

distinct from the town, and is the residence of the bishop and his clergy, besides private families.

Took coach for Exeter.

July 27. Two despatches from America on their way to London, with advices that an engagement had happened between Gen. Howe and the Americans, with a loss of 18,000 men on both sides, and so great was the carnage that one regiment had but five men left. On inquiry I believe the account cannot be true to the extent of loss.

July 28.—Exeter. It is remarkable that in many of the churches of this city are placed in compartments, or tablets against the walls in many places, collections of texts of Scripture. It is believed that the cathedral has been standing nine hundred years, and its ancient appearance justifies it; the military garb some of the statues are dressed in is of the period of the ninth and tenth centuries.

July 30. Attended divine service in the cathedral, to hear, as is the custom, the assize sermon preached before the judges, who were Barons Eyre and Hotham; the preacher, a Mr. Simmons; a sensible and serious discourse from Proverbs 14: 34, "*Righteousness exalteth a nation.*"

TO THOMAS DANFORTH, ESQ., BROMPTON-ROW, LONDON.

Exeter, July 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR :

* * * * *

Dined at Whitchurch; we were joined at table by five gentlemen of the turf, going to the Andover races in this vicinity: the jokes flew freely, and excited laughter among themselves and afforded me some amusement, although conceived in terms to which I was unaccustomed;—their boisterous mirth and manners brought to my mind the descriptions to be met with in books, of gentlemen of that character, and is a proof that they have justly copied the originals. Again we took fresh horses, and in an hour measured eight miles, passing the Earl of Portsmouth's seat, remarkable for nothing that I could see, (but yet it covers more ground than the neighboring farm houses,) lying just before we entered the Andover race grounds, an extent of two or three miles under