Thomas Pennant to David Skene

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From:	Thomas Pennant
To:	David Skene
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Dear Sir

Your favour was forwarded to me here after I had left London. I am truly rejoiced that you have escaped so alarming a complaint and sincerely hope you will never experience its return.

I never yet could procure the snake but hope through your means to have an opportunity of examining it.

I shall this summer send you specimens of our ones and add the notices you desire. The things you were so obliging to lend shall be returned with them.

I am obliged to Mr. Oglevie for thinking of me; but should have been more happy had he wrote as he was so kind as to promise. Be so good as to present my compliments to him; and let him know. It will be of much use to me to be informed of the history ^of the picture of the admirable Crichton; such as In whose possession is it? In what garb? What time of life? and by whom painted: as I am now Transcribing *my Scotch Tour* and preparing it for the press these anecdotes will be of much service to me.

I have also another enquiry to trouble you about in respect to the account of a woman who fasted for an extraordinary length of time which I am told is preserved in the library of one of the Aberdeens.[1] I shall be much obliged to you for a Transcript of it.[2]

Can you inform me where the Innes family live now; and where are the houses of Innes and Innermarkie. M$^{r.}$ Oglevie will tell you whether I passed by either of them in Murray.

Lastly I must beg the favour of you to inform me how much in English measure is a Boll of corn or meal.

I hope by this time *my little work* has reached you and that it meets your approbation. It will be finished about Christmas when you shall see the sequel.

I hope soon to have the pleasure of hearing you are well. Please to present my best compliments and wishes to Dr. Levingston and Dr. G. Skene

and think me Dear Sir
your faithful and obedient
humble Servant

Thomas Pennant

April 7th. 1770.

Editorial Notes

[1] The use of the plural denotes the adjacent settlements of Aberdeen to the south and Old Aberdeen to the north, the latter being the site of the college.

[2] An 'Account of the fasting Woman of Rossshire' is given in *A Tour in Scotland 1769* (Warrington: 1770), Appendix II., pp.248-252.