

WHO WAS LUCY CAVENDISH?

This essay is offered as a brief response to the question asked by all visitors and newcomers to Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge.

Lucy Caroline Lyttelton was born on 5th September 1841. She was the second daughter of George William, 4th Lord Lyttelton, and his first wife, Mary, nee Glynne. Her mother was the younger sister of Gladstone's wife, Catherine, referred to by Lucy as Auntie "Pussy". Both sisters had shared a joint wedding at Hawarden in 1839. Lucy was one of a family of twelve children; eight sons and four daughters, besides the three more daughters of Lord Lyttelton's second marriage. She was brought up with her brothers and sisters on the Lyttelton estate at Hagley, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, a place she held in great affection all her life. She was educated at home under a series of more or less competent governesses; amongst other things they introduced her to music and literature, both of which she loved. Memorable events in her childhood included her attendance at a Children's Ball at Buckingham Palace for the birthday of Prince Arthur in 1855. She wore a muslin dress frilled and edged with daisies and a wreath of two rows of daisies round her head. She observed Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, the dances and processions and the Queen's smile to Mrs Gladstone.

"Well, the Queen came up soon, everybody curtsying as Her Majesty passed, and soon she came up to where we were. Oh, ecstasy, she shook hands with me! Imagine my feelings and my curtsy; I kept hold of her dear hand as long as I dared" she recorded in her diary.

The happiness of the family received a devastating blow when her mother died after the birth of her youngest brother, Alfred, when Lucy was just sixteen. From that time her elder sister, Meriel, took her mother's place, and she and Lucy cared for their ten younger brothers and sisters. In 1860 Meriel, Lucy and their cousin Agnes Gladstone shared a London season and were launched into society. In this year, too, Meriel married John Talbot and left Lucy to play the role of mother and hostess at Hagley.

In all her cares her aunt, Catherine Gladstone, was her friend and counsellor and their lifelong friendship became as close as that between Catherine and Lucy's mother had been. Lucy was also fond of Catherine's husband: 'who wouldn't enjoy a ride with Uncle. William, able to answer any question you ask him', declared Lucy. When he became Whig Chancellor of the Exchequer she asked 'I can't understand, Uncle William, how you can get so excited over all those dull figures?'. To which he replied 'Figures, my dear Lucy, figures? - they mean the happiness of millions'.

Lucy kept a detailed diary of her life up to May 1882 and in it are accounts of two visits which she made to Cambridge. The first visit was in June 1862 when her father came to receive an Honorary Degree:

'Sat June 7th. 1862. Set off for Cambridge with Papa at 10 1/4 (from London) came to Magdalene Lodge, finding it empty, we ate a (congealed) luncheon, and then set off for Charles' rooms, where he was not, then all about the lovely Backs. Visited the Provost of King's and went to the service at King's Chapel, where the organ was glorious and there was one of the best trebles I have ever heard. We dined with the Latimers at Trinity, meeting Sir E and Ly. Head, D. and Dss. of Argyll, Ly. L Cavendish, Ld. Bristol and Ld Jittervey etc. Singing in the evening. Home by 11 1/2.

'Cambridge, Whit Sunday June 8th. 1862. Dined at 5 and then went with Papa to Trinity, where the multitude of white robes delighted me as I well remember they did before. Alas! the behaviour of the wearers was anything but in keeping with their angelic appearance. Walked abt. the Backs afterwards meeting the Argylls etc.. Conversational evening: Messrs Wade (with lovely tenor voice), Hudson (an unparalleled fiddler) and Hofman pleasant undergraduates, have been running tame most of the day. Also the splendid rifle shot, Mr. Ross, came in: a magnificent looking man...

'Cambridge, Whit Monday June 9th. 1862. Some thunder showers with hail. A pleasant day with plenty of excitement. Papa and I went to a service at King's at 10, after which we had delightful music here in the shape of Mr. Hudson's marvellous fiddling and Mr. Wade's beautiful singing. Luncheon and then to the Senate House to see the Degrees conferred. We sat a good while, first hearing the intermittent storm of cheers, groans,

hisses, cat calls etc. One pig-headed individual, who kept his cap on excited a tremendous roar for abt. 1/4 of an hour until a dignitary walked down and made him take it off. Uncle W. got mingled cheers and hisses, Ld. -Derby more cheers than Palmerston, the Proctors unlimited groans, and at one time a chorus of barks. The Chancellor (Duke of Devonshire) when he took his seat looked very stately, and did his part with great dignity. He was well cheered but not vociferously. Of the Doctors all were more or less well received, except wretched Lord Belper, who got no applause. But when the list was read out the first name that was cheered was Papa's! Ld. Brougham of course, the most, and fine and venerable he looked. He is 83. When his degree was conferred the roar of cheers was immense. But Papa got enough to make me nearly burst with pride and excitement. Oh, it was splendid! The Ralphs turned up. At 9 o'clock came off a delightful concert, Titieus singing gloriously, and so ended a proud, satisfactory, red-letter day.

'Cambridge Whit Tuesday June 10th. 1862. This feels like three days rolled into one. We went off to the Senate House abt. 10 the clatter was more uproarious than yesterday. After came luncheon in the fine new hall of Caius: I sat next to Lord Hartington. Then trundled about the Horticultural Show in Trinity Hall gardens. Then Papa and I squeezed time for the service at King's, whence we walked... Then an amusing dinner in Magdalene Hall, Ralph Neville making a facetious speech in giving 'the Ladies', the Master proposing healths well and shortly. After which we all dressed, and now I am writing this by clear morning daylight - 4 a.m.- to a chorus of wakening birds.

'Oh, one of the most delightful balls I have ever had! I must say that after London experience it was charming to be engaged to every dance in no time; and I suppose it isn't human nature not to be pleased. Partners Messrs. Meller (twice), Hofman, Howard (a friend of Albert's), Roberts (a substitute for Lord Hartington who engaged me and then fell through), Lord John Hervey, Gaskell (a friend of Charles') and, for Sir Roger, the Master of Magdalene, himself...'

At home she went to a great deal of trouble in school holidays arranging readings aloud, French lessons and dancing classes to keep her brothers and sisters amused. Her sister, Lavinia, remembered how 'she brightened up our rather monotonous schoolroom life by often coming to tea and telling us with much vivacity and many jokes of any visit she had been on with my father or alone, and any interesting or amusing grown-up incidents. And then our readings aloud were charming, and our rides with her. Her great love of teaching and delightful ways in the lesson time made her so loved by the "little boys"'.

In 1863 she was struck down by a severe attack of scarlet fever, but she soon recovered, and more excitements lay in store for her. Later that year she became Maid of Honour to Queen Victoria. Her Lyttelton grandmother, Sarah Spencer, Lady Lyttelton, had been held in high regard by the Queen and Prince Albert when she had been in charge of the Royal Schoolrooms at Court between 1842 and 1850, and had been affectionately known by the young princes and princesses as 'Laddle'. The offer was made to Lady Lyttelton who described how Lucy in her excitement at the prospect 'shrieked, and kicked and jumped about, between delight and fright'. The family all agreed that it would be most beneficial for Lucy: 'she would be taught order and obedience and a certain liberality of mind from contact with heaps of different people and places, which we are all sure will improve her... (also)... Lucy is so entirely free from any disposition to gossip, which is the usual temptation in that profession, and so ready to occupy her time harmlessly, that she will do well in her place'.

She enjoyed the life at Court, at Windsor and Osborne House, even though it was in mourning for Prince Albert. On one occasion she told the Queen that she had seen Garibaldi's procession through the streets of London from a friend's balcony. Queen Victoria observed coldly that she hoped she had not made herself too conspicuous by waving a handkerchief at 'That Man'. I couldn't say, observed Lucy, but we were very enthusiastic.

In April 1864 she became engaged to Lord Frederick Cavendish, the second son of the seventh Duke of Devonshire and the younger brother of Lord Hartington. They were married in Westminster Abbey on June 7th 1864. She and her husband were distantly related (they were third cousins) and were quite opposites in character. Lucy was chatty and talkative on all subjects, both serious and frivolous: Frederick seldom talked at all, and never on religious topics. Lucy had always been interested in the

Church -indeed someone once remarked 'Church is Lucy's Public House, and it is impossible to keep her out of it'. She managed to persuade Lord Frederick to accompany her to church often, even on weekdays, but she did not manage to prevent him voting in parliament for measures such as the Burials Bill and the Bill allowing marriage with a deceased wife's sister, which she found abhorrent. She always stood in awe of the Duke of Devonshire, and of her even more alarming brother-in-law, Lord Hartington.

Their honeymoon began by spending a few days at Chiswick House and then they went north to Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire. There followed a continental tour to Germany, France and Switzerland and they returned to a great welcome at Hagley followed by a visit to Holker Hall in north Lancashire and back for a shooting party at Bolton Abbey. From there they travelled to Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire in ducal style "in a special train with 22 servants, 6 horseboxes and two carriages!" and from there on to Chatsworth. "I needn't describe my curious feelings at coming to this stately place as my Fred's wife. It was when I was here the first time... that the thought first struck him and I think it was while I was here last year that I began to really like him. And now how happy I am."

Shortly after their wedding Lucy and Lord Frederick went to Ireland to visit the Devonshire estate at Lismore; she loved the countryside and visited the local school and convent, but was horrified by the low wages.

A little later they visited the West Indies together, landing on Jamaica where Governor Eyre had recently put down an uprising with extreme severity, by executing 4,000 blacks. They visited a lunatic asylum, a penitentiary and a school where Lucy observed "the reading and writing of the best children was quite up to an English average, and the arithmetic not bad". Of course they enjoyed "the great crumpled mountain spurs covered with astonishing vegetation from base to summit, the splendid colouring, the delicious air, the soft nightfall and fireflies".

Their married home was 21, Carlton House Terrace; Uncle William Gladstone and Aunt 'Pussy' lived at no.11. Their marriage was exceptionally happy although, to Lucy's sorrow, they were not blessed with children. Apart from politics their time was spent partly in London, which saw Lucy involved with a busy round of dinner parties, Court Balls, hospital visiting, church services and visits to and from private friends and political allies. Lord Frederick Cavendish entered parliament in July 1865 as a Radical Liberal member for a West Riding of Yorkshire constituency. He suffered from the hereditary Cavendish lisp which made him a poor public speaker. In 1873 he became a Junior Treasury Minister (but went out with his party in 1874); in 1880 he became Financial Secretary to the Treasury. When not in London they were usually to be found in one of the Devonshires' country houses: Chatsworth, Derbyshire; Holker Hall in the southern Lake District; or Bolton Abbey in West Yorkshire. In the country, too, Lucy was fully occupied with shooting parties, dinner parties and days visiting neighbours in the villages.

In the autumn and winter of 1867 they travelled in Europe visiting Paris in early October, Venice at the end of the month, Florence in the first half of November and then Rome for December. Whilst there they visited the Pope "Pio Nono" in the Vatican who granted them an Audience and they had a lively discussion conducted in French. They returned by way of Marseilles in January 1868.

In 1869 her father, Lord Lyttelton, married his second wife, Sybella Harriet, the widow of Humphrey Mildmay MP, and they had three more daughters, Lucy's half-sisters. In later years her father suffered from profound attacks of melancholia, during one of which, in 1876, he committed suicide. Lucy and her stepmother were good friends and were drawn still closer when Lucy's brother, Arthur, later Bishop of Southampton, married Lady Lyttelton's sister Kathleen Clive in 1880.

The second visit to Cambridge which Lucy recorded in her diaries took place in March 1877 when she came with her husband, Lord Frederick, who himself had been educated at Trinity College, to see her youngest brother, Alfred:

'Cambridge Sunday March 18th. 1877. Walked about with F. afterwards and ended at Alfred's rooms for luncheon. Enjoyed the sight of his beautiful books -presents and prizes, with such loving, head-turning inscriptions within. He and we thence to St. Mary's where F and I had to stand all through a gorgeous rhetorical sermon by Dr. Farrar in aid of schools: there was not much in it, however, but what there was was good. A mighty mass of

undergraduates. He caused a good deal of stir last Sunday by a great onslaught on drink. After this we went straightway to Newnham Coll. where they left me and I had a delightful trol with the nice old Principal (Miss Clough) and sight of the girls' rooms. It seems doing admirably, and the tone of the girls feminine and unaffected.

"They attend lectures in Cambridge and hear some in their College. Some go in for the whole University course, but the most part are content with the Higher Local Examination... F and Alfred returned for me, and were shown over the college, bedrooms and all by one of the students, to their great amusement; but Alfred looked so academic in his cap and gown that it seemed quite the right thing. There seems to be all proper care and chaperonage, and regular hours, but no stupid primness or unnecessary constraint. Went round by the Backs to call on Nora Sidgwick: then paid a visit to Mrs. Thompson~ The Master came up and was most kind and cordial; delighted us by saying that he would have given the Hulsean Essay Prize to Arthur, who was so nearly successful as to be printed full length as "proxime accessit" or whatever the sayin' is. Likewise the Master said that he greatly regretted Arthur's not getting the Fellowship, for which he was better suited, in every respect but pure learning, than the man who got it. Oh, how my mind turned at once to darling daddy, it seemed as if I must tell him.'

She stayed in Oxford with her sister Lavinia in early November 1879. Lavinia was married to Edward Talbot, the Warden of Keble College:

"Lavinia took me to see Ly. Margaret Hall (I wish it didn't sound like a lady who has made a dowdy marriage), which is full already, and will flourish finely when once they have paid off the debt on the house and the starting expenses. Miss Wordsworth is delightful. We also called at "Somerville Hall", which is the same thing, only colourless in religion, but the Head, Miss Lefevre (one of the daughters of old Sir John, who is lately dead), was out. Likewise visited Miss Bishop, late of Chelsea High School, now at the High School here; and Lavinia so took to her that she there and then nearly settled to send little May there some day. "

Lucy's close relationship with the Gladstones was put under considerable strain when Lord Hartington, who had, with Granville, at Gladstone's request, assumed the leadership of the Liberal Party, found himself out of sympathy with Gladstone's zeal on behalf of the persecuted Bulgarians. Lord Frederick and Lucy were torn in two between conflicting loyalties, and Catherine Gladstone was almost driven distracted. 'To Harley Street after dinner', Lucy noted, 'poor Aunty Pussy looked worried to death and Freddie is nearly wild'. Catherine was not above hinting to Lucy that Hartington had been less than generous to Gladstone in his speeches: 'Of course, Lucy dear, I should have liked a little reference to Uncle William, considering all...'. Lucy recognised, as her aunt could never do, that Hartington was capable of becoming Prime Minister, and she was also well aware of the Queen's dislike of Gladstone. In the end, of course, Gladstone did become Prime Minister.

Despite these ups and downs the relationship between Lucy and Catherine remained as close as ever: Catherine wrote to her 'What a different life it would have been if I had not had you to soothe sorrow and to share happiness'. Lucy and Frederick were frequent visitors to the Gladstones' country home at Hawarden, near Chester. Catherine regarded Lucy almost as a daughter and William found Frederick, as Financial Secretary (1881) becoming his chief assistant at the Treasury, 'more dear and indispensable every day'. In fact he came to regard him as 'the son of his right hand'.

In May 1882 Lord Frederick was appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland in succession to Mr W E Forster. He left straight away to take up his new post, and Lucy was to follow him when appropriate arrangements had been made. He had only been sworn in for a few hours when he and the Under Secretary, Mr Thomas Burke, were assassinated; stabbed to death by four men of the 'Invincibles' whilst walking home from Dublin Castle through Phoenix Park. The nation was shocked by the crime against these innocent victims. The great bravery of Lucy Cavendish, in her darkest hour, is well known. When she saw Gladstone at midnight on that fateful 6th of May, she greeted him by saying quietly and bravely, 'You did right to send him to Ireland'. In the House of Commons Gladstone announced: 'The hand of the assassin has come nearer home; and though I feel it difficult to say a word, yet I must say that one of the very noblest hearts in England has ceased to beat, and has ceased at that very moment when it was

just devoted to the service of Ireland, full of love for that country, full of hope for her future, full of capacity to render her service'.

Lord Frederick's funeral took place at Edensor, near Chatsworth, on May 11th, and it was attended by the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the House of Commons and more than 300 MPs. Crowds of spectators, all dressed in black and numbering over 30,000, had also assembled to pay their last respects. After a simple service he was buried in a grave lined with primroses and forget-me-nots, surrounded by his grieving relations, his father, his widow and his brothers. Lucy Cavendish's last gesture was to place the Queen's wreath gently on her husband's coffin in the grave.

Shortly afterwards Lucy wrote to Lord Spencer, the Viceroy in Dublin: 'I should be very glad if there could be any means of letting it be known in Ireland, so as to have some good effect, that I would never grudge the sacrifice of my darling's life if only it leads to the putting down of the frightful spirit of evil in that land. He would never have grudged it if he could have hoped that his death would do more than his life. There does seem to be some sort of hope in this and you are doing all you can to keep down that dreadful danger of panic and blind vengeance'. Mr Gladstone wrote to Lord Ripon in India (June 1st): 'The black act brought indeed a great personal grief to my wife and me; but we are bound to merge our sorrow in the larger and deeper affliction of the widow and the father, in the sense of public loss of a life so valuable to the nation, and the consideration of the great and varied effects it may have on immediate and vital interests'.

As always the Gladstones were Lucy's great support; to Uncle William she wrote (June 7th 1882):

'How can I ever thank God enough for giving you those noble thoughts and noble words - from the moment you came to me that dreadful midnight, of what was God's meaning in my Freddie's sacrifice; I have had a rock of comfort to hold on by, though "the waves and storms have gone over me". And now in the midst of all your own heavy and weary struggle, you have gathered together all the blessed hopes into these beautiful lines, which will to the end of my life, speak peace, yes, even joy, to me.

'I don't know if you can have remembered that I should receive them on our wedding day... your poem and Mazy's dear, dear letter came as angel messengers to me; and the thoughts you strengthen and illumine in my heart, have helped me all day to bear my cross. I cannot let this anniversary ever be wholly sad with such hope and faith as God helps me to feel about my darling's death. All my darkened life should be a thank offering for what has been in the blessed past'.

After the trial of the four 'Invincibles', in February 1883, Joe Brady was found guilty of the murder of Lord Frederick. Lucy Cavendish sent him a letter of forgiveness and an ivory crucifix whilst he was in prison awaiting execution. (Afterwards his widow complained that the hangman had stolen the crucifix.)

Although Lucy Cavendish put a brave face on her widowhood, it was a deep blow which stayed with her for the rest of her life. In 1892 Mary Drew (nee Gladstone) wrote to Lucy's sister, Lavinia Talbot, 'As long as something is going on and she is talking and interested one is inclined to think her a miracle. Then when she is alone with you and talking about her own condition, it is very wretched and you feel she does not advance an inch, I mean the wound has not begun to heal in the very least -she is still thankful to get from hour to hour and from day to day'.

In the summer of 1884 Lucy Cavendish was approached about the possibility of becoming the Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge. It was obviously an idea much talked of in her family circle: Lavinia Talbot wrote to Mary Gladstone:

'She does not entertain the idea for an instant... I should say she would not be specially qualified for any of the main demands on a lady Principal ... one may say why do these competent women think of her, if she is not qualified; but they have, so she says, seen her only on committees where she shines, and know of her as a beautiful, saintly character... She thought it ludicrously out of the question from the outset (She disapproves for one thing of the Girton system - much prefers Newnham).'

She herself also wrote to Mary Gladstone from Bolton Abbey, Skipton (July 9th 1884) :

'I cannot see why, because my sorrow came upon me in that tremendous way, I should conclude that I am called to be dragged up prominent mountain tops. Dear Freddy would wish me rather to be useful in quiet, natural ways'.

Although she declined to be Mistress of Girton, she maintained a keen interest in education - especially in the education of women. One entry in her diary reads:

"Holker, Thurs. September 27th-October 3rd, 1875. We went to Bradford, where I had to declare a Girls' Day Grammar-School open; the 1st of the sort, inasmuch as it has an endowment of £200 clawed from boys' education by the Endowed Sch. Commn. It has made a famous start, with over 160 pupils"

For twenty-seven years from 1885-1912 she was President of the Yorkshire Ladies Council of Education. Lord Frederick had been its first President and she took a very practical interest in its work. In an address to the Council in 1884 she commended to them the history of the Girls' Public Day School Company, observing that "perhaps the most far-reaching result of all had been the recognition of the fact that girls' brains differed little in degree from those of boys and that their health gained rather than lost by plenty of regular hard work". Her brother-in-law, the Duke of Devonshire, was for some time the Minister of Education and she often made her strongly held views known to him: they were patiently and politely listened to, but did not always convince him. In 1894 she became a member of the Royal Commission on Secondary Education. Her father was a founder member of the Girls' Public Day School Trust and handed this position on to Lucy. Apart from attending meetings of the Trust she did a good deal of speaking on their behalf and took part in numerous school speech days and prizegivings. She served on the Council of St. Mary's College, Paddington, where she was instrumental in raising funds for them at a difficult time.

In October 1904 her work in the field of education was marked by the conferment on her of the first Honorary Degree (LLD honoris causa) bestowed by the University of Leeds. The citation read: 'The first degree conferred in this university could have no more appropriate recipient than Lady Frederick Cavendish, who bears a name held in affectionate remembrance among us... We are glad of an opportunity of recognising the valuable assistance which Lady Frederick has personally rendered to Education as the indefatigable President of the Yorkshire Ladies Council of Education, which has with signal success promoted the training of women in many Departments of useful work'.

Although she had no children of her own, she took a lively interest in her nephews and nieces, and the children of her husband's brothers and sisters, and was held in very warm affection and remembrance by them. 'You must find your happiness in the happiness of others' she once told a widowed friend, and the comfort of being surrounded by a large family must have been of great help to her, especially after the deaths of William Gladstone in 1898 and Catherine in 1900.

She lived on in Carlton House Terrace for nearly 30 years after her husband's death. From there she busied herself in a wide range of good works. Like the Gladstones she was interested in the Eastern Orthodox Church and was the President of the Friends of Armenia. She was a devout member of the Church of England, strict in her attendance of services and eager to take an interest in religious enterprises, in Sunday School and missionary work overseas, in hospital visiting, workhouse visiting and service of all sorts to the poor, the sick, the needy, the sad and the sinful which she described, with a twinkle over her glasses, as her 'risky' (rescue) work. She also worked with Miss Cons to rescue the 'Old Vic' as a centre for wholesome recreation within the means of the poor of south London.

She was an admirable public speaker, known for her sincerity and humour, and was often called upon to plead for the religious, educational or charitable causes which she espoused and to speak at School Prize Givings. She remained always a Liberal in politics, and never swerved from her Home Rule convictions for Ireland. She was in the gallery of the House of Commons when the third reading of the Home Rule Bill was passed (1914) and said afterwards 'this is one of the happiest days of my life'.

She also took great interest in South Africa, stimulated by her brother Alfred's responsibilities for this area at the Colonial Office and her brother Neville's as Commander-in-Chief in Pretoria and on two

occasions, 1888/9 and 1903, she travelled out to visit South Africa in person. In 1913 she was summoned to the deathbed of her youngest brother, Alfred, and the shock of losing him seems to have triggered off her own long, debilitating, last illness which seems to have been a form of Parkinson's Disease. She moved in 1910 from London to the Glebe, Penshurst, near Tonbridge in Kent to get away to the quiet countryside and to be close to her sister Meriel Talbot.

Her sister Lavinia wrote of her:

'She was so animated, so full of ideas, cherished and thought out, and she was so good a talker, that she was not equally perceptive and discerning in 'taking in' or understanding the real nature and individual tendencies and ways of others... perhaps her vivid wish to pass on to you what she had thrashed out for herself or gathered from books and life prevented her from giving time and deep attention to find out similar things in others. She had besides a curious inability to take in people that she did not know or see, however much they were spoken of... Her deep love for us all, her interest in great things, her self discipline and deep inner life of devotion, her never failing loyalty to relations and friends, and to the very end the sparkle of wit and fun were her most memorable qualities'.

She died on April 22nd 1925, just two hours after her elder sister, Meriel Talbot, "and was buried in her husband's grave at Edensor near Chatsworth three days later. It was a quiet family funeral with her coffin draped in grey velvet and bearing a brass plate inscribed 'Lucy Caroline Cavendish, born September 1841, died April 1925'.

When the new college for women was taking shape in Cambridge in the early 1960s the question of its name was much discussed. The Founding Fellows settled on the name Lucy Cavendish College to commemorate the quiet, persistent, pioneering work which the aunt and godmother of the mother of one of their number (Margaret Masterman Braithwaite) had undertaken to promote the cause of women's education.

Jane M. Renfrew

LUCY CAROLINE CAVENDISH nee Lyttelton

- 1841 Sep 5 Lucy Caroline Lyttelton born in London. Second daughter of George William, 4th Lord Lyttelton, and his first wife Mary, nee Glynne, of Hagley Hall, near Stourbridge
- 1857 Aug 17 Death of Lucy's mother, Mary Lyttelton
- 1860 Lucy's elder sister, Meriel, married John Talbot, leaving Lucy to look after their ten younger brothers and sisters
- 1862 June Accompanied her father to Cambridge where he received .an Honorary Degree
- 1863 Became Maid of Honour to Queen Victoria
- 1864 April Engaged to Lord Frederick Cavendish, 2nd son of the 7th Duke of Devonshire
- 1864 June 7 Married to Lord Frederick Cavendish in Westminster Abbey
- 1865 July Lord Frederick elected M.P. for a West Riding of Yorkshire constituency
- 1869 Lord Lyttelton married his second wife, Mrs Sybella Harriet Mildmay, nee Clive
- 1873 Lord Frederick became a Junior Treasury Minister
- 1877 March Lord Frederick and Lady Lucy Cavendish visited Cambridge together
- 1879 Lucy's father, Lord Lyttelton, committed suicide
- 1881 Lord Frederick Cavendish made Financial Secretary to the Treasury
- 1882 Lord Frederick Cavendish appointed Chief Secretary to the Treasury
- 1882 May 6 Lord Frederick assassinated in Phoenix Park, Dublin
- 1882 October Lucy's brother, the Hon. Arthur Temple Lyttelton, became first Master of Selwyn College, Cambridge
- 1884 Lucy Cavendish approached about becoming Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge, which she declined
- 1885-1912 President of the Yorkshire Ladies Council for Education
- 1888-89 Trip to see her brother Albert in Kimberley, South Africa
- 1891-1925 Governor of the Old Vic
- 1892 President of the Friends of Armenia
- 1894 Appointed member of the Royal Commission on Secondary Schools
- 1903 Visited her .brother Sir Neville Lyttelton in Pretoria, South Africa
- 1904 Honorary Degree (LLD) from the University of Leeds (the first Honorary Degree conferred by that University)
- 1914 Passing of the 3rd Reading of the Home Rule Bill for Ireland which Lucy described as "one of the happiest days of my life"
- 1925 Lucy Cavendish died at the Glebe, Penshurst, near Tonbridge, Kent, and was buried in her husband's grave at Edensor, near Chatsworth in Derbyshire



Caroline Bristow (2) = William Henry = (1) Mary MacCartney
 d. 1809 1st Lord of 2nd Creation d. 1765
 Baron Lyttelton
 d. 1808

George Fulke
 2nd Baron Lyttelton d. 1828

William Henry = Lady Sarah Spencer Sir Stephen Glynne = Mary Neville
 3rd Baron Lyttelton dau. of George John of Hawarden dau. of
 of Hagley Ha. ll, 2nd Earl Spencer (d. 1834) nr. Chester 2nd Lord Braybrook
 Stourbridge d. 1870
 d. 1837

Sybella Clive(Z) = George William = (1) Mary Stephen Henry Catherine
 widow of 4th Baron Lyttelton m. 1839 d. 1858 m. 1839 d. 1900
 Humphrey 1817-1876 d. 1858

Sarah Sybil Hester

11 brothers and sisters:
 Meriel, Charles, Albert, Neville,
 Spencer, Lavinia, May, Arthur,
 Robert, Edward, Alfred

LUCY CAROLINE
 (2nd dau.)
 1841-1925
 m. 1864 in
 Westminster Abbe



William Cavendish
 4th Duke of Devonshire
 of Chatsworth, Derbyshire
 1720-1764

William = Georgiana George Augustus = Elizabeth Compton
 5th Duke dau. of John 1st Baron Burlington =
 of Devonshire 1st Earl Spencer 1754--1834 1760-1835
 174-8-1811 1757-1806

William Spencer = Georgiana = George William = Louisa O'Callaghan
 6th Duke dau. of John 6th Earl 1783-1812 dau. of Lord Lismore
 of Devonshire 1783-1858 of Carlisle 1773-1848
 1790-1858

William Ewart Gladstone = Caroline = Blanche Howard = William
 (Prime Minister) William Lascelles 1812-184-0 2nd Earl
 d. 1898 of Burlington,
 7th Duke of Devonshire
 1808-1891

Spencer Compton = Edward = Emma Louisa = Frank Egerton
 Lord Hartington 1838-1891 m. 1865
 8th Duke of
 Devonshire
 1833-1908

FREDERICK CHARLES
 1831-1882