1. Civil War letter

f.iii

Letter, dated at Bala, 9 July 1645, from John Byron (d. 1652), first baron Byron of Rochdale (*Dictionary of National Biography*), to Colonel Sir John Owen (1600-66) of Clenennau (*Dictionary of Welsh Biography*), high sheriff of Caernarfonshire and governor of Conwy castle, commenting on the military situation and regretting that he cannot now meet Sir John in person.

Sir, though my occasions will not permitt mee to meete you at Conway ... and a strange house at Aberdouie which I feare, may retard my iourney.

Armorial seal of Byron.

2. Lord Byron, 'English Bards and Scotch Reviewers. A Satire':

ff. 1-2 Preface:

With regard to the real talents of many of the poetical persons whose performances are mentioned ... though his own hand should suffer in the encounter he will be amply satisfied.

ff. 3-43 [Poem]:

Time was, ere yet in these degenerate days ...

And Urge thy Bard to gain a name like thine

The first stanzas of the published poem are omitted, the text starting at line 97.

ff. 44-58 Notes on the poem, derived from the printed edition.

ff. 59-63^v 'The Lament of Tasso':

Long years! It tries the chilling frame to bear ...

To be entwined for ever – but too late!

Dated at Porkington, 23 July 1817, and signed F. M[orres] G[ore].

Poem first published 1817.