EDITORIAL NOTE

All letters, except where stated, are addressed to Lady Joan Barrington. The references given at the head of each letter are B. L. Egerton MS. and folio numbers.

The original spelling has been retained; punctuation and capitalisation have been modernised. Abbreviations and contractions have been expanded throughout. Doubtful readings and editorial matter in the text, including the suggested reconstruction of missing passages, are indicated in square brackets. All but a few of the letters are holograph; the exceptions are indicated.