

and modesty there is in this sort of things, the more they are touching. I am not vain enough to think that there is any taste in what I have scratched out, but at least it is decent.

I have taken the liberty to sketch out an epitaph too, in which, wishing to give at once a picture of your Ladyship's amiable grief and fortitude, I have tried to blend the heroism of a Spartan mother² with the tenderness of an English one.

I am Madam

Your Ladyship's most faithful humble servant

HOR. WALPOLE

PS. My own draught was so rude, that I begged Mr Bentley³ to draw the enclosed.

[Enclosure]⁴

To the Memory
of
Roger Townshend
her youngest Son
Slain in the service of his country at
. 1759,
Ethelreda Viscountess Townshend
dedicates this marble.

Lov'd Son, adieu!
Tho' from a Mother's eyes fond tears you call,
She thanks you, that without a blush they fall.

2. 'My Lady T[ownshend] who has not learning enough to copy a Spartan mother, has lost her youngest son' (ibid. 294).

3. Richard Bentley, HW's correspondent.

4. See illustration. 'I gave my Lady Townshend an epitaph and design for a tomb for her youngest son killed at Ticonderoga; neither were used' (HW's 'Short Notes,' GRAY i. 34). The monument erected in 1762 by Lady Townshend in the south aisle of Westminster Abbey was designed by Robert Adam and executed

by Thomas Carter and Johannes Eckstein. It consists of a pyramid of red and white marble against which stand, like caryatids, two Indians, one holding a gun, the other a tomahawk. They bear a sarcophagus on which is a bas-relief representing Townshend, and the British soldiers surrounding him, in Roman costume, with a view of Fort Ticonderoga in the distance. The inscription reads: 'This monument was erected by a disconsolate parent, the Lady Viscountess Townshend, to the memory of her fifth son, the Honourable Lieutenant-