

Treadway Russell Nash to Thomas Pennant, 3 November 1777

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From: Treadway Russell Nash
To: [Thomas Pennant]
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Dear Sir

I beg pardon for thus long delaying my answer to your obliging letter, but I did it in hopes of getting better Information: Indeed several Days have been fixed for my attending to the Spot a Gentleman in that Neighbourhood who is very conversant in these Enquiries, but bad Weather, or one untoward Accident or other have always prevented us, and as the rainy Season is now set in I despair of being able to go this Winter, & therefore must content myself with giving you the best Information I can from the report of others. — The facts then are thus, & you must draw your own Inferences.

Wobury Hill is about 9 miles N.W. of Worcester & ~~is in~~ ^{Extent} contains 26.^A 2.^R 27^P within the Trench: if the Ditch be measured (for it is a single one) it will be two Acres more.¹ It is distant from Wasal Camp in the Parish of Kederminster about 8 miles & from Kinvar ^edge (Ken-vawr in British a great bank) about 11 miles the latter Camp is mentioned in *Plots Staffordshire* p. 413, & contains about 12 Acres, is situated at equal distances from the small Station or Camp at Wassall hill, & from an other small Camp on Witchberry Hill to the East: Probably these two small Camps were out posts to the larger Camp at Kinvar: Signals given at any one of them would be visible at them all: they lye in the Road from Shrewsbury to Worcester.

You will consider whether the Distance be not too great for Henrys Army to be supposed to occupy these Camps, – if they did occupy ^them, part of the Army must be supposed to have crossed the Severn, & to have taken possession of Abberley hills, & the other hills adjoining, which directly face Wobery Hill, where Glendwr's camp was: these hills I intended to have searched for Camps, tho the face of them is very much altered by a great quantity of Limestone which has constantly been dug away both for the roads & for Lime.

I wish you could have obliged me by riding over them with me, when perhaps your sagacious Eye might have discovered more than I can describe, but I live in hopes of that pleasure an other Year.² Pray how do you dispose of yourself this Winter[?]? I wish you would make Worcestershire your road to London, M^{rs} Nash would be very happy to pay her respects to M^{rs} Pennant at Bevere.

Pray tell me with truth that your Son is perfectly well³ & believe me to be, Dear S^r, Your most obedient &

obliged humble Servant

T. Nash
 Bevere
 Nov^r. 3. 1777.

If Miss Pennant⁴ is with you, [...]my wife & Daughter desire their Compliments

Editorial Notes

¹ See Treadway Russell Nash, *Collections for the history of Worcestershire* (2 vols., London: John Nichols, 1781–2), II, p. 465. Pennant reproduces some of this detail (the 27 acres contained within the camp and the fact that it had 'a single foss' only) in *A tour in Wales 1770 [1773]* (1778), I, p. 351.

² Nash mentions that he had 'the pleasure of viewing the ground', apparently of the camp at Woodbury Hill, with Pennant, in *Collections for the history of Worcestershire*, II, p. 465. Pennant, in his description of Woodbury hill in the 1778 edition of *A tour in Wales 1770 [1773]*, p. 351, writes that 'I never had an opportunity of examining the nature of the ground, and how far it suits the description given by Monstrelet' and refers his readers to the forthcoming work of Nash. By the second edition, however, he was able to note that 'I surveyed the spot in company with my friend DOCTOR NASH, and found it answered precisely to the account given by Monstrelet'. *A tour in Wales* (2nd edn., 1784), I, p. 376.

³ For Nash's anxiety regarding David Pennant, see [1305](#).

⁴ This probably refers to Pennant's daughter, Arabella, who would have been of a similar age to Treadway Russell Nash's daughter, Margaret, rather than to one of Pennant's unmarried twin sisters.