

Eyre, Edward John (b. 1815), administrator, son of a Yorkshire clergyman; in 1833 went to Australia, where he was successful in sheep-farming, and led an exploring expedition; was lieutenant-governor of New Zealand in 1845, and of St. Vincent from 1854 to 1860; appointed governor of Jamaica, he crushed the negro rebellion with much severity. He was suspended, and his conduct examined by a committee of inquiry, which acquitted him.



West Harleigh
20th June 1869

My dear Sir,

Having been up in
town the greater part of last week
I only received your note of the 18th
late last night on my return home.

It will give Mr. Lupton and
me great pleasure to dine with
you on Wednesday next the 23rd
inst. but I regret we cannot
avail ourselves of your kind invitation

to stay the night as we are
busy preparing to leave Darleigh for
a couple of months from the latter
part of June as well as in getting
ready our eldest son who is going to
leave us very shortly to join his
Regiment in India -

With our united kind
regards to Mrs. Radgway and
yourself.

Believe me

yours faithfully

L. Payne

We will endeavor to be at Fossilham
by half past seven on Wednesday as you

did not name the dinner hour -

Geo. Lawrence

Ms. A. 9. 4



The Hall
West Farley
Maidstone
21st May 1869

Dear Sir,

I have gone round
and over your woodlands at Coxheath.
The Woodreeve tells me he does not
know what the acreage is - but the
extent cannot be very great - and it
appears to be intersected or mixed up with
various small pieces belonging to other
persons - one belonging to Mr. Kannermon
running in a narrow strip for a considerable
distance around the outside - another strip
belonging to the same owner running into the

midst of your land - a third strip
belonging to a Mr. White also cutting into
your land and a fourth belonging to some
one else (planted in hops) also intersecting it.

The Woodreeve informed me that the last
tenant before the close of the season, shot
every thing down with a large number of
guns (he stated about thirty) and that
they left nothing they could help -

We saw but little trace even of rabbits
and I should not think the tenants could
complain of their being troublesome now -
what on the other hand wild cats appear
to abound the woodreeves being shot
or trapped no less a number than
14 or 15 within a comparatively short
period -

Having thus stated the result
of my visit yesterday to the grounds
let me thank you for having kindly
offered it to me -

I should wish to obtain a larger
extent in one block and with more
open or cultivated lands to range over
but I should have no objection to take
yours at one shilling per acre if I might
be permitted to get your woodreeve to look
after the shooting and keep poachers off
se. se. as he does at present, supposing
that I can come to terms with him -
for it would never do to employ a keeper
for so small an extent of land and only
some one living near it could do all

have an eye to it properly -

Of course I could shoot all the rabbits I could when the season once commences and I do not imagine the tenants of the only 18 acres there are of open or cultivated ground would have any cause to complain - indeed a large portion of the shooting is stony on the surface and not likely to encourage the rapid increase of rabbits - whilst the other parts will be frequently traversed and shot over -

I have only taken Sir W. Fitzherbert's house at West Parley for one year from 1st Sept. next - and could therefore at present only take the shooting for the same period -

Believe me

Dear Sir

Yours faithfully
J. Payne