then by boat to Rangoon. A ban on ladies entering Mandalay raised the possibility of their separation, but they sailed up the Irrawaddy to Mandalay together in defiance of the authorities.

A letter of 4 August 1888 tells of Mr Riddell's appointment as Principal Medical Officer of Upper Burma and Deputy Surgeon General of Mandalay. Throughout 1889, Laura Riddell's letters reveal the impact of her husband's heavy workload and worries about the welfare of their children on her own, and particularly her husband's, health. By 12 May 1889, a relief Brigade Surgeon, Suffrein from Kamptee, had been appointed to take over George Riddell's duties, and Laura's letter of that date highlights the uncertainty over their future posting and a desire for retirement. June 1889 proved to be a stressful month, with a former clerk, Mr Castor, demanding payment for his contribution to Mr Riddell's annual report and his subsequent trial for attempt at extortion and criminal intimidation. A settlement was eventually reached in the middle of June, but anxiety was increased by Mr Caster's complaint to the Surgeon General about Mr Riddell's conduct.

In July 1889 Mr and Mrs Riddell returned by the steamer 'Mindoon' down the Irrawaddy to Rangoon, and thence by the boat 'Sirsa' across the Bay of Bengal, passing through a cyclone and narrowly avoiding disaster. They stayed in Madras before moving to Pallavaram in August. A letter of 27 July 1889 notes their request for leave to Bangalore, in view of their deteriorating health and mental exhaustion. In a letter of 26 November, Laura Riddell describes her husband's persistent bad health and low spirits, and a letter of 31 December again mentions their hope for two months' leave to Bangalore. By 29 January 1890, leave had finally been granted, and Laura Riddell wrote of their plans to stay in Madras and Bombay until their return to England. Letters written early in February describe their move to Madras and their plans to return to England by May.

In mid-March 1890, Mr and Mrs Riddell moved to Bangalore. An order for Mr. Riddell to return to Pallaveram and resume his duties, in spite of his poor health, raised the onerous

possibility of a return to Madras. Fortunately, a letter of 25 March tells of his grant of permission to stay in Bangalore. The letter contains details of the couple's plans for their return journey to England. A final letter of 11 April 1890 tells of them securing a place on board the 'Clan MacGregor' for their return journey to England.

The letters, almost wholly written from adult to child, provide only a limited amount of information about the political situation in India. A letter of 11 March 1885 notes the suspension of war in the Sudan and the hope that troops would smash Osman Digma, one of the Mahdi's Generals. The possibility of troops regaining Khartoum and securing retribution for the murder of General Gordon by the Mahdi and his men is discussed, and the letter also provides some indication of their own regiment's anxiousness to fight in the Sudan or against Russia.

A letter of 25 March [1885] discusses the war with Russia in Afghanistan and the Amir of Afghanistan's proposed meeting with the Viceroy at Rawal Pindee [Rawalpindi] on the north west Indian frontier. On 16 April 1885, Laura Riddell wrote of the inevitability of a war with Russia and her fear of a large-scale European conflagration. A letter of 13 May 1885 describes English discontent with Gladstone's dealings with Russia, the Russian gain of Penj-deh [Panjdeh] in Afghanistan and the failure of Russian officers to consult with the Commission under Sir Peter Lumsden about the Afghan frontier. Serbia's territorial ambitions in Bulgaria and the intention to depose King Theebaw [Thibaw] is discussed in a letter of 25 November 1885.

Arrangement:

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U DRI/1 - 31	Letters from Bolarum and Mahabaleshwar, 1882 - 1884
U DRI/32 - 37	Letters from Bolarum, circa 1882 - 1884
U DRI/38 - 76	Letters from Hingoli and Matheran, 1884 - 1886
U DRI/77 - 161	Letters from London, Mandalay and Pallavaram, 1887 -1890
U DRI/162 - 171	Fragments of letters, 1882 - 1889
U DRI/172 - 180	Miscellaneous, 1884 - 1888

Extent: 0.5 linear metres

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U DRI/1	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her children Laura and Henry [both in England] Failure to receive letters from her children; disappointment that they did not go to the Austins at Guildford; Miss Paterson; desk keys; Henry buying a boat; school prizes; nail biting; Laura's bad back; Henry's sporting activity; Lady Gough's tea-party for school children in Bolarum; their brother George; request for songs; purchase of new piano and open carriage; plans to move house; excitement about war in Egypt; fears that the Suez Canal will be blocked by 'Arabi Pacha', the rebel leader; hopes that Sir Garnet Wolseley and British troops will restore order 1 item	20 Aug [1882]
U DRI/2	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Thanks for presents; correspondence with Amy Laurie, Fanny Stone, Mrs. Balfour, Major Proudfoot and Mr. Austin; progress at school; dining with the Macquoids; refused dinner invitation from the Cambiers 1 item	10 Jan [1883]
U DRI/3	Letter from Laura Riddell, [at the Fountain Hotel] in Mahableshwar, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Journey to Mahableshwar; need to avoid bad habits 1 item	n.d. [Mar 1883]
U DRI/4	Letter from Laura Riddell, at the Fountain Hotel, Mahableshwar, India, to her son Henry [in England] Rejoices at his good conduct at school; lamenting his lack of ambition; his need to master foreign languages; his poor history report; his stay with Mrs Wood during the Easter holidays 1 item	26 Apr 1883
U DRI/5	Letter from Laura Riddell, at the Fountain Hotel, Mahableshwar, India, to her son Henry [in England] Missing her son; wish for him to grow into a well - groomed and well - educated young man; location of Fountain Hotel; Amy Laurie; Mrs Stone's invitation for Henry to visit Marcham Priory during the Midsummer holidays after his visit to the seaside with the Darnells; walk in the hills; Governor's Ball in honour of the Queen's birthday; move to Poona; purchase of Eastern curiosities 1 item	24 May 1883
U DRI/6	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her son Henry [in England] Henry's illness; her children's holiday plans; Scarborough; rainy season in India and resulting sickness of Indian children; George's activities; dance at the Mess House; Henry's studies; Lord Byron; need for religious observance; death 1 item	8 Jul 1883

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U DRI/7	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Scarborough; their father's summons to attend Mr Adege; missing her children; yearning to be in England; childhood memories; request for songs; music lessons; purchase of Indian and Chinese goods; Amy Laurie's willingness for them to visit; Col. and Mrs. Macquoid's departure from India; hosting dinner parties for Sir Charles Gough, Col. Morton of the XIV Hussars and others 1 item	15 Jul [1883]
U DRI/8	Letter from George Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to his daughter Laura [in England] Health of her brother George; possibility of sending George home at the end of the year to join Henry at school; her estrangement from Henry; singing 1 item	29 Jul [1883]
U DRI/9	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Illness of their brother George; day spent at the Lauries; Amy Laurie; trip to Marcham Priory; Fanny Stone; Mrs Kelso; disapproval of the Darnells giving over charge of them to Mrs Kelso; cholera in India; visit to the races; dance at the Residency; dining with the Resident; painting; horse and carriage show; Major Jackson; possibility of going to a ball at the Royal Scots Fusiliers 1 item	11 Aug 1883
U DRI/10	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum [India], to her daughter Laura [in England] Nursing a sick child; rain in India; dances at the Residency and the Scots Fusiliers; other social engagements; preference for solitary creative pursuits; songs; health matters; possibility of studying in Italy, France or Germany; advice on conduct; Miss Paterson; the Butts; George's violin lessons; untidy nature of letter 1 item	25 Aug 1883
U DRI/11	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Receipt of letter from Southwold of 16 August; poor handwriting and composition; Henry's poor health and dull birthday; George; unfinished sketch of their house; old foreign postage stamps; visit to St. John's Church in Secunderabad for the wedding of Mr Oswald and Miss Williamson; her husband's treatment of the sick child; Miss Paterson's illness; Henry's good conduct; letter from Amy at Canterbury 1 item	9 Sep [1883]

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U DRI/12	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Children's studies; songs; failure to receive drawing block; quiet birthday; visit with Mrs Harrington to see troops in a sham fight; future balls; death of Sir Charles and Lady Keye's eldest son; Sir Charles Keye's position as General at Secunderabad in place of General Macuitire; plans to go to the Artillery Lines at Tri[]lgherry to take tea with Mrs. Baker; the Craigs 1 item	17 Oct 1883
U DRI/13	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] sending money; need to keep accounts and improve writing and spelling; Mary Bourerie and Maud's departure; Uncle Fred's promise to take her to Delapré; songs; photos; ill - fitting dress; invitations; ill health; drawing 1 item	1 Nov [1883]
U DRI/14	Letter from Laura Riddell, at the Ripon Hotel, in Mahableshwar, India, to her son Henry [in England] Measles; trip to seaside; missing children and looking forward to their reunion next spring; visit to Mahableshwar; her husband; games 1 item	23 Apr 1884
U DRI/15	Letter from Laura Riddell, at the Ripon Hotel, Mahableshwar, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Forwarding correspondence; songs 1 item	[1 May 1884]
U DRI/16	Letter from Laura Riddell, at the Ripon Hotel in Mahableshwar, India, to her son Henry [in England] Need to study hard to get into Harrow; longing for return to England next year; difficulty of having to leave George in England after her return to India; love of her children; health matters; musical party; strawberry party; Sir James Fergusson; games 1 item	8 May [1884]
U DRI/17	Letter from Laura Riddell, at the Ripon Hotel in Mahableshwar, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Possibility of Mr Orr of the Hyderabad Contingent visiting her 1 item	8 May [1884]

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/18	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Return to house in Bolarum; earlier stay in Poona; Colonel and Mrs Pottinger; gardening; her husband meeting them at the Secunderabad station; apologies for writing of death; rambling on the hills; reading; paintings; music; desire for her to study abroad; pudding recipes; clothing; need to save her money; studies; singing; Dr Ord 1 item	15 Jun 1884
U DRI/19	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Receipt of letter from her and Henry; receipt of photograph; dissatisfaction with her deportment; plans to return to England in April 1885; plans to place George in school, see Henry transferred to Harrow School, and go to Leipzig, Dresden or Florence with Laura at Midsummer; music; Latin; Health Exhibition; art instructors Mr Green and Mrs Donaldson; music master Mr Calkin; plans for her husband to remain in India for a few months longer than her; eighteen months to spend with her children; singing; garden party at Lady St. John's; Miss King; George's music lessons, improving health and fall from his pony 1 item	13 Jul [1884]
U DRI/20	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her son Henry [in England] Birthday wishes; cheque to follow; Mrs Stone's offer for Henry to spend the summer vacation with her 1 item	13 Jul [1884]
U DRI/21	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Health matters; damp weather; unsatisfactory composition of her daughter's previous letter; Dr Ord; deportment; spectacles; Mr Adige; Mrs Oswald; dance at the Royal Scots Fusiliers; Mrs MacDougal; horse racing; Mr Cordery's [Corllery?] return to India; Sir Oliver and Lady St. John; Mrs Stone and Mr Darnell's invitations for the holidays 1 item	27 Jul 1884
U DRI/22	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her son Henry [in England] Carelessness and lazy ways; insufficient progress with his studies; the need to make the most of his opportunities; career ideas; the need to study throughout his holidays 1 item	3 Aug [1884]

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U DRI/23	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Letter to Henry of 3 August (see U DRI/22); academic weaknesses; promise in music; lack of talent in drawing; urging greater studiousness; Marcham; need to avoid the vicar's house because of their lack of breeding; tennis; music lessons with Mr Calkin; Miss Allchin 1 item	10 Aug 1884
U DRI/24	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her son Henry [in England] Health Exhibition; the Lauries; Haroldstone Road; races; race between Mr MacDougal of the Rifle Brigade and Col. Morton of the XIV Hussars; George's riding skills and studies; ball at the Public Rooms in Secunderabad; dance at the Residency; dinner with Sir Charles and Lady Gough; Marcham; tennis; music 1 item	17 Aug 1884
U DRI/25	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Misinterpretation of her letters; clothing; Henry's bad teeth; bad spelling and composition; need to improve figure; end to Latin lessons from Mr Perl; musical instruments; divorce; drawing society; dance at the Mess; fortnightly dance at the Residency; their regiment's forthcoming march to Hingoli; George's progress 1 item	7 Sep 1884
U DRI/26	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Apologies for delay in replying; cricket; Mrs Kelso and family; impact of reproachful letter on Henry (see U DRI/22) 1 item	1 Oct [1884]
U DRI/27	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Surrounding landscape; development of Laura's art skills abroad; cholera on the Continent; return to England in the spring; story of two girls rescuing a boy from drowning; music; imminent march to Hingoli; dancing; Mr Calkin's lessons; concerns about her figure and posture; Latin; health 1 item	8-14 Oct [1884]
U DRI/28	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Preparations to leave Bolarum; arrival of 3rd Cavalry [Regiment]; troublesome servants; reluctance to move to the station at Hingoli; grand ball at the Chudderghant Residency; ball given by the Serjeants of the 14th Hussars; theatricals in Secunderabad; imminent arrival of Sir Frederick Roberts and the moving of troops into camp; commencement of march on 3 December 1 item	20 Nov [1884]

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U DRI/29	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Col. Laurie; need for lady - like conduct; shortage of money; needlework skills; Amy Laurie; Mr Calkin; unhappiness about prospect of moving to Hingoli; arrival of the new Regiment; lunch with the officers; sham fight under General Sir Charles Gough and Sir F. Roberts; bad health of Col. Harrington; wish for the family to spend next Christmas together 1 item	26 Nov [1884]
U DRI/30	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Seasonal greetings; plans to begin the march the following day; dinner and dance for officers of the Regiment; children's holiday plans in Harrow; Col. Laurie; Christmas cards; request for curry paste and chutney 1 item	3 Dec [1884]
U DRI/31	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Camp Jogumpeth, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Departure from Bolarum on 4 December; progress of march; resting at camp for two days; plans to leave in the morning; task of providing meals for the Commissariat; George; General and Lady Gough 1 item	8 Dec 1884
U DRI/32	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, Deccan, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Receipt of her letter from Ealing of 29 December; poor handwriting; cost of her education; Mrs Kelso's invitation to Ealing; hamper from King and Co.; Major Jackson of the 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers; unanswered letters to Major Jackson from London and Gibraltar; dinner with Col. Hill and Mr Turner; daytime pursuits; request for songs 1 item	early 1880s
U DRI/33	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, Secunderabad, Deccan, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Last letter from Bombay to Henry; receipt of letters of 3 May; Miss Paterson; Mildred; Aunt Fanny; money sent; broken desk lock; clothing and appearance; visit from Amy; gaining house opposite Col. Watson which Mr. Turner used to live in 1 item	1880s
U DRI/34	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Dance at the Mess; inadequacy of letters; Major Strettell's death; visit to the sea - side; cricket; eyesight and health; departure of French governess; non - receipt of drawing block; Mrs Harrington; Mrs Gilchrist; Mrs Walker's imminent arrival in India; music; harmony prize; Mrs Kelso 1 item	1880s

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U DRI/35	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Thanks for photographs; apologies for failure to write last mail; bad health; settling in to Col. Watson's house; furniture; garden; George's invitation to the Scotts for tea; dance at the Hussar Mess; ball at the Bolarum Residency; dinner at Col. Smythe's; grand dinner at the Residency; General Sir Charles Gough, Sir Salar Jung, General Sir Charles Keyes; music; George's growth 1 item	early 1880s
U DRI/36	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Inspection parade by the General; return to good health; gratitude towards Dr James and hope to buy him a gift in Bombay before leaving for England; deterioration of handwriting and composition standards; posture; reciting skills; productions in the Mess Theatre; acting 1 item	early 1880s
U DRI/37	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Bolarum, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Fear that Laura has caught scarlet fever at the Balfours; grand dinner at Sir Salar Jung's; Sir Frederick Roberts hailed as the hero of Kandahar; Mess dinner and dance for Sir Frederick Roberts; invitation from Lady Gough; Christmas holidays; pantomimes; hamper; George's progress 1 item	1880s
U DRI/38	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] 1 item	30 Dec 1884
U DRI/39	Letter from George Augustus Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to his sister Laura [in England] Dullness and loneliness of Hingoli; bad weather during march; encounter with a snake; fishing; horse riding; countryside around Hingoli; shooting of three young boys by a native soldier 1 item	8-28 Jan [1885]
U DRI/40	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, Deccan, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Non receipt of letters from her children; Henry's week with the Doves; hamper from King & Co.; health matters; George's fall; Col. and Mrs Farrington's return to New Zealand; replacement by Col. Stewart; George's studies 1 item	21 Jan [1885]

U DRI/41 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, Deccan, India, to her 27 Jan [1885] son Henry [in England] Increasingly interesting yet unsatisfactorily composed and punctuated letters; visit to Dr and Mrs Dove; enjoyment of Christmas holidays; cost of trips to see plays in view of the expense of their forthcoming visit to England; 'Treasure Island'; height; errors in his previous letter; school report; excellent conduct; slow progress in his studies; good house report; visit to Westminster Aquarium; Cinderella play; King & Co. hamper; weather; return of troops from the Camp of Exercise; return to England; guava jelly; nail biting; George's fishing 1 item

U DRI/42 Letter from 'A.G.', 51 Rue Neuve, Versailles, to Laura 12 Feb 1885 Riddell [in England] Thanks for letter and photograph; liking for black people; Christmas vacation; delay in correspondence; arrival of Laura's mother; Maud; weather; two weeks spent with Pauline; request to give photographs to Jessie and Amy with thanks 1 item

U DRI/43 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her son 11 Mar 1885 Henry [in England] Oppressive heat in Hingoli; departure for Matheran in 20 days' time; sleeping on the verandah; ride into the country with George; excitement at prospect of an immediate war with Russia; possible postponement of war if Russia caves in; hopes to return to England before the autumn; insufficient money to leave India before August: cost of children's education; suspension of war in the Sudan; possible march to Berber in September to smash Osman Digma (one of the Mahdi's Generals) and meet Lord Wolseley's forces; hope that the troops will regain Khartoum and secure retribution for the murder of General Gordon by the Mahdi and his men; regiment's anxiousness to fight in the Sudan or against Russia; superiority of the 3rd Cavalry; possibility of return of their regiment to Secunderabad; Gungaram the gardener 1 item **U DRI/44** Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter 18 Mar [1885] Laura [in England] Inability to return to England in May as planned; financial

matters; weather; departure for Matheran in 18 days' time; longing to see her children; lack of entertainment in Hingoli; riding; tennis; singing; other pastimes 1 item

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U DRI/45	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her son Henry [in England] Letter to Mrs Darnell; distaste for dance music; desire for him to be taught music by Miss Allchin; Harrow School; prospect of being a fag to an older boy; necessary conduct at Harrow; bullying; fencing; visit from juggler; interest in public affairs 1 item	18 Mar [1885]
U DRI/46	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Desire for her to stay with Mrs Kelso during the summer vacation; death of Henry Stone; delay in return to England until the autumn; health of her husband; expense of trip to the hills; journey to Matheran; war with Russia in Afghanistan; possibility of their regiment being sent to ?Guetla in Khelat; Amir of Afghanistan's proposed meeting with the Viceroy at Rawal Pindee [Rawalpindi]; wish for Henry to be a civilian; possibility of staying with Mrs. Stone at Marcham during the summer holidays 1 item	25 Mar [1885]
U DRI/47	Letter from Laura Riddell, Rugby Hotel, Matheran [India], to her daughter Laura [in England] Confirmation ceremony; her own confirmation; making the most of youth; failure to fulfil all her own ambitions; desire that she marry a compatible husband; desire to go to Europe in September and stay during the winter; possibility of taking George to England in the spring of 1886; inevitability of a war with Russia; fear of a large-scale European conflagration; England's unselfish and benevolent aims; combat between English soldiers and Arabs near Suakin; superior quality of British soldiers; likelihood of the Arabs surrendering; General Gordon's loss of life; scarletina outbreak at school; Henry's inadequate progress and prospects; Easter and summer holidays; Mrs Stone; Mabel Hancock's illness due to tight lacing; appearance; Henry's nails; contentment with Matheran 1 item	16 Apr 1885
U DRI/48	Letter from Laura Riddell, Rugby Hotel, Matheran, India, to her son Henry [in England] Stay with Mrs Stone at Marcham Priory; outbreak of scarletina at school; need to study hard to get into Harrow; Laura being the recipient of their wealth upon their death; possibility of war with Russia; plans to leave India in September; possibility of conflict with France; George; enjoyment of stay in Matheran; disappearance of Major Poole 1 item	23 Apr 1885

- U DRI/49 Letter from Laura Riddell, Rugby Hotel, Matheran, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Lack of correspondence from Henry; Henry's stay with Mrs Stone at Marcham Priory; letter to Henry of 23 April (U DRI/48); Henry's lack of academic ability and personal faults; request that Laura try to encourage improvement in Henry; music lessons; Mr Calkin; Miss Allchin; Easter holidays; desire to take Laura and George to the continent to improve their language and music skills; singing; personal characteristics; Major and Mrs Carruthers; surrounding countryside; plans for the summer; Mrs Stone; Mrs Darnell; return to England in September or October; Italy; Mrs Donaldson 1 item
- U DRI/50 Letter from Laura Riddell, Rugby Hotel, Matheran, India, to 8 May [1885] her son Henry [in England] Failure to receive a letter from her son; his school report; slow progress in studies; excellent conduct; possible career in the Indian or English Civil Service; Harrow School; Easter vacation in Eastbourne; her own trips to Eastbourne; Uncle Fred and Aunt Susan; family; return to Hingoli via Bombay; longing to return to England; George's monkey; elephant hunt in northern India; adventure with a tiger 1 item
- U DRI/51 Letter from Laura Riddell, Rugby Hotel, Matheran, India, to 13 May 1885 her daughter Laura [in England] Stay at Ealing with Mrs. Kelso; Major Crombie; delay return to England until autumn; Uncle Fred; Mrs. Paterson; plans to visit Italy; English discontent with Gladstone's dealings with Russia; Russian gain of Penj-deh [Panjdeh] in Afghanistan; failure of Russian officers to consult Commission under Sir Peter Lumsden about Afghan frontier; lessons; departure from Matheran for Hingoli the following week; Major and Mrs Carruthers 1 item
- U DRI/52 Letter from Laura Riddell, Rugby Hotel, Matheran, India, to 21 May 1885 her son Henry [in England] Stay in Eastbourne; Harrow entrance examinations; longing to see her son; hope to take him to Italy for Christmas; stay in Matheran; riding; George; monkeys; possible outbreak of war with Russia; visit by the Resident of Hydrabad 1 item
- U DRI/53 Letter from Laura Riddell, Watson's Hotel, Bombay and 29-31 May 1885 Akola, India, to her son Henry [in England] Journey to Bombay; recollections of time spent in Bombay before the family went to England; reluctance to spend another three months in Hingoli away from her children; health matters; George; new university clock in Bombay; piano lessons; journey to Akola 1 item

Hull History Centre:	Correspondence of the	Riddell Family
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- U DRI/54 Letter from Laura Riddell in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Col. Seafield Grant; Lockhart family; new house; weather; note from Colonel Playfair; Major and Mrs Carruthers; singing; painting; trip to Europe in the autumn; journey from India to Italy with Col. and Miss Playfair, from where their father would continue to England to collect his children; hopes to leave Bombay on 1 October; composition; Miss Haytes; reading; inability to afford lessons from Mr Donaldson; music lessons with Mr Calkin; poor spelling; periwinkles; Henry's indisposition; Major Crombie; Amy Laurie 1 item
- U DRI/55 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her 28 Jun [1885] daughter Laura [in England] Indian climate; nature; effects of the winds; uneventful lifestyle in Hingoli; possibility of her husband gaining a better - paid appointment at Secunderabad, delaying return to England until April 1886; Sir Charles Gough; Mr Cordery; Sir Frederick Roberts; enclosure of letter from Colonel Playfair; band performance; studies; visits to Harrow 1 item
- U DRI/56 Letter from Kitty Gomer Williams, Hard Haus, Zürich, 29 Jun 1885 Switzerland, to Laura Riddell [in England] Vacation with Mrs. Kelso; seaside; Emily and her new house, Somerton Hall; boating trip; vacation plans; mother and aunt's trip to Zurich and Paris; her mother's return from a trip to Wales, where her grandmother was very ill; Mimmie Mardi planning a trip to England 1 item
- U DRI/57 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her son 5 Jul 1885 Henry [in England] Accident in the Suez Canal delaying the mails; midsummer holidays; possibility of her husband gaining a better - paid post at Secunderabad; yearning to see her children; trip abroad the following summer; residence in London for the following Christmas; George's studies, pet monkey, riding skills, musical ability and health; Mrs Mason; birthday wishes 1 item
- U DRI/58 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her 12 Jul [1885] daughter Laura [in England] Holidays with the Darnells or Mrs Kelso; Fanny Stone's evening dress; Mr Stone's financial losses; singing; uncertainty over appointment at Secunderabad; reluctance to move to Secunderabad, in view of climate and expensive and fatiguing lifestyle; distaste for society life; request for photograph; dining with Dr and Mrs Swaine 1 item

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U DRI/59	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Laura's visit to Harrow; Harry's attendance at Harrow; her own schooling in St John's Wood; hopes for her children; Henry's hardship at school; sport; cricket in India; her reputation for fine dinner parties, admirable figure and style; health; weather; Secunderabad appointment; suspension of leave for officers; possibility of Laura moving to Girton or Newnham College after Christmas if her parents remain in India; Amy Laurie; Fanny Stone's dress; holidays with Mrs Darnell or Mrs Kelso 1 item	19 Jul 1885
U DRI/60	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Health; visit to the seaside; Henry's forthcoming school report; her children's health; Henry's imminent move to Harrow Public School; her children's virtues, education and progress; Newnham and Girton College; singing; drawing and painting; women's need for skill in riding, dancing, tennis, sewing and cooking; Secunderabad appointment; financial situation; elocution lessons; Miss Allchin; Laurie family; Crombie family; Kelso family; studies; hats; Butt family; cricket; request for photograph; compliments on her own figure 1 item	16 Aug 1885
U DRI/61	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Stay in Eastbourne; swimming; Pevensey and Herstmonceaux castles; visit to Eastbourne with her mother and Uncle Fred in the summer of 1865; Henry's stay with the Bradfords; Shakespeare; her husband's failure to get the Secunderabad post; Sir Charles and Lady Gough; Col. McQueen; Christmas cards; health; weather; poor writing and composition; money 1 item	6 Sep [1885]
U DRI/62	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, Deccan, India, to her son Henry [in England] Inadequate account of his visit to Scotland; his apparent unenthusiasm for letter writing; inadequate academic progress in view of the expense of his schooling; Mr Bradford; accepting money from friends; holidays at Eastbourne; Harrow entrance examinations; meals; health matters; sport; cricket match; reading; George 1 item	13 Sep 1885

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/63	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Visit to Eastbourne; her children being prevented from attending children's services; necessary strictness of Mrs Darnell and Mrs Donaldson; personal fulfilment; social accomplishments; visit to Hastings with the Van Someres; Girton and Newnham Colleges; studying abroad; essential skills of dancing, tennis and riding; Mrs Walker; departure of Sir Charles Gough; his replacement by Col. McQueen; cricket; trip to a bungalow in the country; her husband's new charger; George's riding skills; unsatisfactory photographs; appearance; concert at Devonshire Park; singing; need for frugality 1 item	30 Sep [1885]
U DRI/64	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Handwriting; Mrs Paterson; Mrs Carter; promotion to the first class; studies; loss of voice; Christmas cards; George's health; money; Christmas presents; uneventful lifestyle 1 item	11 Nov [1885]
U DRI/65	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Christmas cards; holidays with the Darnells; pantomimes; Mrs Paterson; uncertainty over outbreak of war; Serbia's territorial ambitions in Bulgaria; troops in Burma; intention to depose King Theebaw [Thibaw]; advantages of English control of Burma; music; Mrs Mason; School of Music scholarship; art skills; money for education; Aunt Susan's jewellery forwarded by Mr Boak; the Laurie family; F[anny] Stone; food parcel from India 1 item	25 Nov 1885
U DRI/66	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Poor composition of Henry's letter; Christmas wishes; difficulty in making friends; educational advantages; food parcel from India; dinner at the Mess House on Christmas Day; ride with Mr Swete; Mrs Carruthers; money; Amy Laurie; Fanny Stone; Christmas cards; Mr and Mrs Darnell 1 item	2 Dec 1885

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/67	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Christmas wishes; hopes for her children; depression as a result of growing old; Henry's examinations; Harrow School; Mr Swete; 'Imitation of Christ'; dinner for Mr and Mrs Lewin; dissatis- faction with Laura's photograph; Lady Gough; money; the Darnells; George's education; Henry's career plans; money for education; Christmas lunch at the Mess; dinner at the Masons; cricket; books; Fanny Stone; Amy Laurie 1 item	9 Dec 1885
U DRI/68	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her children Laura and Henry Charles [in England] Holidays at Harrow; Laura's inadequate music practice; Mrs. Mason; painting Christmas cards; painting dinner menus for Christmas Day; Indian Christmas cards; sham fight; George's health; Mrs Oswald's illness; pastimes; Harrow School; Mr and Mrs Stagdon; lifestyle upon their return to England; F[anny] Stone; the Lauries; Mr and Mrs Darnell; parcel 1 item	16 Dec 1885
U DRI/69	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Deputy Surgeon General Henderson; instructions to leave Mrs Donaldson for the care of Mrs Paterson or Mrs Stone at the beginning of the Easter holidays; expense of Henry and George's education; need for care when in the company of gentlemen and boys 1 item	3 Feb 1886
U DRI/70	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Mrs Carruthers; educational opportunities abroad; possibility of spending the summer with Fanny Stone at Marcham; excessive expense of lessons at Mrs Donaldson's; need to make the most of herself; skills of tennis, dancing and riding; tuition in Oxford; uncertainty over plans to return to England; cost of her children's education 1 item	10 Feb 1886
U DRI/71	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, Deccan [India], to her daughter Laura [in England] Mr. Boak; Aunt Susan's bequests; George's departure from Bombay with Mrs. Gilchrist on 9 April; desire for Laura not to meet Mrs. Gilchrist because of her unsatisfactory appearance; sadness at George's departure; anxiety over Laura's future; exchange rate; Mrs. Donaldson; Family Remittance payments; her husband's refusal of the post of Principal Medical Officer with the troops at Suakin; letter-writing skills; annoyance at Mrs. Darnell; dance 1 item	17 Feb 1886

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/72	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, Deccan, India, to her children Laura and Henry [in England] Henry's arrival at Harrow School; studies; uncertainty over post of Principal Medical Officer to Suakin; loss of present appointment; withdrawal of Indian troops from Suakin and their replacement by Egyptian soldiers; riots in London; dislike of Gladstone and his radical followers; health matters; dancing lessons with Mrs Birch 1 item	3 Mar 1886
U DRI/73	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Hingoli, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Her husband's departure for Suakin; Mr Swete; inconsideration of government; proposed withdrawal of Indian troops from Suakin in May; uncertainly over date of return to England; lack of friends in the station; Easter holidays; anxiety over separation of family; sale of horse; drawing from live models; Amy Laurie; Henry's expenses and dietary needs; dancing lessons with Mrs Birch 1 item	10 Mar [1886]
U DRI/74	Letter from George Riddell, in Suakin, Sudan, to his daughter Laura [in England] Receipt of letters; decision for George to remain in India until they all return to England in May; unnecessary detention in Suakin because of the laziness of the Egyptian Government; longing to see his children again; George's education; photographs of Sudanese Arabs; Amy Laurie; agreeable climate in Suakin; sail in the Red Sea with General Hadding 1 item	20 Apr 1886
U DRI/75	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Matheran, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Poor health; her husband's life in Suakin and imminent return to India; return to England; Henry's encounter with bullies at Harrow; invite to Norfolk by Rosie Owen; sale of Marcham by the Stone family; Fanny Stone; climate in Matheran; quiet lifestyle; educational fees 1 item	21 Apr [1886]
U DRI/76	Letter from George Riddell, in Suakin, Sudan, to his son Henry [in England] Progress at school; hopes to have him coached for the Indian Civil Service; imminent return to India and England; photographs of Arabs in the Sudan; unsatisfactory climate in Suakin; acquisition of spears and a rhinoceros hide shield; Henry's fight with bullies at Harrow 1 item	5 May [1886]

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/77	Letter from Laura Riddell, Darenth House [England], to her children Laura and George [in Leipzig, Germany] Distress at their departure; visit by Auntie; Mrs Shadgett; Mrs Willes; Mrs Dunlop; discovery of items left behind; dinner with Auntie; journey to Leipzig; Mrs Irvine 1 item	15 Apr [1887]
U DRI/78	Letter from Laura Riddell, Darenth House [England], to her children Laura and George [in Leipzig, Germany] Receipt of their cards from Harwich and Rotterdam; distress at their departure; company of Auntie; trip to Regent, Oxford and Bond Streets; hair ribbons for Laura; despatch of parcel; Mrs Willes; Mrs Irvine; Henry's progress and dining with Mrs Gurney and her children; Canadian stamps for George 1 item	[16 Apr 1887]
U DRI/79	Letter from Laura Riddell, Darenth House [England], to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Anxiety over their arrival in Leipzig; grief over their loss; afternoon tea with Mrs Willes; Mr Elwin; trip to the theatre; Henry's trip to Germany in June; receipt of parcel and boxes; Mrs Irvine 1 item	18 Apr [1887]
U DRI/80	Letter from Laura Riddell, Darenth House [England], to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Receipt of letters; pride in her son; studies; missing her son; Mrs Irvine; French maid; trip to see Uncle Fred's play; Mrs Willes; Elvira 1 item	23 Apr [1887]
U DRI/81	Letter from Laura Riddell, on board S.S. Victoria off the Bay of Biscay, to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Sorrow at their separation; reminiscing about their past together; money; risk of robbery in Germany; Mary Wilson; conditions on ship; storm at sea; missing her son; care of his pet bird; pocket money; backgammon with Mr Crawford; imminent arrival at Port Said 1 item	29 Apr-11 May [1887]
U DRI/82	Letter from Laura Riddell, on board S.S. Victoria in the Suez Canal, to her children Laura, Henry and George [in Leipzig, Germany and England] Letters to her children, Auntie, Mr Willan, Mr Welldon, Messrs King & Co.; German sweets; purchase of photographs for her children; George's stamp collection; Henry's day with Auntie; Suez Canal; Dickie the bird; pelicans; advancing years; her husband and Mr Crawford's visit to a casino on shore; Henry's forthcoming visit to Leipzig and clothing; slow passage through the Suez Canal; studies; Auntie; projected arrival in Bombay on 26 May 1 item	12-13 May [1887]

U DRI/83 Letter from Laura Riddell. on board S.S. Victoria in the 16-25 May [1887] Red Sea and in Bombay [India], to her son Henry [in England] Weather; Mr Crawford; Miss Cumming; reading: longing to be with her children: Shakespeare: progress of journey; capture Perim Island; sadness at her separation from George; wedding anniversary; arrival in Bombay 1 item **U DRI/84** Letter from Laura Riddell, on board S.S. Victoria in the 17-25 May [1887] Arabian Sea and in Bombay, India, to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Sadness at their parting; recollections of their time together; studies; violin; progress of journey; Mr Crawford; her son's future; heat in the Indian Ocean; longing for her son 1 item **U DRI/85** Letter from Laura Riddell, Esplanade Hotel, Bombay, 27-31 May [1887] India, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Voyage to Bombay; Mr Crawford and Mr Cumming; ungentlemanly people encountered when travelling on cheap lines; longing for George; letters from Mr Swete, Lottie Crombie and Auntie; Henry's failure to visit Auntie; Henry's visit to Leipzig; studies; music; figure; Esplanade Hotel; Dickie the bird; Mrs Irvine; damage to luggage; Mr Montanario of the Contingent; Mrs Paterson's request for photographs; Mr Koopmann; Mrs Willes: postal service from Germany to India: George's lost cap; health; painting; money; Mr Willan, bathing, photo frame 1 item **U DRI/86** Letter from Laura Riddell, [Esplanade Hotel], Bombay, 30 May [1887] India, to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Loss of his cap; Clarence; wearing his topper at church; composition of letters; violin; photo frame 1 item

U DRI/87 Letter from Laura Riddell, Esplanade Hotel, Bombay, 3-7 Jun 1887 India, to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Gazette of Appointments; trips to the Bunder; Col. and Mrs Stewart; Mrs Montanaro; Col. Tillard; Major Watson; Lt O'Farrell; Lt Bivar; Captain Falle; expected monsoon; money; Auntie and Mrs Shadgett; Mrs Wilson; financial provisions; weather; studies; dinner at the Apollo Bunder with Lt O'Farrell; Captain Falle; the government ship 'Tennasserim'; plans to go to Madras; poor spelling; bathing; clothing; meals; music; Mr Koopmann; Mr Gurney's opinion of Henry; recollections of afternoon at Kew Gardens; George's illness; receipt of letters; dinner at the Yacht Club with Lt O'Farrell and Lt Bivar; posting to Mandalay; Mr Swete; Church Times; transfer of carpets to Leipzig by Carter Paterson; dissatisfaction with care at Mrs Irvine's; Clarence; health; George's studies; photographs; confirmation of move to Mandalay; letter from Henry; Auntie; Mr Swete; Dr and Mrs Ord 1 item **U DRI/88** Letter from Laura Riddell, Elphinstone Hotel, Madras, India, 14 Jun [1887] to her son Henry [in Leipzig, Germany] Journey from Bombay; possible separation from her husband; financial matters; Major Kennedy; hotel service;

> mosquitoes; drive along the sea front; St. Leonard's; first arrival in India twenty years previously; family; 2 ½ years until family reunion; recollections of Madras; Lord and Lady Napier and Ettrick; Fred Hope and Aunt Annie; steamer journey to Rangoon; care at Mrs Irvine's; Clarence; will; Dr

Ord; photographs

1 item

U DRI/89 Letter from Laura Riddell, Jordan's Hotel, Rangoon, Burma, 26-29 Jun 1887 to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Journey to Rangoon; coolies on board; hotel; banning of ladies from Mandalay; separation from her husband; letter from Henry; her father's grave; Henry's accommodation in Leipzig; receipt of letters; Henry's visit to Dr Ord and Paddington Swimming Baths; money; studies; Auntie; Mr Swete; Major Kennedy; move to Mandalay in defiance of the authorities; postal service; her husband's pay; studies; wines; health; painting; music; George 1 item

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/90	Letter from Laura Riddell, Victoria Hotel, Mandalay, Burma, to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Receipt of letters; Henry's arrival in Germany; languages; care of Mrs Irvine; pastimes; recollections of rambling through forests near Bonn as a youth; her husband's illness; journey to Mandalay; hotel accommodation; visit to the General, Deputy Surgeon General and Dr Roberts; Major Selfe; search for house in the suburbs; Dickie the bird; Burmese people; hotel residents; the Palace; surrounding countryside; Col. Rochfort; Mr Swete; return of troops to India; probable disturbance through the Russians in Afghanistan; her husband's position; invitation to Laura to come to Mandalay; Mr Wellan's offer of a place for George at Harrow; holidays in Norway; Mrs Irvine 1 item	8-9 Jul 1887
U DRI/91	Letter from Laura Riddell, The First Brigade Field Force, Upper Burmah, to daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] English tuition; conduct towards her mother; trials of life; George; husband's health; unsatisfactory new house; drinking water; sanitary measures; food; climate; washing; picnic and dance; languages; George's education; Mr Welldon; George's enrolment at Harrow in Spring 1889; hours of study; Italian singing teacher; need for holidays; money; irregular correspondence of George and Henry; recollections of time in India with George; riding; Dr Farrell; art and music; Mr Willan; Elvira; Mrs Donaldson; Auntie 1 item	16 Jul 1887
U DRI/92	Letter from Laura Riddell, Head Quarters, First Brigade Field Force, Mandalay, Upper Burmah, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Lack of regular letters from her children; picnic; chaperônage; Mr Beard; studies; Mrs Willes; risk of measles infection; Mr Willan; visit to the farm; Mrs Irvine; holidays; George's education; Harrow entrance examination; red ants; music lessons during the Michaelmas vacation; walking; photographs of George 1 item	13 Aug 1887
U DRI/93	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Mabel Gray; Mr Willan; Mrs. Willes; poor blood; port; Parrish's Chemical; need for exercise; chaperônage; family finances; boots and vest from Lottie; Mrs Irvine; removal of George from Mrs Irvine's; Lottie; finishing lessons in England prior to move to Mandalay; milk drink; health; walks; hostility of Principal Medical Officer; her husband's desire to retire; lack of friends in Mandalay; Mary Wilson 1 item	31 Oct 1887

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/94	Letter from Laura Riddell, C. Road, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Trains detained by the German Government; Dr Costello; Deputy Surgeon General Farrell; her husband's application for a new post; difficult travelling conditions; hair loss; childish fun; the Conservatoire; visit to Bonn, Coblenz and Cologne in 1863; German nation; spelling; house; exercise; skin and hair care; dress; bathing; Anglo - American Society; Mrs Irvine; classical concert; weather; Christmas holiday 1 item	5 Dec 1887
U DRI/95	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Lack of letters from her children; Henry's dining with the Johnstone family; Henry's visit to the British Museum with Auntie; moving house; house decoration; likelihood of a return to India in March; servants; Lt O'Farrell of the 7th Bengal Cavalry; Mr Binar; trip to the bazaar; Christmas dinner; delivery of curry ingredients to Henry by Barrie & Co. of Madras; photographs; George's imminent return to England from Germany; Laura's future education and home; weather; riding; holidays; Mrs Irvine and Lottie's possible trip to Berlin 1 item	12 Dec 1887
U DRI/96	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Cloak; torn letter; writing paper; letter writing skills; concerts; dispute with Mrs Irvine and Mr Brett; chaperônage; conduct with men; Miss Arbuthnot; Lottie; George's return to England; studies; music; Christmas 1 item	17 Dec 1887
U DRI/97	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Lack of letter from George; dance; use of slang; Mary Wilson; new conservatoire; financial provisions; confidentiality of letters; Lottie; German; Mrs Campbell; oil paintings; Christmas cards; Mrs Willes; Mrs Gilchrist; dance; Miss Buck; Subscription Volunteer Ball; photographs; spelling; Mary Street; Aggie Riddell; Auntie; lack of letter from Henry; Mr Gurney; search for house in Mandalay; Principal Medical Officer position; likelihood of a return to India in March; retirement; preference to stay in India; music and singing; Madame Schuman; Mrs Phillips; Mrs Willes; Mr Willan; Mr Onvry; article on Mandalay; Sir George White; George 1 item	10 Jan 1888

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/98	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Easter trip to Dresden and Berlin; letters from her children; confidentiality; dispute with Mrs Irvine; George's stay in Leipzig until August; Lottie; desire for Laura to study in Italy with Mabel Gray 1 item	13 Feb 1888
U DRI/99	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Theft of money and diamond; negligence; Miss Woodcock; money for dress; weather; Lt Cawood; sketching; figure; studies; Sir Robert Low; family finances; Burgess family; Fryer family; reading 1 item	9 Mar 1888
U DRI/100	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her son George [in Leipzig, Germany] Trip to Dresden and Berlin; Dresden Picture Gallery; reading; letter composition; ladies' figures; Laura's figure; cholera and smallpox among the troops; weather; Jakoob Khan; Mrs Oswald; Mr Swete; Mr Orr; murder of a police officer and Lieutenant in the Royal Munster Fusiliers; Mr Brett; education; Mr Onvry; violin; Dickie the bird; hopes for Henry to go to France in the summer; her husband's health and birthday 1 item	7 May 1888
U DRI/101	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Cholera; letters from George, Henry and Mrs. Johnstone; visit to Berlin and Dresden; missing sheets in an earlier letter 1 item	17 May 1888
U DRI/102	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Receipt of letter; trying life; dissatisfaction with her husband's manner and attitude towards her; Laura's planned move to India; health; society life; attitude of men towards women; forgotten wedding anniversary; argument with her husband; incompatibility of her and her husband; Dr Farrell; Dr Costello; weather; Mr Brackenbury's offer to take charge of George from September; financial matters; Lottie 1 item	21 May 1888

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U DRI/103	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her children Laura and George [in Leipzig, Germany] George's departure from Leipzig; Mr Brackenbury; Stratford upon Avon; London; possibility of Laura going to Italy in October; letter sent to the chaplain at Florence; fever; George's requirements for his return to England; Lottie; stamp for George's collection; money; Sir George White's return to Mandalay; receipt of letters; Mr and Mrs Gurney 1 item	28 Jul 1888
U DRI/104	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Henry's birthday; her husband's appointment as Principal Medical Officer of Upper Burma and Deputy Surgeon General of Mandalay; search for house; inspection of stations; Lady Crosthwaite's afternoon 'at House'; Sir George White; hopes for Laura to join them; plans for a holiday to the hills in India and other amusements; singing lessons in Florence; riding; Auntie; Uncle Fred's cancer; Henry's poor correspondence and holidays in Brittany; receipt of letters; German; education; Lottie; George's departure from Leipzig; money; Sir Robert and Lady Low; riding; wish for Mrs Irvine to take Laura to Weimar and Eisenach during the holidays; composition of letters; photographs 1 item	4 Aug 1888
U DRI/105	Letter from Laura Riddell, The Palace, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Mrs. Irvine; delay in receipt of letters; health; moving house; weather; service of a Madras nurse; view from the new house; hopes for Laura to join them in June1889; letters to the Madras Mail; Lottie; plans for Laura to study in Florence; German; reading; gymnastics; photographs 1 item	19 Aug 1888
U DRI/106	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Inadequacy of her children's letters; need to study and acquire skills; uncertainty over new appointment; financial state of the Government; planned withdrawal of troops from Burma; possibility of war with Russia; death of Major Crombie; Lottie's loss; her husband's forthcoming inspection tour; health; weather; walk; money for Mrs Irvine; escort to England for George; Clarence; rain; communication with Henry; pills; Laura's desire to remain in Leipzig; hopes for her to go to Florence and Paris; Herr Leich Müller; music tuition; Auntie and Uncle Fred 1 item	25 Aug 1888

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U DRI/107	Letter from Laura Riddell in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Standard of care during Mrs Irvine's illness; character and morality; letter writing skills; George's need for an escort to England; lack of a trip during the summer vacation; dinner with Sir Charles and Lady Crosthwaite; Sir George White's visit; Mrs Irvine 1 item	10 Sep 1888
U DRI/108	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Money; jewellery; music; her husband's salary and absence on duty; employment of an ayah; Auntie; hopes for Laura in Italy; health precautions; conduct; Lady Georgiana Fullerton; Mrs. Irvine; studies; Henry's proposed entry into the Indian Civil Service; Mabel Gray; Georgie Beck; death of Hugh Conway; George's requirements; money; Mr. Onvry; Leipzig Conservatoire; expenses; Mrs. Irvine; weather; money sent 1 item	18 Sep 1888
U DRI/109	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Missed mail; financial arrangements if Laura remains in Leipzig; George's escort; her husband's work; Dr Evans 1 item	24 Sep 1888
U DRI/110	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Inability to find George an escort to England; Revd Robert Loftus Lottenham, Chaplain at Florence; search for a home in Florence; riding; her husband's work; lack of a clerk; search for servants; Assault at Arms for troops in Mandalay; inferior Leipzig society; George's return to England; payment of Mrs Irvine; education; clerk. Includes a sheet entitled 'Florence' containing an extract from the 'Queen' newspaper, 4 August 1888: routes to Florence; educational advantages; servants; accommodation 1 item	28 Sep-2 Oct 1888
U DRI/111	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Delay in receipt of letters; George's departure for England; Mr Onvry; Mrs Irvine; Laura's future; music; money; composition of letters; climate; health; food; servants; failure to entertain; Sir Charles and Lady Crosthwaite; Mr and Mrs Calthrop; carriage and pony; weather; mosquitoes and moths; oil paintings; photographs; helping her husband at work; English operas 1 item	9 Oct 1888

- U DRI/112 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Emily Lamb; gymnasium; lack of correspondence from George; Mr Brackenbury; Revd Loftus Lottenham; unlikelihood of Laura going to Italy; music; Mrs Irvine; friends and acquaintances; posture; piano; uncertainty over their future in Mandalay; Laura's possible return to England; German; dress; music teachers; spelling mistakes; inability to afford new clothes; visit by Commander in Chief of Madras; inability to hold dinner parties; her husband's intention to retire in Spring 1890; Mrs Irvine; confidentiality of letters; Auntie; hankerchiefs 1 item
- **U DRI/113** Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to 13 Nov 1888 her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Christmas cards for Mr Onvry, Auntie and Uncle Fred; letter from George; loss of a letter; her mother; confidentiality of letters; Emily Lamb; publishing of extracts from Emperor Frederick's diary; money; new dress; need for ladies and gentleman as acquaintances; singing lessons; Mrs Martin; Miss Shewan; ancestry; payment of Mrs Irvine; expenses; Christmas; servants; visit by Commander in Chief of Madras, Chief Commissioner and Lady Crosthwaite; frugal living; possibility of Laura coming to Mandalay in April 1889; gymnasium; newspaper article 1 item
- U DRI/114 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Mrs Irvine's new guests; possibility of move to Dresden, London or Paris; inadequacy of Mrs. Irvine's accommodation; spelling; dress; pocket money; Christmas money; clothing; discovery of missing letter; Emily Lamb; trip to the Racecourse; trip to see the Paper Chase with Mrs Calthrop; Miss Shewan; departure of the Royal Munster Fusiliers and arrival of the Norfolk corps; Lady Crosthwaite; Mr Brackenbury; inadequacy of George's education in Leipzig; Christmas money 1 item
- U DRI/115 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to 27 Nov 1888 her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Christmas wishes; house companions; payment of Mrs Irvine; frivolous spending of money; Mrs Irvine's inadequate care; music tuition; Christmas celebrations; inability to entertain guests; Henry's health and well being; reading; Darwin; Sir Charles and Lady Crosthwaite; servants; weather; riding; drives with Mrs Calthrop; polo 1 item

U DRI/116 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, 24 Dec 1888 to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Christmas gifts; Christmas dinner; Col. Walker; Dr Swayne; photographs; clothing; uncertainty over her husband's future; Col. Walker's illness; lack of letter from George; Henry's studies; moonlight picnic on Mandalay Hill; Dr Evans; Dr Swayne; Captain Orr; office clerk; finances; weather; Lottie; Mabel Loraine Greirs; Rosie Owen; Emily Lamb; rich boarders; possibility of a visit to Paris; Repentance Day; music 1 item U DRI/117 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, 31 Dec 1888 to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Races; receipt of letters; her own disposition; American Festival; payment of Mrs Irvine; singing lessons; weather: sports and races; Mrs Kelly; clothing; ball; Aunt Annie Hope; trip to Maymiss Hill Station to meet General Wolseley, performance at the Conservatoire; uninteresting letters; complexion; character; deportment; Clerk Kennedy's son entering Royal Engineers 1 item **U DRI/118** 15 Jan 1889 Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Trip to Maymiss; dinner with Lieutenant Iremonger and his wife, General Wolseley and Captain Spragge; Major Radcliffe; subscription dance with the Kennedys; letter from Mrs Irvine concerning George's thieving and interception of a letter; payments to Mrs Irvine; need for Laura to leave Leipzig in April; Mrs Mauran; Mr Milberg; Mrs Lewis; desire that Laura join them in India; inadequacy of Mrs Irvine's care; sharing a bed with Hilda Street; singing; spelling; arrangements for Laura's return to England; Mrs Donaldson; Mrs Irvine. Including copy of letter from Hilda E. Irvine [in Leipzig, Germany] to Laura Riddell [in Mandalay, Upper Burma], received January 1889: - - George and Laura's loss of money; George's confession to stealing; interception of a letter; parlour boarders; cost of care; food; George's disgrace 1 item **U DRI/119** Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, 21 Jan 1889 to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] George's alleged theft and interception of letters; letter to Mrs Donaldson requesting a chaperône and temporary accommodation in England for Laura; proposed journey to India aboard the Anchor Line Steamer 'Belgravia'; need for an outfit for the trip 1 item

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/120	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Her daughter's unhappy Christmas; the Mauran family; desire for Laura to stay with Mrs Donaldson in England; Auntie; Christmas dinner; Lottie; Mabel Loraine Greirs; Emily Lamb; Laura's virtues; womanly traits; Miss Clark Kennedy; George; debt; food; ice skating; journey to India; music tuition; ancestry; payment of Mrs Irvine; letter from Mr Brackenbury regarding George; her husband's trip; subscription dance for the Officers of the 4th Cavalry Hyderabad Contingent; ride with Mr Cockerill; Lady Crosthwaite's 'at Home'; Dr. Swayne; clothes for the voyage to India; singing lessons; finances; Col. Walker; Aggie Riddell's illness; sleeping with Hilda Street; Auntie; Sir Charles MacGregor 1 item	29 Jan 1889
U DRI/121	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in Leipzig, Germany] Performance in a concert; Christmas presents; violin; uncertainty over her passage to India; health worries; conduct during voyage; singing; Miss Phillips; Signor Garnia; Mr. Shakespeare; dancing lessons with Mrs Birch; Mrs Irvine; George's misdemeanour; departure from Leipzig; her husband's poor health; Lady Crosthwaite's 'at Home'; drive with Mrs Perry; gathering of the Norfolk Regiment at the Mess 1 item	12 Feb 1889
U DRI/122	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Letter from Mrs Donaldson; temporary home in England; possibility of staying with Mrs Berger; Mrs Irvine; possibility of attending the Berlin Conservatoire or Royal School of Music; dressmaking and cooking; Mrs Irvine; George's academic progress; music; eye problem; resignation of Dr Evans; possibility of Laura joining her parents in India; Auntie; Mr Cross; climate 1 item	10 Apr 1889
U DRI/123	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Inadequate letter; Laura's desire to be escorted to England by Mrs Irvine; non-delivery of her previous letter; poor health; strains of her husband's work; drive with Mrs Poynder and Mrs Grove; Mrs Willes' offer of accommodation in England; desire for Laura to stay with Auntie at Mrs Berger's home; music; Henry's examinations; desire for her never to share a bed 1 item	17 Apr 1889

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/124	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Stay at Comeragh Road; Mrs Berger's house on Warwick Road; music tuition; anxiety and poor health; new head clerk; annual report on the health of the troops and Barrack Hospital conditions; clothing; expenses; need for tidy appearance; Mrs Shadgett; conduct with gentlemen; deference to Auntie; Mrs Berger; indignation at Mrs Irvine's conduct; Mr Gurney; Mrs Sherman 1 item	8 May 1889
U DRI/125	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her children Laura, Henry and George [in England] Imminent arrival of relief Brigade Surgeon Suffrein from Kamptee; uncertainty over their future posting; annual report; reduction in pay and rank; retirement; inability to afford Laura's passage to India; Mrs Sherman; music and singing; marriage; Henry's xaminations 1 item	12 May 1889
U DRI/126	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her children Laura, Henry and George [in England] Uncertainty over destination; packing; annual report; trying life in Mandalay; George's irregular correspondence; Henry's lack of energy in his work; Laura's feelings of being held back; impossibility of Laura moving to India; finances; visit to Col. and the Miss Lambs; Rosie Owen; Laura's expenses; clothing; acceptability of dances at private houses; dislike of public balls; Auntie; Mr Swete's engagement to Miss Justice; list of letters sent since 19 February; Musical Times 1 item	19 May 1889
U DRI/127	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Lack of correspondence from her children; lack of news from the Government in Madras; office work; completion of annual report; satisfaction with Mrs Berger's home; advantages of Laura not coming to India; Miss Kennedy; George's violin tuition; inadequacy of Mr Gurney's care of Henry; General's dinner at the Mess; dance at the Volunteer Hall to mark the Queen's birthday 1 item	26 May [1889]

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	/
U DRI/128	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] The Gurneys' dinner invitation for Laura's birthday; Mrs Irvine; marriage of Aggie Riddell to Walter Birrell; imminent arrival of Dr Suffrein; preparations for leaving Mandalay; Mr Castor's failure to take up the agreed post of clerk; appointment of Mr Gaynor as clerk; Mr Castor's demand for payment for his contribution to the annual report and his trial for attempt at extortion; trip with George and the Brackenburys to the seaside; living arrangements; Mrs Willes; Mrs Berger; visit to the Lambs and the Owens; Henry's health; birthday money 1 item	2 Jun 1889
U DRI/129	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Lawsuit; delay of trial; cross suit; inheritance from her uncle and aunt; Auntie's debts; delay in arrival of Dr Suffrein 1 item	9 Jun 1889
U DRI/130	Letter from Laura Riddell, in Mandalay, Upper Burma, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Settlement with Mr Castor; Mr Castor's complaint to the Surgeon General; uncertainty over Dr Suffrein's arrival; clothing; finances; trip to Paris with Mrs Willes; trip to the seaside; invitation to Leipzig with Gen. and Miss Lamb; possibility of continuing studies at the Leipzig Conservatoire; possibility of staying with Mrs Willes; visit to the country; music performances; Mrs Sherman; Henry's treatment of his sister 1 item	14 Jun 1889
U DRI/131	Letter from Laura Riddell, on steamer 'Mindoon' on the Irrawady River en roûte to Rangoon, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Journey; Burmese boats; weather; Dr Suffrein; drive with Mrs Grove; Mrs Burton of the Norfolk Regiment; arrival of Mr Mann; presentment at court; English settlement; dread of voyage on a British India Steam Navigation Co. steamer; trip to the Row with Mr Onvry, Henry and the Crombies; Mr Swete and his fiançée; Henry's irregular correspondence; provisions for her children in the event of their death; Mrs Willes; arrival in Rangoon; hotel; forthcoming journey on board the 'Sirsa' to Madras; visit to her grandfather's grave 1 item	13 -15 Jul 1889

- **U DRI/132** Letter from Laura Riddell, Royal Hotel, Madras, India, to 27 Jul 1889 her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Voyage across the Bay of Bengal through a cyclone; travel sickness; support of a missionary called Miss Dryden; outbreak of cholera in Masulipatam; admiration of Miss Dryden's intelligence and commitment to Christ; arrival in Madras; health; request for leave to Bangalore; insolent letter from Mrs Irvine; cost of Mrs Willes' care; visits to the Exhibition; trip to Paris with Mrs Willes; unfavourable report of Alec Crombie; Henry's departure from London; the Gurney's musical parties; money; Auntie; Mrs Willes; financial provisions; forwarding of letters 1 item
- **U DRI/133** Letter from Laura Riddell, Royal Hotel, Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Speed of the postal service; hopes for a grant of three months' leave; poor health of her and her husband; possibility of returning to England; trip to Broadstairs with Mrs Willes; wish for George to spend his vacation with his master; Mrs Irvine; preference for Laura not to go to Leipzig again; Mrs Sherman; clothing; purchase of a horse; Henry's birthday; ball dress; presentment at Court: dressmaking lessons; cooking; letters; Mr Swete's wedding 1 item
- **U DRI/134** Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Inappropriate tone and poor quality of her last letter; infrequency of correspondence from her children; accusation of shame at Auntie's poverty; reluctance for Auntie to meet family acquaintances; George's irregular correspondence; necessity of motherly rebukes and counsel; decision not to return to Leipzig; expenses; trip to Broadstairs; trip to Paris; Spanish Exhibition; Ramsgate; home in Albion Square in Ramsgate as a youth; Pegwell Bay; Shoreham Gardens; her husband's illness; new house; need for a conveyance; dislike of Auntie's companion Mrs Shadgett 1 item

3 Aug 1889

24 Aug 1889

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/135	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Love of writing letters to her own mother; trip to the seaside; yacht trip from Broadstairs to Ramsgate with George and Alec and Lottie Crombie; Bank Holiday trip to Margate; chaperônage; Henry's short trip abroad; Henry's birthday and inadequate academic progress; Charley Macquoid; Captain Kennedy's son; Emily Lamb; improving health; her husband's demotion; Auntie's debts; neighbours; Col. and Mrs Middlecoat; Captain and Mrs Haynes; letter writing; hopes to see her children in April 1890; trip to Paris; birthday; music practice; oil painting; cooking and dressmaking; Mr Onvry; Mr Willan 1 item	30 Aug 1889
U DRI/136	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her son Henry [in England] Infrequency of his correspondence; return to London in August; Indian Civil Service examinations; longing for the family to be reunited again; birthday money; his future career; financial status of any future wife; possibility of marrying Lottie Crombie; Alec Crombie's yacht; new home; quiet lifestyle; improving health; train to Madras; studies; magazines 1 item	30 Aug 1889
U DRI/137	Letter from Laura Riddell, [in Pallaveram, India], to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Alec Crombie's proposal; belief that her daughter is too young to marry; Alec's insufficient means and failure to write concerning his proposal; distress at the possibility of losing her daughter 1 item	24 Sep [1889]
U DRI/138	Letter from George Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to his daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Imminent return to England; possibility of meeting Laura in Paris; mixed feelings concerning Alec Crombie's proposal; Alec's inadequate means; Laura's feelings for Alec; Henry's utter failure in his recent examination; the cost of his education; his future career prospects 1 item	5 Oct 1889

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	1
U DRI/139	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Desire for Alec Crombie to remain just a friend; need for him to secure a higher income; reaction of the Crombie family to the proposal; need to maintain a maidenly conduct in Alec's company; trip to Paris; Miss Justice's trip to Berlin during her fiancé's ill health; Henry; Aunt Annie and their eldest brother Harry; music and painting 1 item	8 Oct 1889
U DRI/140	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Visit by Dr Surgeon General Roe; coldness of earlier letters; shock of her daughter growing apart from her parents; trip to Paris; opera; Aunt Annie's stay in the Paris suburbs; Aunt Annie and her two babies' death from cholera; clothing; birthday parcel; Auntie's gift; Emily Lamb; disapproval of being in the company of Alec Crombie alone; letter to Mrs Willes 1 item	23 Oct 1889
U DRI/141	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Forwarding of letters; Alec Crombie's future prospects; need to ensure financial security; Magazine of Music; Mr Swete and his fiancé; request for photograph of Alec; refusal to allow Laura to return to Leipzig; Mrs Irvine; Laura's supposedly dull lifestyle; the Crombie aunts; Laura's true feelings for Alec; request for a new cloak; return to England; possibility of Henry entering the Indian Civil Service 1 item	23 Oct 1889
U DRI/142	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Visit to Mrs Donaldson; alienation from her daughter; Mrs Kelso; trip to the Gaiety Theatre; Mr Irving; Henry; Mrs Wren's ball; need for chaperône; violin and singing; Auntie; interest in house for rent in Powis Square; library; accommodation needs on return to England; money for Auntie and Uncle Fred; walking; Mrs Willes 1 item	28-29 Oct 1889
U DRI/143	Letter from Laura and George Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to their daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Laura's return to Leipzig; expenses; avoid Mrs Irvine; lessons at Conservatoire; plans to meet in Paris in May; possible separation from Alec Crombie; payment of Auntie's debts; stipulation that Laura can only travel to Leipzig with Auntie 1 item	30 Oct [1889]

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	,
U DRI/144	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Need for Auntie to leave Mrs Shadgett and pay off all her debts; trip to Leipzig or Dresden; plans to leave India; Laura's music study; financial needs for trip to Germany; fear of confrontation with Mrs Irvine; preference for Dresden; birthday presents; unpleasing photograph; Prince Albert Victor's arrival in India; quiet lifestyle; need for house and servants in England; need for discreet conduct with Alec Crombie; Alec's failure to invite Laura to the south of France for the winter 1 item	5 Nov 1889
U DRI/145	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Mr Onvry; Mr Willan; Dr. and Mrs Ord; incorrectdating of letter; feelings for Alec Crombie; guidance from Auntie; proposed trip to Dresden with Auntie; Otto Hegner and Nikita; back and posture; desire for Laura not to go to Berlin with Auntie if Miss Justice is to winter there; disapproval of visit to the Kelso family; attendance at the Academy of Music; Mr Swete's illness; her husband's trip to Madras; death of their canary; Reception Ball at Government House for Prince Albert Victor; dinner invitation from Mr Archibald the Senior Chaplain of the Scotch Kirk 1 item	12-13 Nov 1889
U DRI/146	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram [India], to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Lukewarm last letter; expectations of Henry entering the Indian Civil Service; Henry's character and morals; his lack of gratitude for the money spent on his education; need for ladylike writing; Wren's dance; Col. Rochfort; expenses; desire for her not to see Alec Crombie alone; his suitability as a husband; Mary Wilson's sister Bella; her husband's ill health; Governor's Ball 1 item	18-20 Nov [1889]

U DRI/147 Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, 26 Nov 1889 to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Club Dinner and Governor's Ball: unattractiveness of Prince Albert Victor; relief at not being sent to Burma; her husband's bad health and low spirits; Henry's irregular correspondence and examination failure; Dr Ord's medicine; Laura's unhappiness at being separated from her family and companions her own age; plans to visit Germany; clothing; benefits of Laura not joining them in India; accommodation in England; departure of Mrs Irvine's nieces from her home; Mary Street; Conservatoire Certificate; health; cost of amusements; letter of complaint to Mr Gurney; Mr Brackenbury's behaviour towards Mrs Willes; indifference to Alec Crombie; Christmas wishes; money; correspondence; Mr Onvry; visit to Dr Ord 1 item

U DRI/148 Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, 4 Dec 1889 India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Interception of letters to George; loss of stamps; letter from Alec Crombie; approval of photographs; Alec's income and great aunt Mrs Grey; desire for Henry to marry Lottie Crombie; Miss Justice's proposed marriage to Mr Swete; disapproval of Henry's conduct; plans for trip to Germany; need to avoid Mrs Irvine; Mrs Sherman: Emily Lamb; Mary and Hilda Street; George's vacation plans; Miss Brackenbury; need to maintain her innocence in the company of Alec Crombie; her husband's anger at Henry's conduct; Henry's suspected gambling habit; Alec Crombie's income; delay in payment of Mr Brackenbury and Mr Gurney; frivolous expenditure; King & Co.; Christmas plans: Uncle Robert in Scotland; letters to Mary Wilson, Aggie Birrell, Mr Onvry, Dr Ord and Mrs Gurney; trip to see 'Dead Heart'; visit to Drury Lane on Boxing Night; Henry's poor conduct; photographs from Upper Burma; Mrs Willes 1 item 24 Dec 1889

U DRI/149 Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Offensiveness of Laura's last letter; Christmas; her husband's serious ill health; ball; cost of her children's education; Laura's expenses; cost of trip to Germany; loss of letter to King & Co.; refusal of Auntie to renounce all further communication with Mrs Shadgett; payment of Mr Brackenbury and Mrs Willes; the Larduer family; Col. Le Guesne; music; clothing; payments to Mrs. Irvine; Christmas dinner; need to delay engagement to Alec Crombie 1 item

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/150	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras [India], to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Rosie Lamb; invitation from the Wrens; death of Mr Swete; Miss Justice; Laura's allowance; Governor's Ball; Prince Albert Victor; presentment at Court; decision to remain in England; Auntie's affairs; dislike of Mrs Shadgett; clothing; expenses; financial situation if her husband should die; her husband's serious ill health; hope for two months' leave to Bangalore; clothing; Mrs Willes; possibility of George leaving Stratford School; hopes of a speedy reunion; Henry's conduct and examinations; Auntie; Mrs Graham's house; Mrs Irvine's accounts and related commentary 1 item	31 Dec 1889
U DRI/151	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram near Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Accommodation needs in England; her and her husband's ill health; application for leave for the Shevaroy Hills; anxieties over return to England; pension entitlements; dressmaker in Madras; lack of friends; influenza epidemic; dislike of Mr Gladstone; George's education and shabby appearance; Mr Brackenbury's neglect; Henry's application for Sandhurst if he should fail his Indian Civil Service examinations; the army as a poor and risky profession; Auntie; clothing 1 item	14 Jan 1890
U DRI/152	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Lack of correspondence from her sons; gratitude for the Wren's attention to her children; trip to the pantomime with Miss Harriet Crombie; fear for Henry's future; Mrs Willes; Auntie; Mr Gurney; Mr Onvry; Dr Ord; George's education; Mr Brackenbury's payment of Mrs Willes; application for leave; throat ailment; her husband's ill health; accommodation needs in England; Alec Crombie; letter for Auntie 1 item	21 Jan 1890

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/153	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Gifts from her children; generosity of Mrs Wren; entertainments; Westminster Abbey; funeral service of Browning; Mr Willan; Mr Brackenbury's poor conduct; Mr Tregarthen; George's influenza; measles; throat ailment; her husband's health; grant of leave; imminent arrival of a native regiment from Burma; plans to stay in Madras and Bombay until their return to England; dressmaker in Madras; clothing; journey home via Marseilles and Paris; unhealthy sewage system in Paris; accommodation in England; Bayley's Hotel in Queen's Gate Terrace; arrival in Paris; Mademoiselle Georges; Mrs Paterson; instructions to King & Co. regarding Auntie 1 item	29 Jan 1890
U DRI/154	Letter from Laura Riddell, Pallaveram and Royal Hotel, Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Influenza; Auntie's nursing; payment of Auntie and Mrs Willes for extras; sale of furniture; her husband's ailments; hardship and disappointment; clothing; Mrs Misquilt the dressmaker; Mr Onvry; Mrs Willes; Dr Ord; Mrs Gurney; George's entry to Harrow; move to Madras; Surgeon General Sir James Haubury; plans to return to England by May; her husband's improvement in physical and mental health; climate; sale of property; unsatisfactory content of Laura and Henry's previous letters; King & Co. account; money for Auntie; letters from Mrs. Gurney and Mrs Willes; madness of going to a ball just after the influenza 1 item	1-5 Feb 1890
U DRI/155	Letter from Laura Riddell, Royal Hotel, Mount Road, Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Inadequate correspondence from her children; Mr Tregarthen and Mr Brackenbury; payment of Mrs Willes; George's future education; Mrs Irvine's accounts; her husband's health; hotel charges; finances; departure for England in April 1 item	12 Feb 1890

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/156	Letter from Laura Riddell, Royal Hotel, Nungumbaukum, Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Content of letters; ageing effects of hardship endured; unfulfilled hopes for her children; lack of sympathy and comfort among friends and family; Ellie Wilkinson's danger; trip to Brighton with Auntie and Alec Crombie; need for caution after influenza outbreak; Eva Justice; Mr Swete's lack of correspondence; presentment at court; ageing; George's shabby appearance; George's entry to Harrow; need to keep Auntie away from Mr Welldon; Alec Crombie; possibility of a better match; Mrs Shadgett; Auntie's birthday; lessons from the Mayfair Chapel Organist; Mary Berger; Mrs Irvine; painting; poor hotel food; departure from India; Mademoiselle George; hotels in Paris; steamers leaving India; accommodation in England; her husband's ill health 1 item	19 Feb 1890
U DRI/157	Letter from Laura Riddell, Royal Hotel, Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Brighton; memories of her own visits there; trip to the theatre with Alec Crombie unchaperôned; disapproval of accepting gifts from Alec; Alec's unsatisfactory appearance and education; need to find a suitable husband for lifelong happiness; search for a steamer from India; expense of George's coaching for the Harrow entrance examination; their children's education; likelihood of Henry entering the army rather than the Indian Civil Service; fear that he may perish in combat; George's departure from Stratford; Auntie; brief letters from her children; attentions of Alec Crombie; the Owen family; Mabel Loraine Greirs; accommodation in England; standard of hotel; cost of George's education; George's removal from Stratford and placement with Mr Woods at Harrow; trip to Harrow with Alec Crombie unchaperôned; finances 1 item	26 Feb 1890
U DRI/158	Letter from Laura Riddell, Royal Hotel, Madras, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Briefness of her children's letters; corporal punishment meted out by Mr. Woods; George's birthday; Easter holidays; the Fortschunk family; George's preparations for entry to Harrow; trip to Norfolk; Loraine Greirs family; Auntie's separation from Mrs Shadgett; Dr Ord's prescription for her throat; factors contributing to a good marriage; Rosie Owen's engagement; steamer leaving Bombay in April; relations with Mrs Willes 1 item	5 Mar 1890

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/159	Letter from Laura Riddell, West End Hotel, Bangalore, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Visit to Harriet Crombie; Alec Crombie's trip to the south of France; _haperonage; her husband's ill health; move to Bangalore; order for her husband to return to Pallaveram and resume his duties; Surgeon General Dr Haubury; Dr Ord's medicine; journey to Bombay in April; clothing; Henry's plans to go up for the Sandhurst Preliminary Examination; Lal Bagli Gardens; trip to the Band in the Cubbon Park; George's education; arrangements for George to stay with the Fortchunk's during the Easter holidays; possibility of a return to Madras; influenza risk 1 item	18 – 19 Mar 1890
U DRI/160	Letter from Laura Riddell, West End Hotel, Bangalore, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Grant of permission to stay in Bangalore; possible deduction in allowance; inadequacy of conditions on board the arranged steamer; life at the station; drives to the Band in the Cubbon Park; George's education; Henry's army entrance examination; her own and her husband's ill health; desire for Laura to discourage visitors upon their return to England; influenza outbreak; plans for return to England; unfulfilled plans to visit Mrs Paterson at Ascot and the Loraine Greirs; money gift; Auntie's separation from Mrs Shadgett; financial support of Auntie; birthday greetings; George's clothing 1 item	25 Mar 1890
U DRI/161	Letter from Laura Riddell, at Esplanade Hotel, Bombay, India, to her daughter Laura [in West Kensington, England] Desire to live in Ascot; Henry's lack of achievement; her husband's ill health; clothing; Miss Watson the dressmaker; place on board the 'Clan MacGregor' instead of the 'City of Dublin'; Turkish Delight; Mr. Onvry; arrival in Liverpool; food for their arrival in London; payments to Auntie; entertainments; presentment at Court; painting and music; accommodation in England 1 item	11 Apr 1890
U DRI/162	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to [her daughter Laura in England] Hair pins; Mrs Mason's opinion of 'Study from the Round'; Henry; letter to Fanny Stone; departure from Mrs Donaldson's at Easter 1 item	[Apr 1886]

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/163	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to [her daughter Laura in England?] Lack of correspondence from Amy Laurie and Miss Paterson; letter from Fanny Stone; new bungalow; Mrs Oswald's ill health 1 item	pre May 1886
U DRI/164	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to [her daughter Laura in England] Need to write and visit Uncle Fred; forthcoming Christmas holidays; likelihood of staying at the Darnells; hamper; the Laurie's new address in Notting Hill 1 item	[1882-1886]
U DRI/165	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to her children Laura and George [in Leipzig, Germany] Need for George to work hard; lack of correspondence from Mrs Willes and Mr Willan; Mrs Irvine's advertisement in the 'Pioneer'; violin 1 item	[1887- 1888]
U DRI/166	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to [her daughter Laura in Leipzig, Germany] Lack of correspondence from Henry and George; her husband's ill health; anxiety resulting from her husband's work in Burma during the last fifteen months; disappointment at Henry's academic under achievement; inadmissible amusements; Aunt Annie; plans for George to spend time with Laura at Mrs Willes and with Henry over Christmas 1 item	[Oct-Dec 1888]
U DRI/167	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] English language and literature skills; need for intellectual stimulation; Mrs Donaldson's complimentary account of Laura's piano playing; suggestion of attendance at the Leipzig Conservatoire; regret at not gaining a better education; desire for Laura to fulfil her potential; Henry's lack of musical talent; lack of musical atmosphere at the Darnells; wish to be with her children again; George Eliott; request for poprums; pudding recipes; 'Vice Versa'; invitation to the Darnells; invitation from Mrs Stone for Laura and Henry to spend the summer holidays with her; possibility of visiting Mrs Kelso at the seaside; Major Crombie; Latin lessons from Mr Perl; visit by the Leemings; Mr Orr; Major Trevor; weather; dinner invitation from Sir Oliver and Lady St John; George's violin performance; photograph of Mary Anderson 1 item	[1882-1886]

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/168	Letter from Laura Riddell, Mandalay, Upper Burma, to [her daughter Laura in Leipzig, Germany?] Letter of 27 November to King & Co.; payment of Mrs Irvine; uncertainty over receipt of letters 1 item	[Jan-Feb 1889]
U DRI/169	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Prayers and Bible study; care of teeth and nails; songs; shooting of Mr Penrose Coode's brother 1 item	1880s
U DRI/170	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to her daughter Laura [in England] Razor case for her father's birthday; birthday gift of money; need to keep accounts; visits to important historical buildings in London; posture; condition of nails and teeth; lack of desire for society life; friends in the hotel; possibility of a holiday on Laura's birthday; Major Jackson; songs 1 item	n.d. [Mar 1883]
U DRI/171	Letter from Laura Riddell, India, to [?] Christmas hamper; need to forward address to King & Co. if other than Harrow; hamper for the poor Lauries 1 item	1880s
U DRI/172	Envelopes to accompany letters U DRI/1-171, arranged chronologically 26 items	1884-1889
U DRI/173	Envelope containing a rough account of wine and food expenses 1 item	1880s
U DRI/174	Rough calculations 1 item	1880s
U DRI/175	Envelope, addressed to Frau Irrving (sic), Hierl[andes] 1 item	1880s
U DRI/176	Invoice for Frau Irrving, from [?] F[]uth One black straw hat decorated with a black riband, 12 1 item	12 Jun 1888
U DRI/177	Genealogical details of the Riddell family George Dalziel Riddell; his wife Laura Mary Gosling; their children Laura Dalziel (and family), Henry Charles and George Augustus 1 item	1880s

	Hull History Centre: Correspondence of the Riddell Family	
U DRI/178	Genealogical details of the Riddell family Robert Riddell; his wife Agnes Dalziel; their children Robert, John Dalziel, Agnes Pr[]gle and George Dalziel; their families 1 item	1880s
U DRI/179	Genealogical details of the Gilbert family William; Sidney Anne; John [.] G[]; Frances Elizabeth; Sidney Thom[.]sina; Frederick William Pakenham; Anna Grace; John Samuel; Florence May 1 item	1880s
U DRI/180	Genealogical details of the Gilbert family John and Grace W. Gilbert and family; Frederick William Pakenham Gilbert and family; Lilly Gilbert; Dr. Halpin; Richard Gilbert; William Robert Gilbert; Frances Elizabeth Manning; Thomas Jackson; Maria Russell; Elizabeth Gilbert; Sarah Anne; Sidney Maud Gilbert; Willie Gilbert; Frederick George Gilbert; Jane Gilbert Ballinglen; Samuel Gilbert	1880s