

Thomas Pennant to Richard Bull

ID: 1086
From: Thomas Pennant
To: Richard Bull
Date: 1789-05-19
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Dear Sir

Downing May 19th. 1789.

I received y^r late favor with the novelty of regret. I hope you wrote in one respect in the vapours; & that by this time they are quite dispersed. drive them away by redoubled application to our elegant amusements. as to lameness, there can b no fancy in that. I doubt not but you will be soon restored by the most skilful hand Britain can boast.

I would not importune you so much about the New river, if an account was not essential to me:⁵ Neither have I any other friend to trouble you on the subject. If not improper I wish you would be so good as to favor me so far as to give a line to the person who is possessed of the knowlege of that concern. I ask no secrets.

I thank you for the hint about the *mysterious mother*. & shall think myself uncommonly obliged to you for getting a copy for me. Let me add another. *Granger* says you have a print of Sir Wolstan Dixie from the the painting in Christ church hospital. Be so good as to get y^r cheap artist to copy the print;⁶ & it shall be allowed in our acc^t.

my suit is ended with the chester coach. the defendant offered to pay in court the 5[£] he gave a receipt for, & also costs. my attorney advised me to accept it which I have done.⁷ You have therefore in my hands 2[£]. 10^s. 0^d. being equal to half the loss & that I shall account to you for. I have a very trifle to do about London & hope m^r Hughs will by this time have begun to print it.⁸ This has been a work of vast labor. I smile to see that the magazines have taken the hint & pour out their monthly engravings. In the last *Gent's* is a very good one of an old Chapel.⁹ The scots did the same by my travels;¹⁰ for all their Prints histories, fisheries &c &c are in consequence of them.

I admire at miss Bulls's temperance¹¹ [illegible] go to bed at 2 & rise at ten. Incredible!!! Blooming cheeks & unwrinkl'd, will be their reward to extreme old age.

Adieu

Y^{rs} most truely

Tho. Pennant

Moses will most punctually obey y^r orders.

Stamp: (postmark) [illegible] A 22 [illegible] 9

Stamp: (handstamp) [illegible] OLYWEL [illegible]

Richard Bull esq^r. | Stratton street Piccadilly | London

Marginalia

On address sheet, in Richard Bull's hand:

such sudden & rough reforms shock ones feelings. | When ~~mu~~ so much is done in so little time | a great part must certainly be wrong, tho a | great part will have its benefits, when the | hour of violence is past¹

In another direction:

environs of London, [illegible] new River company² ~~Sir Watkin~~
the odd arms of the | ~~Luttrel~~ family³
vid Goodall.⁴

In another direction:

700£ expence here

In another direction:

They think the fall of them a fable, and that they live in Eden Still

Editorial Notes

¹ See [1083](#), n. 1.

² Bull's 'cheap artist' has not been identified.

³ This appears to be a reference to a court case instigated by Pennant against the Chester coach, presumably for a loss of property in transit between Chester and London.

⁴ When Pennant's *Of London* appeared in 1790, its printer was Robert Faulder, not Henry Hughs.

⁵ Three engravings of churches were printed in *The Gentleman's Magazine* in April and May 1789. See *The Gentleman's Magazine*, LIX, Part I, no. 4 (April 1789), 292+, 'The Chapel of St. Michael at Aldgate'; 300+, 'East End of St. Peter le Poor'; and *ibid.*, no. 5 (May 1789), 410+, 'West End of St. Peter le Poor'.

⁶ Pennant refers to his Scottish tours: *A Tour in Scotland 1769* (1771), *A Tour in Scotland 1772, part I* (1774) and *A Tour in Scotland 1772, part II* (1776).

⁷

Elizabeth and Catherine Bull.