

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

MINTO, Countess of, née Anna Maria Amyand

London 26.III.1752 – Brighton 8.III.1829

Daughter of Sir George Amyand, Bt, a director of the East India Company, and his wife, the daughter of a Hamburg merchant. In 1777 she married Gilbert Elliot, who succeeded as 4th baronet a week later, and was made Baron (1797), then (1813) Earl of Minto. A diplomat, he served as viceroy of Corsica 1793–96 and as governor-general of India 1807–13. They travelled widely in Europe (her eldest son, the 2nd Earl, was born in Lyon in 1782). She was the subject of portrait by Reynolds, made in 1786 (now lost), as was her sister, Lady Malmesbury, whose children were portrayed by Perronneau in 1781. It is not known when the only recorded pastel by Lady Elliot was made, nor with what guidance; but in 1797 it hung in the saloon at Fawley Court, alongside paintings by Titian, Rembrandt and Poussin. Strickland Freeman may have inherited it from his uncle, Sambrooke Freeman, MP and member of the Society of Dilettanti.

Bibliography

Life and letters of Sir Gilbert Elliot, First Earl of Minto, London, 1874

Pastels

J.5402.101 Two cherubs, crayons, a.1797 (Strickland Freeman, Fawley Court, Buckinghamshire). Lit.: Thomas Langley, *The history and antiquities of the hundred of Desborough, and deanery of Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire*, 1797, p. 194 n.r.