

Walpole had built in about 1790—he also added to the Directions to the Binder the titles of the two plates of offices, engraved after the sheet had been printed off.²⁵ Other entries illustrating life at the house include Kirgate's note against the description of the building of the Gallery and Round Tower that "Cowie, the Gardiner, says he placed Medals and a Copper-plate, with an Inscription, on the Foundation Stone of the above Buildings, which is under the Scullery of the Round Kitchen." Equally evocative is his recording that most of the small Etruscan and black Staffordshire vases in the Little Library in the Cottage in the Garden "were broke by an Owl getting down the Chimney into the Room."

Of particular importance are two short lists, the first at the end of the More Additions appendix on page 96, the other on one of the blank leaves at the back. They record late acquisitions for the collection, after the printing of More Additions in 1791. Timothy Wilson has quoted Walpole's letter to Sir Horace Mann of 1785, in which he asks him to find some examples of a particular Florentine ceramics manufacture, and then adds "but am I not an old simpleton to be wanting playthings still?"²⁶ These lists show the elderly Walpole, still adding to the collection to within three years of his death. The first list is:

Brown earthen Miraculous Pitcher—Earthen Bottle, labelled, Claret

A Miniature in enamel of [gap] Lord Bute, by Spencer; bought at Dalton's Sale, 1791.

Six Portraits, with Pen and ink, of Mr. Walpole, Mr. Chute, Mr. Spence, &c. drawn by Rosalba, when those Gentlemen were in Italy, unknown to them, when at some public Place; yet very like

Dead Christ, by Carrache, small oil painting on Copper, from Sir Laurence Dundas's Sale, in 1794.

Miniature Portrait of Charles James Stuart, eldest son of the Pretender; Given by Mrs. Hunter, In 1794.

The second has five more items:

A carved Ivory Cup, with a Bacchanalian Procession, in relievo, set in Silver, with the Orford Crest on the Cover; from Houghton.

Two Cocoa Nuts, carved with the Arms of Orford, and mounted with Silver gilt feet; from Ditto, 1793.

Two silver filigraine Hampers; from Ditto, 1794.

A Portrait of the Rev. William Cole, of Botesham Hall, Cambridge, on painted Glass.

25. *Strawberry Hill Accounts*, 20 and 179, note 1; and Clarke, "Lord God! Jesus! What a House!" 380, note 41.

26. Timothy Wilson, "'Playthings Still?' Horace Walpole as a Collector of Ceramics," in Snodin, *Horace Walpole's Strawberry Hill*, 200–219, at 201. The letter is in *Correspondence*, 25: 590.