

## JAMES BOWDEN LOVELACE (1774-18..)

James Bowden LOVELACE was born in 1774, the eldest child of Thomas LOVELACE and Jane ANDREWS and baptised at St. Giles, Cripplegate:

*29<sup>th</sup> May 1774. James Bowden (born 22 April) son of Thomas & Jane LOVELACE, schoolmaster. (St. Giles, Cripplegate Baptism Register).*

Part of his early life was spent in The Minories and at the age of 14 he was apprenticed to John BRISCOE:

*LOVELACE James, son of Thomas, Minories, London, gentleman, to John BRISCOE 11 Sep 1788 – Glaziers' Company.*

James married at St. George in the East in 1797 Mary MARTIN.

Mary was born in 17...

James and Mary probably had five children between 1797 and 180.. James worked for a time as a painter/glazier.

When his aunt Anne BOWDEN died in Feb/Mar 1797, she gave all her property to James.

In the 1798 Army List appears: *49<sup>th</sup> (or Hertfordshire) Regiment of Foot, Ensign James B. LOVELACE (Rank 5 July 1797)*. In the apparent absence of any other James B. LOVELACE, one assumes this is James Bowden.

For some reason James left London in a hurry in 1802 and made his way via Gibraltar to his cousin John LOVELACE's house in Malaga, Spain. There he worked for a time and gained valuable mercantile experience. During James' time abroad, Mary lived with James' parents at 120 Whitechapel for a while. Letters written by James from Malaga to his wife in London have been preserved at *London Metropolitan Archives (F/LVL/1-6)*. Transcriptions of these letters follow, the original spelling being retained. John LOVELACE is variously referred to as uncle, cousin, relation, Mr L.

To Mrs Mary LOVELACE, No. 120 White Chappel, London, Great Brittan.  
(franked Foreign Office Ap. 20, 1802)

Malaga 31st March 1802

Dear Wife

I arriv'd here Yesterday by land from Gibraltar, after experriencing much distress, as you may suppose, haveing no money in a straigne country & no English spoken; but I do not Repent my jurney, my Uncle as much wish'd for me as I did to come here, so all will be well in a little time. I hope you have been well since my departure and that you have not been much distressed. O how I long to here from you my dear Wife and that my dear Boy is well. God send no harm may befall ither of you; send me all the peticulars by the Returne of Poste; it is with the moste heartfealt paine that I cannot send you aney assistance at pressent but be assured that as soon as in my Power I will send you the Needfull etc.; in the mean time I shall be contriveing for your comeing etc.; my living in Affuance without you to participate of it will be eaquel to aney thing you can suppose but happiness. I shall in my next be able to say more about the Place, affares etc.; my uncle has sent to New York for me, at which place he supos'd me to be, as my Name is on the list of Citizens; you see how Providence works for me. I shall be put in a way of Getting an honist livelyhood By my Uncle and be happy in knowing that you, my dear Wife and Children, will be beyound want or porverty, but we must wait with patience a little time; please god will bring us together againe, until which time I cannot be happy. I hope you have had the Child Cristened Jno. as I dedercted, if not imeadatly do it. Aduie, God of his infinite Mercy protect you and provide you friends until I can do for you. Aduie my dear Wife and believe me Ever you loveing husband.

J.B. LOVELACE

N.B. give my love to all Enquireing friends etc.

To Mrs Mary LOVELACE, to the care of Mr Thos. LOVELACE, No. 120 White Chapple, London.  
(franked Foreign Office May .. 1802)

Malaga April 1802 [*April 28, 1802 added in a different hand*]

My Dear Wife

You who are not ignorant of my affection for you and my dear children can only forme aney thing like an idea of my misery on eacct. of our cruel separation; tho' thair is not aney thing wanting to make me happy but your company, which I am in hopes will soon be ad'ed to the things I now injoy. The country and Climate is delightfull. Our house is like a castle and contains Sen'r Don Jaun LOVELACE, Sen'r Don Diego Bowden LOVELACE, Mrs HUDSON our house keeper & a Mr BOLTON an American Merchant and a Mr McDERMOT, a cook, a house made, two Girls and a footman with a Clerk. My relation is Emencely Rich but loves his money, has one of the best of hearts and is the best friend I ever had. I have Requested him to send for you but I have had no answer. I think he has something in agitation with respect to my request; he is not to be hurried, we must have patience. I hope you and my parents are

friends, give my best love to them and my Brother. I can't wright to them this poste as I have no time, having been very bussey in Copping of Letts. etc.; my Brother's health I hope is by this time establish'd, if not I pray God it soon may. I hope you and my dear children are and have been well and that my Father & Mother are & have been the same; thay was very good in takeing our child, god bless them for it; when my Brother's health will permit, I think to send him a propossal for his Government, But can say no more at present on that subject. I have inclos'd you a Bill pay'l at sight on Messrs. WARDS & WOODFALL of Broad Street, London; it being the first Bill, you will present it to the above Gents. when it will be immediatly payd; the second of the fomer I shall send in my next, sh'd I not learn that this has come to hand, but as we have a peace thear is not much dainger of of interception; make a Minute of the date of this Bill, that you may not make a blunder in demanding the second of the above, which will be of the same date; give my Love and Respects to Mr DAVIS if he is deserving of it and to all other Friends who have been kinde to you or my dear Children; give my love to your Father & Mother and Brothers & Sister. Kiss my dear John and Ann and Lousia and kiss your self if you can a 100 times for me. Adué and believe me your loveing husband til I am no more. Diego Bowden LOVELACE.

N.B. You had better not lett the lower order of our former acquaintances know of (of) my welfare; keep you self close. I will send you all the assistance I can; get a spanish Gramer with the english and study it all you can and bring it with you; if possible get some instruction; let my Brother do the same; learn my Boy John the alp't in Spanish, sh'd you think proper. Get a passage if you can to this place direct and it shall be pay'd when you arrive; bring none but the boy; agreea for no more than 10£ for your passage, it is enough, the Boy's included, to be found in Every Nessary and in the Cabin; show your self of consequence on the passace and keep the Capt. an others at a great distance on the Passage. You must not let it be known that I have requested you to come, it must seame as if you came without my knowledge and of your own Accord; all those things observe and you will do well – before you receive this I hope to have a Letter from you. I shall expect an answer to this advising me how you mean to act and how soon I may Expect you, but not as if it was my Request but your determination; not a Word have I saide about Lucy, it wo'd not do; she must be left at her father's care or as you please; my Cousin dos not love children. I hope I did not leave you with child. I wrote to you on the 31 of March last.

JBL

direct for Don Diego Bowden LOVELACE at Don Juan LOVELACE Esq'r, Malaga, Spaine.

Note - Thomas LOVELACE, with whom Mary was living, was James' father. Mary HUDSON (or HODSON), a widow, was left an annuity in John's Will, of which John MacDERMOT was one of the Executors. The peace referred to above was the 1802 Peace of Amiens, which provided a brief respite in the Napoleonic War. Diego and Juan is Spanish for James and John. "Lousia" is presumed to another daughter of James' called Louisa.

To Mrs Mary LOVELACE, Ye care of Mr Thos. LOVELACE, No. 120 White Chapel, London.  
(franked F Jun 11 1802)

Malaga Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 1802

My dear Wife

On the 31st of March and the 28th of April I did myself the pleasure of writeing to you. In the latter I enclosed for your use a first bill for five pounds, drawn on Messrs. WARDS & WOODFALL Esq'rs of broad Street, London. I now send you the second of the former Pr. the Brig Ann, Henry STEVINS, Master, who is bound to Liverpool. If the first has not come to hand, you may present the second but, on the other hand it's of no use; the third I will send in my next Letre. The above nam'd Capt., as soon as he has discharg'd his Cargoe at the above nam'd Place, is going to London to Freight for this Port, where he thinks to be by the time of our Vintage, which is in August & Sept.; if so (and you cannot get a Passage before) you can come with him. You will here of him by enquireing for him of aney of the spanish Brokers on the spanish walk, Royall Exchange; (Le BATT), a jew, I wou'd recomend to you for Enquire; it was him that gave me advice not to come to this place by the way of Billboe; he is to be seen at 'change houres on said spanish walk.

Whatever you may agree for your Passage will be paid on your Arrival at this place; make the best Bargan you can to come in the cabin and to be found in every nessary dureing the Voyage to this port, observing to be very circumspect on the Passage, for questions will be asked of the Capt., Mate etc. I am well; I hope you are all the same; give my love and duty to my Father and Mother, with w'ome I hope you are friendly. I hope my Brother is well of his complaint. Informe him that I think, nay I am sure, he is loosing time; at our house is Bussiness enough for us boath and, if he thinks that he can put up with our Couzin's Temper, which is very trying, tho' at the same time he is as good a man and has one of the best of hearts of any man living. We want one of his abillities in order to supreceed an Artfull designing Knave of an American Quaker, who is Clever with his pen and at figures etc. and a compleet jesuite, and has for fifteen months look'd up for the Bussiness of this house and, in consequence of present Ignorance of Mercantile affairs, he still continues to do so, tho' my unwellcome Visite has put him to his wits end. Mr LOVELACE is fond of me and takes great pains to instruct me in his Bussiness, for which he designs me.

Mrs HUDSON our housekeeper, who I made Mention of in my last as being a good kind of a Woman, I finde her to be a capricious one, to whome this Quaker pays his attentions, in order to accomplish the end before menti'd, for in many respects she can winde Mr L. round her finger, in short she fills the place of a Wife but, if you was here in order take charge of the house, I think she may loose the influence she at present has over him. It is her that is the cause of Mr L's not sending for you. I wo'd have you informe my brother that he must not make aney mention (in a letter he may think proper to wright to Mr LOVELACE respecting his coming here) of my Soliciteing him to come, and that he had better come without aney thing of the Kinde and intirely trust to his generosity, which is very greate. You must only bring John; you need not be particular in bringing abundance of things, as Every thing you will want

you can have here very little dearer than in London, nay, if you can, you may bring a stock of fine cotton stockings and hankerchiefs. I will send you further Rem'ce as soon as I can with propriaty ask it of my Couzen; at all Events you shall have some at the time of your embarking for this country; a Spanish Grammar (wrote by Jh. GIRAL del PINO) you must bring with you and get it as soon as you can and study the Declention of Articles and Nouns, Pronouns and Verbs (Nouns Page 12, Pronowns Page 15, Verbs Page 29 & 116), together with all the instructions for Pronownciation, which is hard to the English as they Pronounce their Vowels different; our Vowels are a, e, i, o, u, which are pronounc'd a – aw, e – a, i – ee, o – o, u – oo; get the foregoing by heart and all the instruction you can; if my Brother desires to come, he must apply himself to the same, consequently he may instruct you. I wo'd not have you attempt much at a time, but perfectly learn one thing before you attempt another and you will get on fast enough. You may show this Lettre to my Father, it will serve for his information, but I shall send him a long letre one of these days. God bless him and my mother; thay were good in taking my dear Ann; lett him still have the sole Government of her and he shall be reimburs'd the Expence.

I have learn'd that my Couzen's Fortune is divided by Will amongst us; it is emence. God Bless you my ever dear wife and my dear children, and Parent's, brother, and yours also and those that are kinde to you; not haveing for your further detention, I conclude my self your Loveing Husband

J.B. LOVELACE

P.S. I observe that your Letres to me must be Franc'd at the Foriegn Office at the General Post Office. If this has not allready done I shall receive none of your Letters. You will have something to pay, perhaps 1/6 or 2/0, according to the Bulke of the Letre. I have rec'd no Letter yet.

Note - John LOVELACE had made his Will five months earlier on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1801, at which time he said he was weak in body. James Bowden LOVELACE would probably have been disappointed with its contents.

To Mrs Mary LOVELACE, to be deliv'd to no other Person.

Malaga 17<sup>th</sup> July 1802

My Beloved wife

I am thank God enabl'd to keep my Promise of the 14 inst. in making you the following remittance, Viz't fifteen guines or 1502 Reales of Vellon, which I have not the least doubt will be very acceptable, as it will be some time before I can send you any again. I hope you will husband it with your usial prudence, but do not dispair of haveing another remittance in due Season. As Mr LOVELACE is coming to London shortly and will use his Pleasure with respect to your coming here, I now advise that you do not think of coming, at least until after your laying in, when we shall know more about things.

I have not had a line from Father, Mother or Bro'r. I have ask'd Don Juan If he has; he says no. I intend wrighting to them this post. If you have had any trifling news, return it them saying you had it from me, but do not agravate them; live distant from them and let them swallow thare own Gaul.

I hope in future you will wright me somthing of my affairs etc., dividing your letter into sentances. Pray, is Mr BUTLER gone to Botoney bay, is Bill well, is your Parents kinde, do people think I have forsaken you.

No Mary, nither time or Distance will ever alter my firm love for you; how it may be with you I can't tel, but you know I am not Jellous because you have never givern me the least cause to be so and I seem satisfied that you never will; since the 28<sup>th</sup> of Feb'ry at 5 o'clock in the Morning I have not known woman; by all that's dear and sacred I tel you tru; adue, send me word of your receipt of this etc. and how many others and all the family news you can; give my dear little children my love and a 1000 Kisses and make John give you as many for me. May heaven proctect you from all dainger is the constant prayer of your affectionate Jim.

Diego LOVELACE

British Merchant at Malaga

Mr DAVIS, agreeable to my request, will recover & discount the Enclos'd bill for you, the amount of which is 15 Guineas. Your loveing husb'd J.B. LOVELACE or Diego LOVELACE in Spanish.

my last bill was dated 28th April 1802; you have rec'd it but you don't say so; it was for 5£ on WARDS & WOODFALL Esqrs.

To Mrs Samuel CORNEBY, No. 4 Boss Court, Shad Thames, London.

(franked Foreign Office Se 29 1802)

Malaga Sept'r 8th 1802

My dear Susa

I am happy to inform you of my safe arrival at this place on the 4th Inst. after a very pleasant passage of 16 days from the English Land; we are likely to remain at this place until the latter part this month, when I shall proceed to Velaz Malaga for our cargo, which on my arrival will be put onboard in a short time, it being far from a place of safety for a Ship to remain long at; the same evening of my arrival, fell in with Mr LOVELACE, to whom I deliver'd Mrs L's letter, which with myself met kind reception; this day, dined with him at his Uncle's, where I have drawn on myself for five pounds in favour of Mrs Mary LOVELACE, Value rec'd of Mr J.B. LOVELACE, which you will please to pay as soon as presented or become due; it is entirely to oblige Mr LOVELACE and to Assist his wife that I am doing this, for my credit is unlimited with my Merchant, to whom the Former is address'd. Oh my darling, I am wishing to be with you again soon for, if I remain in the country long, it will melt me away to nothing but, as I am not in a humour to say much, you will excuse the shortness of this epistle, making my love and duty to all friends & accepting the former your dear self, from your loving and affectionate Husband.

Sam'l CORNEBY

A letter to Mary LOVELACE was enclosed with the letter from Capt. CORNEBY to his wife.

Malaga 7 Sep'r 1802

My dear Mary

I have rec'd your two letters, one pr. hands of our friend Cap'n C. and the other pr. the post of yesterday. I am sorry for all your distresses and say that you can have felt very little more by suffering than I have at not having it in my power to relieve before; you will make Use of your Usial prudence with respect to the money you have in advance, for I cannot sent you any more for some time.

Make your self happy and stay where you are, not withstanding what has been said of you coming, as I find your coming wou'd be very unpleasent to Mr J.L.; you may expect a long letter by Cap'n C. I sent you a bill for 5£ and the 3'd of the Last dated 21 July for 15£ now endorc'd to you, so you need onley explain the Mistake to WARDS & WOODFALL Esq'rs and those Gents. will undoubtedly with pleasure take into their possession & cancel the first & second bills endors'd to Wm. DAVIS by mistake & the third, which is endorsed to you, said Gentlemen will, I dare say, be so obliging as to accept in lieu of the first. I don't know any thing more that can be done in the business than you must carry the 3 bills and deliver them to the above Gents. God bless you, I hope you have had a good time etc.; give my compliments to Mrs CONEBY.

Your husband J.B. LOVELACE

To Mrs Mary LOVELACE, London.

To Mrs Mary LOVELACE, No. 4 Boss Court, Shad Thames, London.  
Pr. favor of Cap'n CORNEBY.

Malaga 26 Sep'r 1802

My Dear Wife

It's with pleasure I again take my pen in order to write to you; by this time I am in hopes you have had my last of 8<sup>th</sup> inst. pr. ye hands of Mrs CORNABY, containing a 15£ & a 5£ Bills, the first made payable to your self by your desire & the second of course the same, drawn on Mrs CORNABY by her husband.

I have sent you a Box of Muscatel Resins to make you and dear Children a Xmas puding.

I hope you have got well over your laying in in the spring. I hope to have the pleasure of being surrounded by my Dear little ones and of having you once more in my arms. Mr L. proposes to bring me (me) with him and to set me in Partership with a Lemon Merchant in one of the Lanes or in Thames Street; we shall have a Pleasant jaunt, as it is propos'd to come by the way of Lisbon. But keep all this to youre self (Mrs CORNEBY knows of it); if you here any thing that shou'd prevent my coming home, send me word; I mean with respect to private transaction during the time of my being in the Ex-- ; see the POLLENS and make some inquirey, but not a word of my coming home. Mr ELWELL, who was Mate of the Sarah of Boston, is a Cap'n of a Ship and was here a fue days agoe, sends his Comps. to you. Cap'n CORNABY will give you a Naritive of my affairs here, as I have made him acquainted with every thing.

I[/] you think proper to send Mr Tho's L. a few Raisins for Xmas, do so but don't be too lavish on such Buits.

I do not find in any of your letters any mention of Col'l DODD; of course you have not seen or herd of him. I have sent you now 25£ in less than 28 weeks, which is almost double what you are allow'd (which is 10/6 pr. Week) but it is better for you to have an adwance, which you now have. In due season I shall send you another Rem'ce.

My dear Mary, I have indeed been very Miserable since I have been here and have suffer'd more on your account than you can imagine but I have borne it with patience, because I was In hopes things wou'd be better but they continue much the same, but my dear, Make your self assur'd that I shall ever do all in my power for a family so dear to me as you & children are; give my love to your father & Mother, Brothers, Sister etc. and to all your Friends, and believe me to be your faithfull and loveing husband,

J.B. LOVELACE

I shou'd like to have known how you have procur'd part of your living since I have been gone but husbands are not to know these things, tho' they request it ever so often.

The letters suggests that James had been in a lot of trouble before he left London. The reference to Ex..... may possibly mean that James had been in the Exchequer prison.

Attached to the bundle of letters was another dated fourteen years later and addressed to Mrs LOVELACE. One assumes that Mrs LOVELACE is Mary, James' wife. George WARD was the sole surviving executor of John LOVELACE's estate in England.

Letter to Mrs LOVELACE, East Sheen, Surrey.

Madam

I wrote at the time I promised to Mr WARD, but have not yet received any answer at present. He is not yet returned from the country but my Letter has been forwarded.

I am, Yr. mo. Obed. Ser.

J. BURTON

25 New North St., Red Lion Square.

15 Oct 1816.

[on the back is written in a different hand:  
George WARD Esq'r. No. 26 Soho Square, No. 34 New Broad Street.  
George WARD Esq'r. Northwood house, Near Cowes, Ile Waight.]

It is not known when James died but an undated note on a translation of John LOVELACE's Will refers to Mary as the widow of James LOVELACE, late merchant of Gibraltar, who died leaving 4 children. Thus, if James had five children, one must have predeceased him.

#### Their children

1. Ann Bowden LOVELACE (born 1797) married firstly Edward EVANS and secondly ..... MUNRO (see that line).

2. Louisa LOVELACE was born c.1799.

Apart from the mention of "Lousia" amongst his children in a letter from James Bowden LOVELACE of 28 Apr 1802, nothing more is known of her.

Louisa probably died young.

3. Thomas John LOVELACE was born c.1800.

Letters from his father in 1802, in which he refers to his son as John, exhort his mother to have him baptised and also to learn the Spanish alphabet. One could speculate that the child was already called Thomas and that the additional name of John was intended to please cousin John LOVELACE in Spain. It is possible that there was a child John, who died young and that Thomas John was born after 1802.

Thomas was alive in 1832 but died before 1843.

4. William King LOVELACE (born c.1802) married Letitia WILLIAMSON (see that line)

5. James Bowden LOVELACE was born in 180 .

He married at St. Sepulchre, London in 1830 Susannah ANDERSON.

Susannah was born in ...

James (and presumably Susannah) emigrated to Australia and in the 1840s were living in Sydney. He was still alive in 1844, when he proposed that Rev. Edward PIZEY should replace William LOVELACE dec'd as a LOVELACE trustee.

Nothing more is known of them.