

manuscripts of the *Essay on Man*, the one now at the Morgan and the one now at Harvard, and that the latter was sold in 1887, 1889, and 1907, before being offered for sale by Dodd, Mead and Co. in 1910.

Of interest to us here is the question of whether the postulated third manuscript could also have had a Chauncy provenance. Smith suggests that it could, arguing that the 'Epistle on Taste' manuscript, 485 above, was catalogued as Lot 111 in the Samuel sale with a note of its Chauncy provenance, and that the 'Ethic Epistles' was catalogued as Lot 112, and 'by virtue of its juxtaposition to Lot 111 may also have come from Chauncey'. She also notes that a manuscript of Epistle IV of the *Essay on Man* was acquired by Pierpont Morgan in 1909, and argues that 'this suggests that there were more Chauncey MSS in circulation than had reached the sale rooms in 1889'. So there were, as we have seen: the Chauncy family sold their manuscripts in 1887, and not all of these were bought by Nassau Lees to return to the market in 1889. But the only Pope manuscript with a definite Chauncy provenance which Smith can identify as having been sold after 1889 without having been part of the Nassau Lees sale is the 'Epistle on Taste' manuscript which, as we have seen, was sold as Lot 485 with the Chauncy manuscripts in 1887. There is no reason to believe that the Chauncy family withheld any of their literary manuscripts from the sale of 1887 for separate sale at around the same time, and the statement made at that time by their family lawyer suggests that they did not do so. In that case, if the Samuel manuscript of the *Essay on Man* is to be distinguished from the manuscripts now at the Morgan Library and Harvard, it was never a Chauncy manuscript. That is of course perfectly possible — Charles Chauncy bought all of Jonathan Richardson's literary manuscripts of Pope apart from the *Pastorals*, but there were manuscripts which Richardson, and therefore Chauncy, never possessed, for instance the manuscript of Epistle IV which has just been mentioned — but a hypothetical Chauncy provenance cannot be part of the argument for the existence of a third *Essay on Man* manuscript.

- 487 Epistle III to Lord Bathurst. THE ORIGINAL AUTOGRAPH MS. OF POPE, with his numerous alterations and corrections, wanting 8 lines at end. Transcript of the same by Mr. Pope, with his autograph corrections and alterations, and the printed edition of Epistles III to VII, with numerous MS. corrections and alterations by Pope himself. Also Epistle II, AUTOGRAPH MS. OF POPE, with his MS. alterations and corrections | folio.

£21 to Thompson, and thence to Nassau Lees, at whose sale the same body of material was Lot 81: the manuscript of 'Epistle II', the *Epistle to a Lady*, is now unlocated; the two manuscripts of 'Epistle III', the *Epistle to Bathurst*, are now Huntington HM 6007 and 6008; 'the printed edition of Epistles III to VII, with numerous MS. corrections and alterations by Pope himself' is extracted from Pope's *Works*, volume II (1735), with collations in Richardson's hand rather than Pope's, and is now Huntington HM 6009 (Smith, 'Alexander Pope', 2 and PoA 65, 67–70).²²

22. HM 6007 and 6008 are reproduced in Earl R. Wasserman, *Pope's Epistle to Bathurst: A Critical Reading, with an Edition of the Manuscripts* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1960). A somewhat fuller description of HM 6009 is in Koon, 'Pope's First Editors', 22.