

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - *Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary*

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Women's Writing

The later twentieth century saw a huge wave of academic interest in women's writing, which led to the rediscovery of neglected works from a wide range of genres, periods and languages. Many books that were immensely popular and influential in their own day are now studied again, both for their own sake and for what they reveal about the social, political and cultural conditions of their time. A pioneering resource in this area is Orlando: Women's Writing in the British Isles from the Beginnings to the Present (<http://orlando.cambridge.org>), which provides entries on authors' lives and writing careers, contextual material, timelines, sets of internal links, and bibliographies. Its editors have made a major contribution to the selection of the works reissued in this series within the Cambridge Library Collection, which focuses on non-fiction publications by women on a wide range of subjects from astronomy to biography, music to political economy, and education to prison reform.

Through England on a Side Saddle

Through England on a Side Saddle was written around 1700, and first published in full in 1888. Celia Fiennes (1662–1741) was the granddaughter of the 1st Viscount Saye and Sele. She was an enthusiastic traveller through England, both for pleasure and 'to regain my health by variety and change of aire and exercise'. The diary which she kept was intended for her family to read, and, while it lacks Defoe's more systematic approach some two decades later, sheds valuable insights into English social and economic history at the turn of the century. She was uninterested in antiquities, getting most enthusiastic about new developments such as the development of spa towns such as Harrogate, mining and manufacturing industries, and the new stately homes of the period, in some of which she stayed en route. For more information on this author, see http://orlando.cambridge.org/public/svPeople?person_id=fience

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection will bring back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William
and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Through England on a Side Saddle

In the Time of William and Mary

CELIA FIENNES



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William
and Mary
Celia Fiennes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108021753

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2010

This edition first published 1888

This digitally printed version 2010

ISBN 978-1-108-02175-3 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William
and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

THE DIARY
OF
CELIA FIENNES

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Through England On a Side Saddle

IN THE TIME OF WILLIAM AND MARY

BEING THE DIARY OF

C E L I A F I E N N E S.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

T H E H O N. M R S G R I F F I T H S.

L O N D O N :

Field & Tuer, The Leadenhall Press, E.C.

Simpkin, Marshall & Co.; Hamilton, Adams & Co.

New York: Scribner & Welford, 743 & 745, Broadway.

1 8 8 8

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William
and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

FIELD & TUER,
THE LEADENHALL PRESS, E.C.
(T. 4346)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William
and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

THIS VOLUME

IS

Dedicated

TO THE DEAR MEMORY OF

My Father,

13TH BARON SAYE AND SELE.

E. W. G.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

INTRODUCTION.

THE account of the several journeys through England undertaken by my kinswoman, Celia Fiennes, in the reign of William and Mary, may prove interesting, as shewing the manners and customs of those times. The writer's diligent and attentive observation of details concerning the various counties through which she passed, either on horseback or in her equipage, and her descriptions of the many gentlemen's seats visited by her, seem worthy of notice and preservation. Numerous towns are described, and a great many churches and country seats—some of which doubtless no longer exist—are minutely detailed. There being little literature of this kind and period in existence, Celia Fiennes's diary almost takes the position and value of an historical document. The portion relating to London is interesting. The Lord Mayor's Show and other ceremonies are fully described. The perusal of these quaint and straightforward pages, in which there is little pretence to style, gives a good idea of what England was two hundred years back. The only actual date mentioned is 1695. The absence of roads strikes one, and also the unimportance of what are now the great manufacturing districts of the north. Bristol appears to have been the second city in the kingdom. The fashionable baths and spas and style of bathing are minutely described. With the exception of the dome, St Paul's Cathedral was finished, and

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

Introduction.

Whitehall Palace had recently been burned—the authoress suspects by Papist incendiaries.

The original MS., given to me by my father, has been copied verbatim, as I believe any correction or alteration would spoil its quaint originality. Celia Fiennes was daughter of Colonel Nathaniel Fiennes, a Parliamentarian Officer, by his marriage with Miss Whitehead, and was sister of the third Viscount Saye and Sele.

EMILY W. GRIFFITHS.

Cambridge University Press

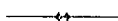
978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

TO THE READER.



AS this was never designed: soe not likely to fall into the hands of any but my near relations, there needs not much to be said to Excuse or recommend it. Som.thing may be diverting and proffitable tho' not to Gentlemen that have travelled more about England, staid longer in places, might have more acquaintance and more opportunity to be inform'd. My Journeys as they were begun to regain my health by variety and change of aire and exercise, soe whatever promoted that was pursued; and those informations of things as could be obtain'd from jnns en passant, or from some acquaintance, inhabitants of such places could ffurnish me with for my diversion, I thought necessary to remark: that as my bodily health was promoted my mind should not appear totally unoccupied, and the collecting it together remain for my after conversation (with such as might be inquisitive after such and such places) to w^{ch} might have recourse; and as most I converse with knows both the ffreedom and Easyness I speak and write as well as my defect in all, so they will not expect exactness or politeness in this book, tho' such Embellishments might have adorned the descriptions and suited the nicer taste.

Now thus much without vanity may be asserted of the subject, that if all persons, both Ladies, much more Gentlemen, would spend some of their tyme in Journeys to visit their native Land, and be curious to Inform themselves and

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

To the Reader.

make observations of the pleasant prospects, good buildings, different produces and manufactures of each place, with the variety of sports and recreations they are adapt to, would be a souveraign remedy to cure or preserve ffrom these Epidemick diseases of vapours, should I add Laziness?—it would also fform such an Idea of England, add much to its Glory and Esteem in our minds and cure the evil Itch of overvalueing fforeign parts; at least ffurnish them with an Equivalent to entertain strangers when amongst us, Or jnform them when abroad of their native Country, which has been often a Reproach to the English, ignorance and being strangers to themselves. Nay the Ladies might have matter not unworthy their observation, soe subject for conversation, within their own compass in each county to which they relate, and thence studdy now to be serviceable to their neighbours especially the poor among whome they dwell, which would spare them the uneasy thoughts how to pass away tedious dayes, and tyme would not be a burthen when not at a card or dice table, and the ffashions and manners of fforeign parts less minded or desired. But much more requisite is it for Gentlemen in g^l service of their country at home or abroad, in town or country, Especially those that serve in parliament to know and jnform themselves y^e nature of Land, y^e Genius of the Inhabitants, so as to promote and improve Manufacture and trade suitable to each and encourage all projects tending thereto, putting in practice all Laws made for each particular good, maintaining their priviledges, procuring more as requisite; but to their shame it must be own'd many if not most are Jgnorant of anything but the name of the place for which they serve in parliament; how then can they speake for or promote their good or Redress their Grievances? But now I may be justly blamed to pretend to give acc: of our Constitution, Customs, Laws, Lect, matters farre above my Reach or capacity, but herein I have described what have come within my knowledge

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-02175-3 - Through England on a Side Saddle: In the Time of William and Mary

Celia Fiennes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*To the Reader.*

xi

either by view and reading, or relation from others which according to my conception have faithfully Rehearsed, but where I have mistaken in any form or subject matter I easily submit to a correction and will enter such Erratas in a supplement annex to y^e Book of some particulars since remark'd; and shall conclude with a hearty wish and recommendation to all, but Especially my own Sex, the study of those things which tends to Improve the mind and makes our Lives pleasant and comfortable as well as profitable in all the Stages and Stations of our Lives, and render suffering and age supportable and Death less formidable and a future State more happy.

CELIA FIENNES.