

headed "Index of Rooms," giving page numbers of the 1784 edition. At the foot of the second Index Kirgate has added a pencil note giving information on the number of visitors to the house:

In 1786, Eighty tickets were given to different People for admission to view Strawberry Hill

In 1787, Seventy Ditto were given

In 1789, One Hundred were given

In 1807, Mrs. Damer says about 80 or 90 are used yearly

Upon an average, about 80 were given yearly

For the period 1784–96 we have Walpole's manuscript "Book of Visitors," which broadly confirms the first three entries, but there is no comparable evidence for the number of visitors after his death in the years of Anne Damer's occupation.<sup>23</sup> The note also confirms that the volume, in which the earliest entries are proofing corrections that are part of the process of printing the 1784 *Description*, was annotated by Kirgate until at least 1807, only three years before his own death.

Between the two versions of the Index of Rooms is a list in pencil by Kirgate headed "The following Drawings were made by Mr. Carter for Mr. Bull & Mr. Walpole" (see appendix below). It lists thirty-six drawings created for Bull's copy of the *Description*, while five of them were also in Walpole's. One drawing, "Gallery 10 G[uineas]," is crossed through and marked "bought by Mr. Baker"—presumably the Strawberry Hill Press collector and bibliographer George Baker (1781–1858). It is correct that Bull's copy, despite its wealth of Carter watercolors and drawings, does not have his view of the Gallery.

But as well as this additional material, there are many annotations to the text by Kirgate, for this is his interleaved proof copy of the 1784 text. It preserves a number of cancels that were corrected in the text as issued, and contains numerous notes by him as the orchestrator of extra-illustration, and even a few notes inserted or initiated by Walpole that throw shafts of light on Walpole's last years at Strawberry Hill. It is very likely that this is the copy that was lot 413 on the eighth day of the sale of Kirgate's library, where it was described as "containing many Notes in MS. by T. Kirgate," and was bought by George Baker for £16. At Baker's sale in 1825, it appears among some seventy-six Strawberry Hill Press and related books and ephemera as "A Description of Strawberry Hill, with several loose pieces interleaved, with M.S. memoranda throughout." It was bought by Longman for a far more modest £1.19s., a reflection of the depression in book prices that was to be lamented in Dibdin's *Bibliophobia* (1832).<sup>24</sup>

To begin with Walpole's notes, these are only on the text pages (pre-dating the book's being bound up interleaved) and are limited but essentially correc-

23. "Book of Visitors," Percival Merritt Collection, Houghton Library, Harvard University, M.S. Eng. 1502, printed in *Yale Edition of Horace Walpole's Correspondence*, 12: 216–252.

24. *A Catalogue of the Valuable and Curious Collection, late the Property of Mr. Thomas Kirgate, of Vine-Street, Piccadilly (Deceased)* ... King & Lochée, 3 December 1810 and nine following days: Day 8, lot 413; and *A Catalogue of the Very Choice and Select Library of the late George Baker, Esq. of St. Paul's Churchyard* ... Sotheby, 6 June 1825 and two following days: Day 3, lot 822.