

decently. Two had fallen  
to pieces & fallen over & another  
was so rotten that it would not  
bear my weight when I tried to  
climb over to examine those  
behind.

I identified Lord Rivers coffin  
by the barous coronet, but the  
plate was not legible by the  
light I had.

I enclose a copy of the inscriptions  
still on the coffins.

I expect to be from home next  
week but after that I shall  
be here continuously & would  
gladly carry out any wishes  
of yours.

Believe me

Yours faithfully

Horace G. Mouro.

L. 1264

STRATFIELD SAYE RECTORY,  
MORTIMER,  
BERKS.

May 3 1895

Dear Sir.

I obtained possession  
this morning of the brasses,  
from the gentleman on whose  
property they were found.  
This afternoon Mr North the  
Churchwarden & myself went  
down into the vault.

I had the grating removed  
but though I am by no means  
a stout man yet I stuck  
fast in attempting to get  
through the space. So that it  
would have been impossible

28  
MORNING  
1828

for any ordinary man to have got down into the vault without removing the bricks & they have not been moved for very many years probably not since 1828 when Lord Rivers was buried.

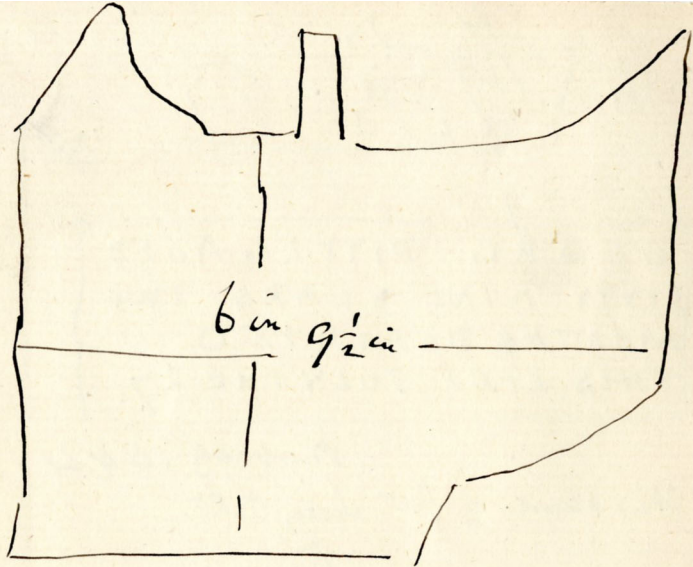
The frame which held the grating was very rotten. Mr North kindly promised to have a new frame made & I have sent it across to Milton & I hope that the vault which is temporarily closed with board tonight will be bricked up tomorrow.

For we were obliged to

remove two courses of bricks to make a way down. Below those bricks is a large stone which covers the entrance to the vault.

There is a depth of over 1 mile of water even now in the vault. Would you care to go to the expense of having it drained?

The vault itself is double one vault going in perhaps 20 feet I did not measure it under the South aisle & a second branching off at the end some 12 feet westward. There are 3 coffins in the latter in so sad a condition. It would really be better to bury the bones



with no inscription.

9 pieces in all.

Thomas Pitt Esq.

(L 258)

Died Feb 29 1747.

In 21<sup>st</sup> year of his age.

(curious that the old style should  
have been used so late)

M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Hildyard

Died 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 1781.

Aged 80 years

William Pitt

Second son of George Pitt Esq  
of Stratfieldsea.

Departed this life Jan 16 1690

In the year of his life

Same Mary Pitt

Died 26<sup>th</sup> May 1819

M<sup>rs</sup> Lucy Pitt

1762.

Mrs Ann Pitt  
1778

Lucy wife of George Pitt  
Died Nov 2 1697

James Pitt Esq.

Died Nov 3 1743  
In the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of his age.

$\frac{10}{4}$   $\frac{5}{4}$   $\frac{13}{4}$   
M 18<sup>th</sup> 1697  
DIED 13<sup>th</sup>

Mrs Lucy Pitt  
Died 13 Dec.  
1746

$\frac{33}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   
790  
67. 2E

Aged 67 years

$\frac{11}{4}$   $\frac{2}{4}$   
Mary Pitt

Mary Pitt

$\frac{7}{8}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   
Aged

Aged

$\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{4}{7}$   
H L S P  
7

3 GEORGE PITTS, AGED  
SIXTY NINE YEARS TWO  
MONTHS DEPARTED  
THIS LIFE JULY THE 27.

Nobably 1694.  
Husband of Mrs. Lucy Pitt.  
8

$\frac{10}{2}$   $\frac{3}{3}$   $\frac{3}{3}$   
nearly  
cut out  
cut out  
Mr Thomas Pitt fourth son  
of George Pitt of Stratfieldsea  
Esq<sup>r</sup> and Love his Wife  
was Born JULY the 1<sup>st</sup> 1711  
and Dyed APRILL the 13<sup>th</sup> in  
the year of our LORD 172  
in the 12<sup>th</sup> year  
of His Age.