

Thomas Pennant to Richard Bull

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From: Thomas Pennant
To: Richard Bull
Date: 1782-10-04
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Dear Sir

I should not have wrote so soon but for my flutter on acc^t[*account*] of the american news. you perhaps will so good as to fling some light on it. I attribute it to th[*illegible*]e precipitate motions of G. Conway; & the natural effect of an ill digested plan more calculated to overthrow the ministry than anything else. surely we are a sold people: but everything must a rise that is evil if our american army perhaps pleased with the country join with the loyalists & make a peace of their own.

The only use of Gibraltar is to get better terms.¹ if I was in the house I would risque the madness of the people by moving the giving of it up. I worship the loyal Elliot
Faithful found
among the faithless.²

Your rebuke to Moses is not amiss. He shall for the future only do things I mention in print. Pray send me Mess^{rs} Goslings note to the amount of the Bill, & I will pay moses

I am Dear Sir
most faithfully y^{rs}[*yours*]

Tho.[*Thomas*] Pennant
Downing oct^r[*october*] 4th 1782.

Rich^d[*Richard*] Bull Esq^r[*Esquire*] | Stratton Street | Piccadilly | London³

Stamp: (postmark) 7 OC

Stamp: (handstamp) NORTHOP; NORTHOP

Stamp: (frank) FREE;⁴ per R Mosun

Editorial Notes

¹ The siege of Gibraltar was lifted in February 1783 and the set of treatises to end the American Revolutionary War, known as the Peace of Paris, 3 September 1783, left Gibraltar with the British.

² Words describing the seraph Abdiel ('faithful found, / Among the faithless') in John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book 5, lines 896–7.

³ The address is not in Pennant's hand.

⁴ Stamped in ink.

⁵ Handwritten.