I am now returning to my villa, where I have been making some alterations:[15] you shall hear from me from *Strawberry Hill,* which I have found out in my lease, is the old name of my house;[16] so pray, never call it Twickenham again. I like to be there, better than I have liked being anywhere since I came to England. I sigh after Florence and wind up all my prospects with the thought of returning there. I have days when I even set about contriving a scheme for going to you, and though I don't love to put you upon expecting me, I cannot help telling you, that I wish more than ever to be with you again. I can truly say, that I never was happy but at Florence, and you must allow that it is very natural to wish to be happy once more. Adieu!

From MANN, Tuesday 2 July 1748 NS

Parts of the first and fourth paragraphs were printed in Doran i. 278–9.

Memorandum (by HW, in pencil, erased): Pasquier, *Recherch*[*es*] *de la France.*[1]

Florence, July 2d 1748.

My dear child,

I AM afraid you will have thought me very neglectful, but it was not possible for me to write from the baths at Pisa,[2] where Doctor Cocchi sent me for 20 days and which I prolonged to 35, as I found

in which the winner is that player who obtains fifteen points, or comes nearest to that number without exceeding it' (ibid.).

15. 'Designed by Mr W. Robinson of the Board of Works, before there was any design of farther improvements to the house' ('Des. of SH,' *Works* ii. 421). The kitchen was moved, and probably the breakfast room was added (W. S. Lewis, 'Genesis of Strawberry Hill,' *Metropolitan Museum Studies,* 1934, v. pt i. 62).

16. See GRAY i. 17, n. 115.

1. *Recherches de la France* (the first volume of which appeared in 1560) by Étienne Pasquier (1529–1615), French lawyer and writer. HW refers to it in his letter to Montagu of 18 May 1749 (MONTAGU i. 83). He also notes in his *MS Commonplace Book of Verses* (p. 52), which was written about this time: 'Pasquier in his *Recherches de la France,* says that about the time of Francis the First, the French called their creditors (*créanciers*) their Anglais because we had believed them in so many treaties, which they had broke with us. I believe it was rather from the sums which Harry VIII lent to that King.' HW's copy of Pasquier was the edition of Paris, 1665.

2. In June, nevertheless, he wrote three letters to Bedford and one to Newcastle (S.P. 98/56 ff. 150–2, 155–8; BM Add. MSS 32812, ff. 294–5). To Bedford 3 June NS he wrote: 'As in this season all the members of the Regency, as well as most other people, retire for some weeks into the country, I have taken this opportunity (which I hope your Grace will not disapprove of) to go to the baths near Pisa for the benefit of the waters, which have been prescribed to me by the physicians as the most probable means to re-establish my health after the severe illness I have had during the whole winter' (S.P. 98/56 f. 150).