

Letter from the *Town and Country* magazine concerning Lord Tylney's absence in Italy (1770)

To the Printer of the *Town and Country*  
MAGAZINE.

S I R,

HAVING the other day indulged myself with a ride to Wansted, and a view of that grand and elegant villa belonging to earl Tylney, I could not help being surprized that that nobleman should desert his native country, and such a magnificent home, to dwell among foreigners; where his dignity cannot be so supported, and where the appellation of *Milord* affords so extensive a field for that fortune being exhausted among strangers by imposition, which might with noble liberality be spent among his countrymen, to the advancement of the arts, the honour of himself, and the support of many industrious individuals, who virtually suffer much from the sums squandered abroad by English noblemen and gentlemen, who seldom are so well accommodated as they might be in their native country. Surely, Sir, option itself cannot induce the noble earl to become an exile; and the amplitude of his income forbids our thinking that economy compels his stay in Italy, which indeed is not the region for Englishmen, to display frugality in. To what then are we to attribute his absence? I wish for the

instruction

instruction of myself, and many others, you would (as your universal knowledge of characters appears so conspicuously in your *utile & dulci* Magazine) inform the public what are the reasons that incite his lordship's stay from England, to the diminution of his now buried rank, and the almost total deprivation of the benefit the neighbouring poor would receive from his estate. I beg this favour only with the generous hope, that if it reaches his lordship's inspection, it may induce him to return to the deserted mansion of his pensive park.

I am, Sir,

Your admiring reader,

And obedient servant,

OBSERVATOR.

§§§ In answer to this correspondent, we shall only observe; that whatever may be his lordship's motives for secluding himself for such a length of time from his native country; we will not, with the censorious and malevolent, suppose that it can arise from a cause as *unnatural* as it is *unnatural*.

1770