



A View of Chatelherault and Teackle Mansion from the quaint town of Princess Anne.

ARCHITECTURE FROM THE HEART: CHATELHERAULT + TEACKLETONIA

*What is it about certain houses that flourish as the backdrop to romance and drama? The remote location?¹ Architectural curiosity? Fragments of forgotten history that rise to the surface and ignite the imagination? Teackle Mansion is the setting for one of Maryland's greatest fictional love stories, *The Entailed Hat*.² If you haven't read it, you should. Who would ever believe that Teackle Mansion was also the setting for two parallel romances? The builders, Elizabeth Upshur Teackle (1783-1835) and Littleton Teackle (1777-1848) loved each other very much. But beyond that, their complicated lives allowed for others who were deeply entwined to inspire the house and garden.*

We now know the source of inspiration for Teackle Mansion. And it is a place as unlikely (and oddly named) as *Teackletonia* – Scotland's remarkable banqueting house, *Chatelherault* – the dog kennels of the Duke of Hamilton! Exactly how was it possible that the Eastern Shore's young son, Littleton Teackle, even knew about Chatelherault? And what possessed him to choose to model his private monument to architecture after a

¹ Teackle Mansion is indeed remote. Located on the lower portion of Maryland's Eastern Shore in Princess Anne, it is only 30 miles away from Smith Island, a land so far removed from time that its inhabitants still speak with an Elizabeth dialect.

² George Alfred Townsend (1841-1914) wrote the *Entailed Hat* in 1884. Teackle Mansion served as a fitting backdrop to the heroine of this Gothic romance, and the story takes place in and around Princess Anne. The story's antagonist was a figure from history, the dreaded Patty Cannon, Maryland and Delaware's most dangerous outlaw. She and her gang were notorious for kidnapping freed slaves and selling them in Georgia and other points south.

dog kennel? The answer is *Love* – and is beautifully articulated in his own words – in Teackle’s incredible leather bound handwritten diaries of his Grand Tour Journey through England and the North.³ His exuberant writing below sets the stage for everything:

Near Hamilton, Sunday 21 July 1799 - Went to Kirk – paid 6s, as the price of admission, heard a good discourse & some fine singing - & afterwards was accompanied by Miss Stokes a beautiful young Lady, from Fifeshire, in a ramble thro’ the Duke of Hamilton’s Policy. This Amiable Miss as well as two Gentlemen of Glasgow joined us at Dinner.

In the afternoon, My friend A.D.C. & self, with his sisters & Miss S. set out on a promenade – our course was sent towards Chatelherault, an elegant banqueting house situated on an eminence, above a deep wooded glen, thro’ which the Avon winds – this spot commands, a very fine view of the country, in the Park it is said there still remains a few of the wild Cattle, peculiar to the Caldeonian Forests – next crossing the Clyde, we proceeded to the Cadzoo-Castle – its remnant ruins only testify, its ancient Magnificence – its elevated situations form an agreeable coup d’oeux, of the surrounding country – but what will most serve to perpetuate the recollection of this antiquated & retired object, was the sweet voice of the sweet Miss Stokes [note this young lady was truly one of natures’ masterpieces – she was most exquisitely interesting – her Voice breathed the very spirit of Melody, and her taste was above criticism] was pleased there to tune in finest harmony – happily were we entertained, by this Bonny Lassie – the fleeting hours whiled away, with unusual Swiftness & approaching darkness, warned of the return to our abode – the indulgent twilight & a fine evening contributed to render a pleasant walk back – as a partial veil of darkness, display’d to the more advantage the objects that we passed – the evening was spent most happily.⁴

Absorbed in the latest trends in architecture, landscape gardening, agriculture and industry, Littleton hadn’t prepared himself for love at first sight. The beautiful Miss Stokes had qualities he had never encountered before, and he was thrown completely off guard, Teackle was determined to see her for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Wealthy and handsome, the impetuous Teackle was used to getting what he wanted and didn’t like to

³ The Library of Congress, Ms. Room, MSS #95711, Littleton Teackle’s 6 volume, hand-written diaries, bear the rather ambitious title, ‘A rough sketch of a Diary of Ideas, Occurrences During an excursion to Philadelphia – A Voyage thence to London – a detail of some of the Wonders of the Wonderful place. A Tour through England, Scotland and a return from London via New York to Virginia. Time 25th march AD 1799 – to January 1800 inclusive.’

⁴ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, pp. 125-127.

wait for it. And as one who was engaged to be married to an equally wealthy relation in Virginia, he knew that time was of the essence.

Let's back up to the beginning of this story -- it seems that every character in our plot was very rich and deeply attractive. Virginia's enchanting tobacco heiress, Elizabeth Upshur was engaged to rich young Littleton Teackle. As a daughter of one of the founding families of Virginia, Miss Upshur was quite a catch in her own right, she was engaged to the rich young Littleton, and at the same time, her beloved sister Ann was married off equally well to Eyre Hall's John Eyre.⁵

So with marriage betrothal in hand, Littleton promptly traveled to England and Scotland in the spring of 1799 for the Grand Tour, an essential rite of passage for any wealthy young man. Laden with an astonishing quantity of letters of introduction, Teackle was wined and dined in stately homes by their aristocratic or merchant owners, and took meticulous notes on local customs, architecture and gardens. In standard fashion, he also made excursions to many grand houses, parks and gardens in the London and Oxford area; including Hyde Park, Kensington and Vauxhall Gardens, Richmond, Blenheim Palace and Wroxton Abbey. As he traveled North, he became more and more fascinated by the emerging technologies associated with the Industrial Revolution. Innovations in spinning mills, potteries, mines, etc. grew as important to Teackle as architecture, and made his tour uniquely weighted towards the phenomena of the Industrial Revolution.

Littleton Teackle traveled from his Virginian plantation to England (via Philadelphia) with his great Scottish friend, Andrew Donaldson Campbell. Up to the point of meeting Campbell, Littleton Teackle's trip had been more or less academic. He made various stops, presented his letters of introduction, and dined with the rich and famous. However, he came alive when he was in the North; particularly once he crossed the Scottish border.⁶ With Campbell, Teackle went on a special privately hosted wanderlust, mixing

⁵ After their marriage in 1800, Littleton Teackle and Elizabeth Upshur Teackle were celebrated as the 'it' couple, as was recorded by a friend in Scotland: *Your union is one of those few which possess every advantage. United in Youth, in beauty, & elegance in wit & learning with congenial souls & affectionate hearts with the sanction of surrounding friends, with competence & views of affluence. I do not know what mortals in the world can aspire to more.* Quinby Family Papers, 2338, -a, Box #1 folder date 1800, Correspondence, Letter from Mr. A.D. Campbell to Mrs. Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800.

⁶ Littleton Teackle records in his diary his preference for the North, *'True Hospitality exists in Scotland – I frequently experienced it in a degree so extraordinary, that I usually had suspicions, that some design was beneath – an uncharitable*

with all elements of Scottish society.⁷ Andrew came from an established family on both his father and mother's side, and used his influence as a successful property developer in Glasgow and a timber merchant. As a merchant he was well traveled, and went to Virginia as a young man, presumably for tobacco; he was also connected with the sugar trade and spent time in Jamaica. Campbell had spent two years living on the plantation of Caleb Upshur (Elizabeth Upshur Teackle's step father) and she recorded Campbell's amazing family connections as well as positive influence in everyone's life.⁸

Teackle's good fortune in meeting up with A.D. Campbell in Scotland was the result of a tedious delay in his journey. He hadn't made it far across the Scottish border when a wheel broke on his carriage and he was stranded at an inn. He was rescued by his out-of-breath friend, A.D. Campbell, who insisted that Teackle stay with his family. Teackle wrote of the rescue in his journal, and from that point on, Teackle was ecstatically happy:

– I had scarcely alighted at the Black Bull when my old friend Campbell, rush'd into my apartment, his features glowing with expressions of gladness – he inquired where my Baggage was – to which I replied as John Gilpin did, to his friend the Callender, “they would come by & by, for I left ‘em on the road’ he had heard of the Mishap that had befallen the Mail Coach & said he called every quarter of an hour at the Inn – anxiously expecting my arrival...he urged me instantly to repair to his father's house, & take up my

suspicion, I confess, but the cause I have mentioned irresistible dictated it – it is said the scotch are possessed of a powerful spirit of mutual advancements towards their countrymen.’ Teackle Diaries, Vol. VI, p. 82.

⁷ Teackle's 10-month tour can be understood in three basic parts: 1. Arriving in England and traveling North (fairly routine note-taking), 2. Being in the North, namely Scotland (by far the most important leg of the journey for seeing important landscape gardens, new industries and also socially fulfilling time for him), 3. Leaving Scotland and heading home (a return to more academic note-taking).

⁸ *Andrew Donaldson Campbell, Esquire of Glasgow. N. Britain, who, after passing two years in this country, left it, in the spring of 1799; and, many friends; who, then, feeling a kind interest in him and his fortunes, have, during a space of 32 years remembered him with feelings of deep respect, and regard. My husband went out to Britain with him; and, in Scotland, received every proof of the kindness and excellence of his heart, which were evinced in a course of hospitable attentions; and by an assiduity to promote his comfort, and enhance his gratifications, truly fraternal. His family, and standing, in society being, of high respectability, in the house of his revered and venerable father; in the society of his highly cultivated and attractive sisters, and excellent mother, Mr Teackle enjoyed, no ordinary advantages. There, too, in social intercourse, he met Campbell the Poet; (who is a relation of Mr A.D.C.-) Jeffrey – and several other young gentlemen, who have, since, formed a resplendent galaxy in the sphere of wit – talent, and learning; as well as poetry, and philosophy.****

****Amongst these were Professor Muirhead, who married one of the sisters of A.D. Campbell. – Mr Reddie, who married another of these charming women, and, has, since held a distinguished rank in the Judiciary of Scotland. – Mr Lockhart the Author of “Peter's Letter.” Thomas Campbell the author of the “Pleasures of Hope;” and Francis Jeffrey, of “The Edinburgh Review.” Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Common Place Book, Quinby Family Papers, Box #5.*

quarters there, during my stay, in Glasgow – I considered that there was a degree of impiety in thus burthening a private family – but he would not listen to apologies - & was so warmly solicitous, that I accepted of his profer'd friendship with gratitude – I found, but one of his Sisters, Miss Lillias, at home. The rest of the family, were in the Country, but very soon – My friend's Mother & two more, of his sisters, Miss Margaret & Miss Charlotte, entered, who were follow'd by his father – all the family address'd me in a style of intimacy – congratulated me on my safe arrival, & welcom'd me to Glasgow – I address's a letter to the Innkeeper at Douglas – directing his attentions to my Baggage, & to send the same forward in the next mail. - Having Dress'd myself – I felt very happy in having the society of a valued Friend - we made a promenade about the City... My friend, handed me several letters from my father, in the perusal, & reperusal of which, I pass'd the afternoon – in the evening we had an agreeable party of young Ladies & Gentlemen...⁹

From that moment on, Teackle's tour changed from dry and academic to personally enriching. He played chess with Andrew's sisters, dined with high brow Indian princesses, met one of Scotland's greatest inventors, James Watt, and spent time with some of Scotland's most learned scholars.¹⁰ Falling deeply in love with the beautiful Miss Stokes only added to his sense of *belonging* in the North. Although we don't know much about her, we do know that when he took her on a tour of Chatelherault, he became completely enchanted -- so bewitched, that he praised her beauty and character as no other person in his entire diary. When he returned to Maryland, he designed and built his own house and gardens styled after Chatelherault as the ultimate monument to commemorate his happiest times.¹¹

At first glance, Teackle Mansion appears to be a pattern book house, with its design cribbed from many Scottish country houses.¹² In searching for a source for Teackle's

⁹ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, pp. 109-111.

¹⁰ Teackle met his host's relations who included the great inventor James Watt and Lockhart Muirhead, regius professor of natural history in Glasgow University. James Watt was most likely the inspiration behind his steam powered plant in Princess Anne.

¹¹ While in Scotland, Teackle was a huge flirt, as was recorded by his friend A.D. Campbell in a letter to Teackle's fiancé Elizabeth Upshur, 'When Littleton was here he flattered and tantalized the girls by talking to them of returning but to them he will never return – His Love I well know is destined for a preferable being....' University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

¹² For example, southern Scotland's Mossknowe House (Dumfriesshire) has been compared to Teackle Mansion. Designed ca. 1763 for the Graham family by the amateur architect and land improver, William Craik, there are tempting connections to be made. Craik's natural son, James Craik, moved to Virginia and was George Washington's surgeon. The famous American Sailor,

curious design for his Maryland home, Chatelherault is obvious: architectural details in fenestration, pediments and rooflines are imitated, the overall massing is similar, and there's clearly a strong proportional system at work. Most significantly, the sense of theater is overwhelming at both properties. Chatelherault is a curious essay in architecture, and referred to as a revolutionary structure in which '*Adam violently demonstrated anti-baroque ideas in a thoroughly baroque setting*,'¹³ and Teackle Mansion, with its surprising contradiction of lightness and gravity also stands as an essay in bold, revolutionary design.



One of the pavilions at Chatelherault with parterre enclosed.

And as far as a recorded link between Teackle and Chatelherault, the evidence is clear – and again carefully documented in Littleton's diary. He describes spending time at the Campbell Family's country house, *Smiddy-Croft*,¹⁴ and refers to its lovely siting on the Avon River. His host family worried about the consequences of their delicate guest spending too much time in dirty cities like their fashionable townhouse in Glasgow and Edinburgh, Andrew Campbell even wrote a letter to Teackle's fiancé reassuring her that

John Paul Jones, grew up in the gardener's waterside cottage at Arbigland, William Craik's country seat in Dumfriesshire. But as of yet, there's nothing to connect Teackle to Craik. And as for Mossknowe House, while it is true that they bear a great visual likeness in common, Teackle never mentions visiting the property in his diary. Mossknowe is like many other Scottish country houses of its day in its imitative character – it is a tribute to the genius of William Adams and his architect sons Robert and James. For an architectural survey of Teackle Mansion, see Paul Baker Touart's, *Somerset, An Architectural History*, 1990. The house is currently undergoing a massive restoration and is open to the public.

¹³ For an analysis of Adam's work at Chatelherault, see A.A. Tait, 'William Adam at Chatelherault,' *The Burlington Magazine*, Vol. 110, No 783 (June 1968), pp. 316-325. For a good general history, also see Tait's book, *The Landscape Garden in Scotland 1735-1835*, Edinburgh, 1980.

¹⁴ Campbell's country retreat lay approximately 12 miles southeast of Glasgow. Also known as Smithy-Croft and Smiddian Croft. Campbell's father ran a successful saddler. Perhaps this property was obtained through his business contacts with local blacksmiths.

they were looking after him.¹⁵ The country house, and its relaxing activities was important to Littleton as his health was fragile and he needed respite from his exhausting travels.

My forenoons are usually devoted to reading, writing + visiting – Taking an early dinner, Misses M & L Campbells – ADC & self set out to Smiddy Croft, their Summer retreat near Hamilton – I enjoy'd the afternoon in the delightful walks, about this place - & the evening at Chess.¹⁶



Reconstruction showing Chatelherault (left), Hamilton Palace (right) with Smiddy Croft (middle on river).

So Hamilton Palace stared mightily down a two mile avenue of majestic trees to the ultimate eye catcher – Chatelherault. The apparent order of Chatelherault is broken by its rebellious massing – while maintaining symmetry, the central block isn't even a block – it is an elaborate undulating curtain wall with pavilions on either side. Offering a breathing space in the center of the axis was the perfect counterpart to terminate the axis of the Duke's massive palace, and a very forward thinking solution. Research into 19th-c. maps reveals that Campbell's country house was ideally situated between Hamilton Palace and it's banqueting house/dog kennel, Chatelherault.¹⁷ The luxurious allee of large trees connecting the palace to its kennel was interrupted only by the Avon River as it cut a serpentine line through the land separating the two buildings. And from the side and back of the banqueting house, Adam created very different spatial relationships between the structure and landscape features, with all apparent order giving way to dramatic

¹⁵ A.D. Campbell writes to Elizabeth Upshur stating that Teackle is spending time in their country house near Chatelherault: *You will hear with regret that this Climate and the violent exercize of traveling has impaired his health – I sincerely hope it is from fatigue only – as he is soon to be with you. It would not be improper to mention it to his family as it might unavailing by increase their uneasiness. He is at present at a small cottage we have for a summer residence far from the smoke and noise of the city which I hope will be of use to him. He has become a vast favourite of my Father and Mother. Had I not told my Sisters that there was a certain Lady not a thousand miles from Church Neck whose charms were paramount, there is no saying what mischief he might have danced among their heads....*2nd August, 1799, University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

¹⁶ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, p. 119.

¹⁷ Look at the reconstruction aerial map of Chatelherault and Hamilton Palace on <http://hamilton.rcahms.org.uk/images/landscape.jpg>.

natural features along the river's crashing shore. Smithy Croft was actually set within the Duke's landscape park, less than 50 yards east of the allee of trees at the midpoint between the two great architectural monuments that formed either end of the grand axis! One only had to ramble over the Old Avon Bridge to be on the grounds of romantic Chatelherault, and Hamilton Palace was equally close. Constructed in 1695 for William, Third Duke of Hamilton, the palace, which was arranged along an axis of trees over three miles in length, was a much earlier building than Chatelherault, and was rated out of date by Teackle.¹⁸ The palace and garden complex served Teackle well as an essay in the stale formality of the early 18th century and the fashionable Romantic Movement's embrace of the untamed, and Teackle was an eager observer:



Plan of Chatelherault and Hamilton Palace (Smithy Croft is at the river's bend).

By appointment this for noon waited upon Miss Stokes, & accompanied her to Hamilton Palace – the external convey an appearance of elegance - it is a large unsightly Pile in the form of an H, the Gallery is of great extent & decorated, with some excellent productions of the pencil – particularly the Picture of Daniel in the Lyons Den, by Rubens. The Apartments would have appear'd elegant had I not seen those fine Seats in England – however, the palace & grounds are sufficiently superb, to render a splendid

¹⁸ For information on the history of Hamilton Palace, see A.A. Tait, 'The Duke of Hamilton's Palace,' *Burlington Magazine*, Vol. 125 (July 1983), pp. 394-402.

mode of living were they in possession of any other person than such a one as the Duke of H – by a dissipated & extravagant life he has embarrass'd his Estate, & is dying with age in the Prime of life & to his infamy, has divorced an excellent Woman, his Duchess or rather (vice versa), his conduct obliged her to divorce him – now he has substituted a Mrs Easton, who with her mother Mrs Bennit, live at the Palace, in greater Splendour, than ever did the Duchess.

Accompanied Miss Stokes home & obtain'd her promise of a visit in the evening – which unfortunately heavy rainy prevented the performance of this promise – The Chess board attracted the attention of Miss C & myself, & having finish'd 34 games since first playing, each party had gained 17 – recd a card to Bkfast with Miss Stokes in the Morning.

Bfasted with Miss S – she had the goodness to varo us, with some delightful Scottish ditties, also shew'd her Drawings, which are really fine – departing at 10, we cross'd the Clyde at Bothewell Bridge - & pass'd the ruins of a Castle of that name – proceeded to Glasgow.¹⁹



Looking out of the banqueting hall at Chatelherault + a detail of the parterres behind the building.

William Gilpin, The great critic of Teackle's day recorded that as much as Hamilton's palace would *disappoint*, Chatelherault would delight they eye, compensating in good taste and interest. Teackle was fortunate enough to find himself in the center of what was considered one of Scotland's greatest architectural and gardening masterpieces. Gilpin

¹⁹ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, entries made from Smiddian Croft on 23 July 99 and Wednesday, 24 July 99, pp. 129-131.

wrote at length on the beauty of Chatelherault – clearly this was a mandatory stop on anyone’s tour:

Two winding rivers, the Clyde, and the Avon, flow through the park; of which proper advantage is taken. There is also much greater variety of ground about it...Advantage also has been taken of some clumps of very fine old oaks, which grow in the park; and which greatly adorn the banks of the Avon. To these many new plantations have been added, which are in a very thriving condition...It is superior in richness, and picturesque beauty, to any thing of the kind in Scotland. Chatelherault is a sumptuous pile; but contains the odd assemblage of a banqueting-house, and a dog kennel. It stands on a rising ground near the Avon; the banks of which river form a deep, woody dell behind it; open in many parts, and in general wider, and of larger dimensions, than these recesses are commonly found...Their sequestered paths; the ideas of solitude, which they convey; the rivulets, which either found, or murmur through them; their interwoven woods; and frequent openings, either to the country, or to some little pleasing spot within themselves, form together such an assemblage of soothing ingredients, that they have always a wonderful effect on the imagination. I must add, that I do not remember ever meeting with a scene of the kind, which pleased me more than the wild river views about Chatelherault.²⁰

After spending over a month with Andrew Campbell and his family, Teackle sensed that time was up, and the tour needed to continue, so he said farewell with a very heavy heart.²¹ In his diary, he seems slightly homesick for his Glaswegian friends and it takes a while for him to regain his footing as a traveler. In Edinburgh, Teackle met Robert Gilmour of Baltimore who became his traveling companion for the last leg of his sojourn. They met up with an older man of letters, who made sure they didn’t miss any important monuments heading south. For the rest of the trip, Teackle returned to the academic crossing off of important landmarks requisite for a young man’s education – the Minster of York, botanical gardens and colleges of Cambridge among many other stops.

²⁰ William Gilpin, *Observations, relative chiefly to picturesque beauty, made in the year 1776, on several parts of Great Britain; particularly the High-Lands of Scotland*, Vol. II, London, 1789, p. 57-66. In addition to lengthy praise on Chatelherault, he credits Hamilton’s *Daniel in the Lion’s Den* by Rubens as the finest picture in Scotland.

²¹ ‘The prospect of leaving a family who had rendered themselves so dear to me – excited an uncontrollable dejection in my spirits – such, indeed, seemed to pervade the whole company, & it appeared as if it was, silently, consented to create some artificial animation...With a heavy load of gratitude I left his worthy family.’ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. V, pp. 5-6.

Upon his return to London, Teackle searched through the library with his friend for information pertaining to his family's origins – it is no surprise that he decided Teackle was a northern name. He also rummaged around for the roots of his fiancé's family, tracing them to Essex.²² Teackle's allegiance to all things north may have resulted from family lore back in Virginia, which traced their roots back to the North. While on his tour, Teackle's father had instructed him to search for a tutor in Scotland.²³

The Romantic Movement, and its new era of landscape gardening made a great impact on Teackle. A love of the melancholy and with it, all fashionable strains of *Sturm und Drang* are expressed throughout his journey.²⁴ In studying his commentary on houses and gardens, it is clear that from the lessons learned, if he were to build a garden to anchor his house, the stiff and formal gardens of his childhood would be abandoned for wild and dramatic features. Although little remains of his original garden and landscape park, maps indicate that the Manokin River served as a beautiful backdrop to his house, as it meandered across the back of his property. So, with Teackle Mansion's straight-on view of the town, he emulated Chatelherault and its axis looking toward Hamilton Palace. And just as Chatelherault's Avon River wound behind it, all order broke away behind Teackle's mansion house, with the Manokin River cutting a jagged line through the landscape composition. Nature reigned supreme and throughout Teackle's tour, he records the kind of natural features that impressed him most, and he was fortunate enough to pay homage to some of Scotland's greatest landscape monuments:²⁵

²² *11 different names of a rivulet, all in use in Cumberland.....also, I am told that 19 different ways of spelling a common names, very frequently occurs in this part of the Country – which accounts for the corruption of our name, as I am strongly impress'd of an Opinion that our Ancestors were from this Town, or some part of Cumberland... On this business Mr. Braddick and myself started with a firm determination to search some & buy all means endeavor to discover, who were our ancestors as well as those of our Relatives the Upshurs – every catalogues of names that we could lay hands on in London... We found many names nearly approximating viz tekel and tickle & c and I am the more confirmed in Opinion that the friend of Mr Addison who was a native of the North of England was from the same stock as ourselves. We found the name of Upshire which is took its rise from a town of the same name in Essex. Teackle Diaries, Vol. IV, p. 88.*

²³ Teackle records in his diary, 'My father expresses a wish that I should contract, for a person to officiate in our family, in capacity of a School Master, but wishes that such person should be a native of Scotland.' *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. V, p. 138.

²⁴ Teackle wistfully observes the 4th of July in Yorkshire, 'I thought this Morning & similar reflection had before frequently visited my fancy - how strange it would be were it possible that my friends in America, could see me seated here alone at Breakfast, in this solitary place – but I feel myself a contented Wanderer – and wait the period when my Pilgrimage shall be ended & the pleasure of a recurrence to the scenes that are passed will afford.' *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, p. 65.

²⁵ It is important to understand that renegade Scotland was ahead of England in its fashion for Romantic landscape gardening. For more information, read the excellent article by Christopher Dingwall, 'Gardens in the Wild,' *Garden History*, Vol. 22, No. 2, The Picturesque (Winter, 1994), pp. 133-156. In this article, he mentions the great importance of the many features that Teackle

Saturday – 20 July 1799, stopped at Stone-biers, the lowish falls of the Clyde, - they consist of two precipitous cataracts falling one above another, into a vast chasm, bounded by lofty rocks, forming an astonishing theatre, when I view'd from below – satiating ourselves with this horrid, yet pleasing scene, we continued our route to Lanerk – where the Gallant Wallace, made his first attempt to redeem his Country, from the Tyranny of the English & succeeded - & where, also, we provided ourselves, with fresh horses & journeyed on to see the celebrated falls of Lara Lin [Corra Lin upon the River Clyde] – which are seen, to greatest advantage of the ruined Pavilion of a Gentleman's Garden, that enjoys an elevated situation...in the cliffs of this wild retreat Wallace, is said to have concealed himself while meditating to the salvation, of his country – about a mile & a half further, we saw the bold face of Boniton – where the river falls in a foaming sheet, far projecting into a hollow, with a violent agitation – there were sufficient inducements to have detained us among these grand works of Nature.²⁶

Further to that, his notes on landscape (all in the north) contain remarks that read like Jane Austen, views were praised for being '*awful and terrific*', landscapes were *picturesque*, spotted with woods and gentlemen's seats, walks were *serpentine*, houses were *embossom'd in firs*, and mountains rose behind lochs in *awful majesty*.²⁷

Within four months of his return to America,²⁸ Littleton was married off to his fiancé cousin in Virginia. The following year, he and Elizabeth Teackle gave birth to their one and only child, Elizabeth Anne Upshur Teackle.²⁹ By 1802, Teackle managed to acquire land close to the Manokin River in the western portion of Princess Anne, Maryland, and began construction of his great mansion house, *Teackletonia*. Teackle's architectural campaign was ultimately run by his wife. For the next twenty years, he had to attend to running family businesses in what proved to be an extremely volatile market.

records in his diary, including Chatelherault, Stonebyres Linn, and at Bonnington, he describes Sir James Carmichael's innovative work at Cora Linn. Note that this was the family seat of the Carmichael Family who settled not far from Teackle on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

²⁶ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, pp. 119-22.

²⁷ *Teackle Diaries*, Vol. IV, p. 119- Vol. V, p. 14.

²⁸ 27th May, 1800, Littleton and Elizabeth were married in Northampton County, Virginia.

²⁹ Elizabeth Anne Upshur Teackle was born on 4 February, 1801.



Aerial view of Teackle Mansion and its proximity to the Manokin River.

So, as a somewhat reluctant general contractor, was Mrs. Teackle miserable and imprisoned in her husband's shrine to his fondest youthful memories for another woman? Hardly. True, she did write to her sister Ann Eyre, shortly after arriving in Maryland, complaining about the generally poor and isolated character of backwater Princess Anne, remarking, *'Somerset is the most unhealthy place I ever lived in...'*³⁰ Ann was fortunate enough to marry the rich and wonderful John Eyre who possessed his family's 17th-c. seat, Eyre Hall, one of the treasure houses on Virginia's Eastern Shore.³¹ Her Upshur relations were not far away and she was a gracious host to them throughout her life. In Princess Anne, Littleton had relations from his mother's side living in the area; however, Elizabeth was living away from her family among people who were considered uncultivated by Virginian standards, and therefore experienced great loneliness. In 1810, Elizabeth confided in her sister Ann that isolation was taking a toll on her, *'...I am beginning to be most heavily sick of my solitude & want of proper help in my private affairs – it is so troublesome to have to manage everything one's self – the nominal presence, only, of a man about the house, is some comfort – the splendid state I now fill is but the mockery of power, to be a queen without a subject, is to be a head without a tail.'*³² Further to that, she was expected to deal with the mundane day to day operation

³⁰ *'Somerset is the most unhealthy place I ever lived in – such instances of mortality around me are so frequent that my mind has become callous to the melancholy feelings which on such occasions it was formerly susceptible.'* Letter from Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to her sister Ann Upshur Eyre, Princess Ann, November, 1800, University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

³¹ Elizabeth's sister Ann lived at Eyre Hall for her lifetime, one of the prettiest spots on Virginia's Eastern Shore. The property remains lovely and has extensive gardens which are open to the public. Well worth the visit.

³² Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Ann Upshur Eyre, ca. 1810, Princess Anne. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1. Additionally, she wrote to her husband on many occasions, expressing sadness that he was seldom around, *'I do not complain of your absence – knowing as I do that it is for my good you are encountering the fatigue & care of business, I cannot but thank you for the sacrifices you make of your own personal care, for the benefit of promotion of your family...'* and later the same year, her isolation is fatiguing, *'I hope to see you; I can truly say anxiously hope – I am pretty well tired of my maiden estate...'*

of supervising her husband's building works and raising a child while he traveled about. But she had a secret to sustain her throughout the many years to follow.

Our story takes an interesting turn here, for it turns out that Mrs. Teackle enjoyed a lifelong correspondence with her husband's Scottish host, Andrew Donaldson Campbell (1777-1853), and it was their lovingly detailed, lifelong correspondence that conquered her loneliness and ultimately became a private haven of deep friendship and compassion. As a guest of Elizabeth's relations in Virginia, Campbell had spent two of his happiest years in America before escorting Littleton Teackle with him to England in 1799 for Teackle's Grand Tour.³³ Surprisingly, Campbell was certainly Mrs. Teackle's confidant – and she was his closest friend. Letters reveal her able flirtatious nuances, yet her steady footing, which allowed the correspondence to continue for decades while she remained married to her cousin.³⁴ For Campbell, it seems it was love at first sight, he couldn't let

³³ From Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, *Common Place Book*, 'The attenuation of my person has always been a subject of merriment amongst my friends; and my husband, having told me, one day, that it was all bone, I wrote the following six lines, which I preserve here, more as a memento of former days of pleasantry, than for any particular merit, or wit which they contain

June 2d 1831

Why cavil, dear husband, because I'm toute bonne?

A French man would love me, for that, you will own;

And, once, I was told, by a blithesome scotch sawney,

He "lo'ed me, fa'well, because I was "bonny"

Can't you, as American, Frenchman, or Scot, *[Andrew Donaldson Campbell]

E'en such as I am, be content with your lot?

* From the time Mr Campbell left the Eastern Shore, March 1799, to this day, I have enjoyed a correspondence, by letter, with him, which has been regularly kept up. His first letter being of that date, from Philadelphia, where he embarked with Mr Teackle, for England. – About 12 years ago, he married Miss J.M. Dunlop, daughter of Colo. Dunlop, Househill, near Glasgow. This excellent lady, also, honours me by her friendship, and correspondence, although, I am not so happy, as to know her personally. Her letters are full of strong sense; deep feeling; candour: - devotedness to her husband; and confiding, pure – rational piety. – The style of Mr Campbell's letters is peculiar; - and, I may justly, say peculiarly excellent. These, combined; those of the husband, and those of the wife, repose, conjugally, together in a Mahogany letter case, which is sacred to them; and I treasure it with care.

Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, *Common Place Book*, Quinby Family Papers, Box #5.

³⁴ These love letters have been revealed in a startling collection of letters in the Quinby Family Papers in the Special Collections Dept. at the Alderman Library, University of Virginia. These were miraculously saved for generations by descendants of Elizabeth Upshur Teackle's daughter.

go of their youthful courthouse dance in Virginia.³⁵ Campbell celebrated the anniversary of the memorable ball for the rest of his life, commemorating the event in letters to Eliza. Together they marked their lives with many secret events, all of which were acknowledged with undying love for one another. Only weeks before her marriage to Teackle, Campbell boldly wrote Eliza, *'Twelve months ago my charming friend Eliza honor'd me with dedicating a part of the day in compliance to my wishes of friendship & to me - Auspicious Day – Harbinger of Summer & of Happiness! You can never again revolve without conveying to my mind the most delightful sensations springing from the purest source of Pleasure - A knowledge of being the object of the regard of your Eliza for whom to give it no warmer name since I first saw and arrived with you my heart has thrilled with the sincerest affection and my soul been but with the most eager solicitude to render myself worthy of your esteem and you tell me I have obtained it - At last I draw this conclusion from a delightful letter of three sheets which I have kissed again and again at the effusion of the heart of you my friend & so completed an index of yourself...'*³⁶

The first letter he wrote to her in August of 1800, shortly after her marriage to Teackle, was over fifty pages long. The intimacy they shared was great and he wasn't prepared to let her go. Andrew Campbell's solution was to keep her close by sharing with her every detail of his life. In the first letter after her marriage to his friend, he described a tour to the highlands and the events were punctuated by vivid recollections of the brief time he spent with her in Virginia during his American tour of 1799:

My dear Mrs. Teackle,

Altho' I now address you under the sacred name of Wife, I cannot refrain using the endearing expressions which friendship early allied to Love has taught me to use when writing you, nor will I suppose that words flowing from the pen of affection will ever offend yourself or my very worthy friend your Husband as such I presume I may now congratulate him and as his Spouse I may now congratulate you...

I hope my dear Eliza that your slumbers have been sweet as innocence can make them, in my lonely bed a few fairy phantoms flitted before me, having gone there thinking of yourself, Virginia and Miss Keir. But, alas, I awoke in solitude as I have not real scenes to delineate...

³⁵ In Campbell's letter to Mrs. Teackle, he referred to early days in Virginia, shortly before Littleton Teackle departed for his tour to Scotland, *'I thought several times of Hunt the Squirrel, of 24th rather I believe 23rd January 1799 when at Northampton Court house I fairly danced you out of breath, and remained upon the floor victorious from Scottish strength much more than agility.'* University of Virginia, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

³⁶ Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, 1st May 1800. Glasgow. Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

My journal is thrown aside. I have no hesitation in saying your two or three lines gave me more pleasure than it did as they were quite unexpected and more than I had ever dared to hope for after your change of situation until I had approached you with the respect and congratulations you are so well entitled to. I have repeatedly told you your letters were your counterpart – I cannot express myself stronger or I would tell you how much I value your few lines – to find that even while you enjoy happiness the most refined I have not been forgotten... – my happiness is so great and so fierce that it cannot express it but in hours of silence and delicious thought. I enjoy it.....³⁷

With great fondness, Campbell mentions time spent on Virginia's Eastern Shore throughout his letters to Mrs. Teackle. Virginian women and the quality of life they created in their homes was Campbell's ideal, and Elizabeth was his queen.³⁸ He worshipped Elizabeth for her beauty and her purity, and wrote of selecting a potential wife at a dance in Scotland, saying that he was attracted to her for her features which were similar to Elizabeth, *'I think I told you the origin of my acquaintance with Miss Kier – at an Assembly here her figure struck me – it resembled yours.'*³⁹ He also wrote of the beauties of St. Andrews, as they took him on a private tour of their city. As they climb up the winding stairs in an ancient tower, it is as if he was reading to Elizabeth from a Gothic novel, and the potential for romance was very great. After dismissing them for being rather too promiscuous for his tastes, he reflects back on Elizabeth and unrequited love, *'here could I have indulged in the same innocent liberty which the Virginia ladies in General / for I cannot include your prudish self permit – I would have obtained. The sweet the raptures of a kind & balmy kiss.'* So his beloved Elizabeth remained high on the altar of unavailable women, a position she would maintain through their correspondence for decades.⁴⁰ In spite of his cosmopolitan life and travels, of which

³⁷ Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

³⁸ For Campbell, the best parties in Scotland had to be on par with those he attended in Virginia, as in his account of a dance near Perth, *'... the hospitality & gaiety which ensured, what he had never before experienced excepting in Virginia from Virginians.'* It seems that even meals were best when like those in Virginia, *'Breakfasts in ye Highlands resemble those in Virginia when it is made a good substantial meal always preceded and very after followed by a glass of fav'rite liquor.'* Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

³⁹ Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁴⁰ Campbell's description of his tour to Saint Andrews is more about the way beautiful women haunt him with the memory of Elizabeth: *Saint Andrews – it is but a small place but almost every young Lady in it is a beauty and if I may judge of the charms of their minds from those which whom I spent the ev'ning it must be a charming society to reside in – I had an introduction to a Miss Wilson, who being obliged to leave home had departed her Sister to receive me who did so with very great cordiality and while shewing me everything remarkable antient - the beauties and the buildings shewed herself to very great advantage – with her. Her sister and a Miss Helen Baron are of the prettiest girls I ever saw...I promenaded the fashionable walls which was*

beautiful women were part and parcel, he always longed to be near Elizabeth and craved her company.⁴¹ Although a native of Scotland, Campbell seems to have contemplated living elsewhere as he writes her a detailed account of travels through his country as if he were a tourist, seeing the natural beauties of his home for the first time:

*In my past I told you of a tour I contemplated making thro' my native highlands and your love of description promised you an account of it -- Yesterday I return'd and while recollection is strong I proceed to give you an account of it. My objects were to become more acquainted with my native country which hitherto I had only looked at with a commercial eye and my travels in it had only been directed from one manufacturing town to another & from one Sea Port to another. Scotland in the majesty and beauty of her native wildness is the most cultivate places and in the remains of princely & Religious grandeur I wished sincerely to examine.*⁴²

As with his cultured friend Teackle, A.D. Campbell had more than a passing interest in architecture. We know this because he shared vivid descriptions of the many stately houses and landscape gardens he visited during his tours through Scotland in lengthy letters to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle. Remarking later in life that women of her station were not given many books when young, his accounts must have electrified this budding writer, as this was as close as Elizabeth would ever get to a Grand Tour. Campbell's description of the Earl of Breadalbane's demesne at Taymouth illustrated the perfect relationship between untamed nature and architecture:

'...his Lordships pleasure grounds which nature and art have combined to render among the finest in Scotland – the walks winding along the banks of the Tay a beautiful river, flowing from the Loch that bears its name & here a proper size for ornament. They are

crowded with beauty whom they kindly stopped and conversed with that I might have had an opportunity of admiring - which I daresay you can suffice it is not every lady who would do the same. With them I ascended a square tower of an enormous height the staircase of which was perfectly dark in many places and around upon the summit surrounded with so much beauty and affability I thought myself nearer heaven than I ever been before I looked down with pity upon the pigmy Mortals walking below me – here could I have indulged in the same innocent liberty which the Virginia ladies in General / for I cannot include your prudish self permit – I would have obtained. The sweet the raptures of a kind & balmy kiss – Letter from A.D. Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁴¹ For Campbell, the best parties in Scotland had to be *en par* with those he attended in Virginia, as in his account of a dance near Perth, '*... the hospitality & gaiety which ensured, I had never before experienced excepting in Virginia from Virginians.*' It seems that even meals were best when like those in Virginia, '*Breakfasts in ye Highlands resemble those in Virginia when it is made a good substantial meal always preceded and very after followed by a glass of fav'rite liquor.*' Letter from A.D. Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁴² Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

*thickly wooded but a variety of vistas present various peeps of the lake the village & the mountains, all of which you have in full view from a temple dedicated to Venus & containing a fine cast from ye celebrated Medicean Venus. The house at Taymouth the name of his Lordships seat possesses no particular beauty & his low, but near it there is a most majestic walk composed of Lime trees where high arching branches excluding every ray of the sun from a gothic aisle more romantic and more magnificent than the pen of the author of Udolpho ever described or I believe the imagination conceived. It was in the ev'ning we entered it which heightened the gloom and more strongly impressed me with awe than I ever felt in entering the most dismal sepulcher...*⁴³

Campbell tried to heal his broken heart by wandering from one rustic paradise to another, taking Elizabeth as his literary guest. His next stop was the Duke of Atholl's celebrated Dunkeld House, where he witnessed one of the finest landscape compositions ever created in Scotland: situated along the River Braan, the dramatic Black Lynn Falls, the hermitage (later known as Ossian's Hall) and rustic arboretum allowed Campbell to give Elizabeth a course in the fashionable literature of the Romantic landscape movement:

*'The Hall is perfectly different from anything you may have conceived of Ossians rustic "Hall of Shells" being fitted up with great taste and elegance and mirrors of every description surrounding the room placed with so much skill that you see the fall in a different point of view from each – It a sense that must have delighted you a lover of rural beauty and I sincerely regret not endeavouring to persuade friend Littleton to have made the tour of this part of Scotland, I have still however some faint hopes that Britain is yet to be favoured with a visit from both of you. & with pleasure I will accompany you to these scenes whose very spot will please.'*⁴⁴

It was these glimpses into Scotland that fueled Mrs. Teackle's imagination as she built her own romantic garden at Teackle Mansion.

By the end of January, 1807, Littleton and Elizabeth completed the first phase of construction. Mrs. Teackle wrote to her husband at his family's plantation in Kegotank, Virginia, saying, *The house you directed Harris to build is nearly done – it is now time to*

⁴³ Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁴⁴ Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

be thinking of gardening –⁴⁵ Three years later she was well under way, creating what was truly one of Maryland's first great Romantic gardens. In a letter written that spring to her sister Ann, she thanks her for a treasure trove of flowers from Eyre Hall's beautiful garden: *'You would be amused to see me running almost wild, in my poorly manag'd domain, absolutely mad in my gardens...The hyacinths and jonquils you gave me last fall have bloom'd very prettily – and in return I have another nursery of geraniums for you – which may serve either to amuse, or make you think of me. I trust, however, the affection you bear for me will not resemble their short liv'd bloom...'*⁴⁶

By late summer of 1811, we know that Elizabeth Teackle's garden is mature enough to have a defined program, or circuit, and is a source of great happiness for her. She writes fondly to her husband, *'This morning when for the first time in the space of 5 weeks I took my circuit through the garden I was full of cheerfulness, and thought only of the present enjoyment.'*⁴⁷ Elizabeth's geographical isolation and resulting loneliness gradually shifted to a preference for solitude as she made Teackle Mansion and its garden her oasis. She was a gifted writer and it was here, that she created her own salon, far removed from the rest of the world, as was made clear in a letter to her sister Ann in 1813, when she wrote of *'...delightful solitude, thought breathing silence! How seldom are ye my well behaved companions...'*⁴⁸ Gardens inspired Elizabeth's writing and offered the solace she needed, as she again described to her sister, *'I have been thinking of the hyacinth roots I requested you to bring me & the seeds – don't forget them – I am mightily interested in my garden – my pease are beautiful - & the violets are sweet according –...'*⁴⁹ The next month, she was completely devoted to gardening as the antidote to running an empty house, and exclaimed to Ann, *'...truly I breathe on in the same dull routine as when you set out on your travels; I have little to diversity the scene, save the several minutiae of gardening &c. – in this last business I am become, all at*

⁴⁵ Letter from Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to her husband Littleton, January 31st, 1807, University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁴⁶ Letter from Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Ann Upshur Eyre, May 5, 1810, University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁴⁷ Letter from Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to her husband Littleton, 27 August, 1811, University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Papers, Box #1.

⁴⁸ Letter from Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to her sister Ann Upshur Eyre, Princess Anne December 12th 1813. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Papers, Box #1.

⁴⁹ Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Ann Upshur Eyre, 28th March 1813, Princess Anne. Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

*once the envy & admiration of all my rivals, for my garden surpasses them all this year.*⁵⁰

Teackle Mansion, formerly a prison of unwanted isolation from the world, grew to be Elizabeth's refuge, and she complained bitterly to her husband when he, in one of many moments of financial upheaval, threatened to sell the property and move her to Baltimore, *'Here I have pursuits which amuse my mind without fatiguing it & which at the same time promote my health, I render me useful – god knows what I should do in Town -... the idea of being turned out of a home where I have spent so much time, & exerted myself so much to render comfortable , and at which I have now become attached, is a constant source of anxiety & misery to me – it prays on my spirits and affects my health - & I beg of you my dear husband to come immediately to a conclusion & put an end to this suspense which afflicts me...'*⁵¹

Throughout her life, Elizabeth hovered on the edge of drama queen, and always expressed a preference for the Romantic. Things weren't going well for Elizabeth and Littleton, and it would appear that he had at least one mistress in Baltimore. Elizabeth wittily exposed his secret relationship, scolding her husband in a letter - *'What took 'the smirkyish flirtatious' widow to Balt/ you must take care or I shall set out for a beau myself & turn the table on You – with a better rouge & heart however I might astonish the natives!'*⁵² The same love of all things theatrical held true in her garden. In a letter to her daughter, she described the scene, *'Our place has a wildly luxuriant appearance, nothing has been trimmed or pruned & everything has grown rapidly – the Jessamine overgrows & stops up the windows & doors...'*⁵³ In her idyllic setting, Elizabeth busied herself with writing, sometimes to the point of neuroses. She was susceptible to massive headaches, particularly when she was in a creative mood, and relished in the torment, describing her maladies and frustrations in her common place book - *'Those who know what it is to bite*

⁵⁰ Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Ann Upshur Eyre, 5th April, 1813, Princess Anne. Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁵¹ Later in this letter, Elizabeth mentions that her brother in law, John Eyre has graciously offered to buy Teackle Mansion (Letter from Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Littleton Teackle, 17 May 1813, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1). Fifteen years later Eyre makes the purchase, transferring title to his niece, Elizabeth Ann Teackle Quinby. She eventually surrenders title to her father, Littleton, who sells the property in 1839. Mrs. Teackle's gardening endeavors made the property marketable, as was stated in the advertisement in the Somerset Herald (1839): *'The grounds, estimated at ten acres, have been highly improved and contain Orchards and Gardens of the choicest fruits, flowers and vines in qualittes and varieties perhaps not excelled on this Peninsula.'*

⁵² Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Littleton Teackle, 22 July 1813, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁵³ Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Elizabeth Ann Teackle, June 1815, Princess Anne. Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

*their nails, and struggle for a rhyme...*⁵⁴ Of all her correspondents, Andrew Campbell was her life blood; he knew what she had sacrificed in Virginia to begin a new life in Maryland and was the one person to whom she could express her thoughts. He reciprocated with descriptions of his life and his deep appreciation to her for the strange way they continued their literary love affair. Elizabeth wrote more detailed accounts of her daughter to Campbell than to her absentee husband – in many respects Campbell had more to do with the shaping of Miss Teackle than her father. Campbell was increasingly sensitive with age, and Littleton became more evasive over time.⁵⁵ Elizabeth longed for the two to meet as she wrote in 1815, *'I have receiv'd a very excellent & long letter, yesterday, from our Glasgow friend Campbell – half of his letter is taken up with advice for your good. May I live to present you to his acquaintance – all that my heart desires.'*⁵⁶

As with the house, the garden was a key indicator of financial prosperity and grew in fits and starts; the building wasn't completed until 1818. The following Spring, the garden was considered sufficiently overgrown and therefore complete by one of its principle creators, as recorded by Elizabeth Upshur Teackle in a letter to her sister Anne Eyre in 1819: *'I would give a thousand things if you would see this beautiful bash of mine, as it will soon be, covered with one vast shut of rose!...and my cowslip edging as it has been with its thousand golden eyes all looking upon my delighted grey ones at once!!!...and my scotch brooms as they are, perching themselves so saucily and laughing in my face....My hyacinths have been good, and the tulips gaudy... Your lemon tree is in bloom and looks remarkably well and hardy in the society of geraniums and roses which are assembled for the summer under a cherry tree in the garden. I have a creeping cerus in bloom and will save you a cutting of that also, it is very pretty...'*⁵⁷

Campbell loved wallowing in his own isolation, writing from his respective perch in Scotland's Eden, always hinting that it was his love for Eliza that kept him single, *'I must not say all that I have felt while reading your letter & thinking of you, but my heart has been my fault...in the silent solitude of my peaceful abode – an ev'ning of peculiar stillness. It has retraced many of those moments which gave so much delight...when first*

⁵⁴ Elizabeth Upshur Teackle's Common Place Book, Quinby Family Papers, Box #6.

⁵⁵ Campbell complained to Elizabeth that Littleton was a poor correspondent at best, and that laziness was always a great fault of his.

⁵⁶ Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Elizabeth Ann Teackle, July 18th, 1815, Princess Anne. Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁵⁷ Elizabeth Upshur Teackle to Anne Upshur Eyre, 26 April, 1819. (Letter is quoted in Paul Baker Touart's book, *Somerset, An Architectural History*, 1990, p. 343. Current location of letter not provided – footnote is lacking.)

*I had the pleasure of meeting with you.*⁵⁸ After dragging his feet and resigning himself to a life of being an old bachelor, A.D. Campbell eventually married a Scottish heiress in 1817.⁵⁹ Conveniently, his wife was from a very wealthy family – The daughter of long established merchant Colonel Dunlop, Maria Janet Dunlop grew up on the impressive Househill estate near Glasgow. Together they built a beautiful house and gardens at *Ashcraig*, on the West Coast of Scotland near the village of Skelmorlie. Built in 1825, the house is nicely proportioned and well sited, as it is pinched between the sea and an impressive craggy hill that runs from the drive to the back of the walled garden. Furnished with a romantic cliff as a backdrop, house and gardens are nicely oriented to take in views of the bay. The gardens feature substantial waterworks – cascades and waterfalls carved out by hand along the massive stone cliff. We know that Campbell had ample funding for his project as he engaged Scotland’s famed early landscape gardener Henry Watson in 1820 to assist in laying out the grounds. Andrew Campbell lived there until his death in 1853 – shortly after that time it was described as ‘*A very neat villa...it has very neatly arranged pleasure grounds with garden, &c. and very excellent and commodious offices, part of which are detached.*’

⁵⁸ Andrew D. Campbell enjoyed writing to his beloved Elizabeth about the woes of a single man. Shortly after she and her sister’s marriages, Andrew pleaded, ‘*Excepting the fair Henrietta all my most intimate and admired friends have changed their situation since I left the Eastern Shore – Yourself & Anna. Miss Eyre Sally Handy – if I am to return to it I would have to look for a new set of acquaintances among the unmarried dames who would treat me coolly as the old beau of their Seniors while the stately matrons attentive only to their husbands & their family casting a look of chilling pity upon me would seriously advise me to comfort myself in my old age with some person of my own standing – pointing out that pattern of good nature Miss Wise – as Miss Adak Kendall the pattern of etiquette – or if I should be more fortunate & get myself boxed up in a corner of the one eyed Widow & carriage they would exclaim happy man & set all the youngsters to quiz the old Put – but my attenuated nerves can no longer hear their dismal vices of my probably fate – long perhaps my deserved one.*’ Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. And Campbell writes on the same topic again on 5 July 1812 ‘*Often, very often do I think of the happiness of yours – and sometimes my friend I cast a look inwards, rather a dismal one, to the solitary state of existence with a variety of circumstances have & am very likely to continue to keep me in. Were I beside you I would tell you all of them but they are too complicated to put upon paper – nor would it be right to risque the chance of a letter getting into improper hands.*’ This theme was to continue throughout their lives as is clear in his letter to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, 25th July 1813. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.

⁵⁹ Campbell wrote to Elizabeth Teackle on February 3, 1817, stating he was married at the Househill Estate (home of his father in law, Colonel Dunlop). He teased Elizabeth, confessing that his wife knew about their relationship, saying, ‘*She is half jealous of you already from hearing me speak so much about you.*’ Quinby Family Papers, Box #1.



Ashcraig House, Nr. Skelmorlie, County Ayr, Scotland.

Campbell's waterside house survives, along with much of Watson's romantic garden features, and you can wander up an overgrown path that traverses up the cliff to a meadow above that enjoys views of the water across Wemyss Bay toward the Isle of Bute.⁶⁰ There is no doubt that Campbell's Eden was the Romantic Scottish counterpart to Elizabeth's private Eden in Maryland. With its meandering trails, landscape park, skillful incorporation of water and beautiful viewing stations, the design harkens back to many wild gardens he described to her, all of which he carefully selected to describe to his Elizabeth, *the lover of rustic beauty*.⁶¹



Views of the paths and hand hewn cascades in the Romantic gardens at Ashcraig.

⁶⁰ I had the pleasure of visiting Ashcraig with the mason who is currently working on a massive restoration of the house and property. During our cliff walk, he showed me how the rocks were hand hewn to create naturalistic cascades, rivulets and waterfalls. Very impressive site.

⁶¹ In his detailed accounts of his tours through Scotland and England, Campbell shared Elizabeth's love for Romantic scenery and architecture and this was one of their strongest links throughout their lives. Letter from Andrew Donaldson Campbell to Elizabeth Upshur Teackle, Glasgow, 29th August, 1800. University of Virginia, Ms. Room, Quinby Family papers, Box #1.