Thomas Pennant to Richard Bull

ID:	1114
From:	Thomas Pennant
To:	Richard Bull
Date:	1790-10-25
Repository:	National Library of Wales
Identifier:	NLW 5500C, no. 85
Editors:	Transcribed by Ffion Mair Jones; edited by Ffion Mair Jones; encoded by Vivien Williams. (2019)
Cite:	'Thomas Pennant to Richard Bull 1790-10-25' transcribed by Ffion Mair Jones; edited by Ffion Mair Jones; encoded by Vivien Williams. (2019) in Curious Travellers Digital Editions [editions.curioustravellers.ac.uk/doc/1114]

Dear Sir

Downing Octb^{r} 25th 1790

Your acceptable favor of Sept^{r} 28^{th1} arrived safe. & like all y^{r} others was most acceptable. When the wicked map maker will give us the map of Hampshire I shall proceed on my *Tour*, & complete I hope, my design of amusing you with the account of y^{r} delicious isle. while you are on the spot Be pleased To make an enquiry of y^{r} admirals (as the fittest men) whether there are any small & faithful prints of ships from the first rate to the cutter: these will be wanted to embellish *our M.S*: on my account, ~~[illegible]~~ pray pick up ^from y^{r} naval friends what you can respecting the unpublished discoveries on the W. coast of america, especially those which lead into the confirmation of de Fonte's & de Fuça's sounds or inland seas. I saw last spring a map by one Duncan who had actually penetrated deep into the last, & proved that we have all been rash in our ~~[illegible]~~censure of those two spaniards. the map did not belong to the friend who shewed it me so I could not borrow it. I must try to get a sight of it again, to correct a passage in my *arctic zoology*: The *new edition of the London* for a while prevents the progress of that work; above 100 pages of *London*, are printed & the whole will appear at or about Christmas. The affair is no longer secret. As soon as the *arctic zoology*. is printed Moses will work on our copies:[2] at present M^{r} Storer engrosses him for *the journey London*. I am very much obliged to Sir Rich^{d} Worsely for his liberality. & request you to deliver my best thanks. I am glad to hear of the discovery at Sir G. Cornwal's.*[1]

I do not love reasoning Admirals: If they dislike the service ~~[illegible]~~Let them retire & growl in private, & not infect the whole ~~service~~navy with discontents productive perhaps of another 27th of July.[3] As to me I cannot make up my mind about this war:[4] but let the cause be ~~[illegible]is~~what it will, since we ~~must~~are plunged into it, it is the duty of every good man to contribute all his might to get us well & honorably out of the affair. The 25th of november[5] will open the scene; & think we may ^then judge with impartiality on matters which are now enveloped in darkness.

adieu
Y^{rs} most truely

Tho. Pennant.

I inclose what a partial friend sent to me it is designed for a magazine. you may paste it in *my opuscula*

I beg y^{r} opinion of the prints of Cranmer: whether that with or without the beard is authentic.[6]The head ingraved by Virtue from Holbein, or that in Thoroton's *notinghamshire*,[7] are reckon’d the most authentic, but there is one in the

Herologia which I dare say is authentic, because ~~they were all~~ the prints in general in that publication, are suppos'd to be taken from original pictures. R.B. -/

Editorial Notes

[1] See 1112.

[2] Since the first edition of *Arctic zoology* had appeared in 1784–5, it is possible that Pennant refers here to the early stages of publishing the second edition.

[3] The Anglo-French naval crisis of 1778 produced an indecisive battle between French and British fleets off the island of Ushant on 27 July.

[4] This may refer to the Third Anglo-Mysore War (1790–2), which involved the Kingdom of Mysore in southern India and the East India Company.

[5] The seventeenth Parliament of Great Britain, led by William Pitt the younger, was summoned on 12 June 1790 but its opening session was prorogued until 25 November that year. *Hist P*.

[6] Richard Bull's answer follows in his hand immediately after the question.

[7] See Thomas Cranmer.

Authorial Notes

[1] He alludes to the picture of Lord Fanhope, of which Lord Malmesbury procur'd me a faithfull Copy. R.B.