

FROM CONWAY 26 SEPTEMBER 1751 NS

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their favourite image¹³ with which both parties were equally content. Our other mountain¹⁴ is curious for an ancient Moorish fortress and our cavern,¹⁵ by description like that vulgarly called the devil's a[rse] in Derbyshire.¹⁶ Adieu! dear Horry, these are foolish stories but I know no better, so believe me ever

Very sincerely yours,

H. S. C.

Direct *recommandé à Mons[ieur] Selwyn, banquier à Paris.*

TO LADY AILESBURY, ca Friday 1 November 1751 OS

Missing; answered *post* 3 Nov. 1751 OS.

13. It was presumably the 'rude sculpture, representing a bull hewing out a statue of the Virgin with its horns' considered the greatest treasure of the monastery at the beginning of the 19th century (Gaston Vuillier, *The Forgotten Isles*, trans. Breton, New York, 1896, p. 86). A contemporary description of the monastery and the friars is in John Armstrong,

History of the Island of Minorca, 1752, pp. 51-2.

14. Santa Agueda or Mount Agatha. The mountain and fortifications, now destroyed, are described *ibid.* 54-6.

15. 'Our soldiers have given this hole the name of *the Devil's Bellows*' (*ibid.* 73).

16. Probably Peak Cavern at Castleton.