

LITERATURE.

Fruits of a Good Education.

LETTER IV.

To the Curate of Thannenburg.

REVEREND SIR,

Pardon the liberty which an orphan presumes to take, of writing to you. It is true I am but an humble shepherd; but there is not one of my sheep which I do not love. I divide my bread with them; I feel for them when any evil befalls them; and if a thorn happens to pierce the foot of any one of them, I immediately endeavour to draw it out. But it is on the lambs particularly that I bestow my care. Excuse these details, Reverend Sir. But are not you also a shepherd? You love the flock which the Good Shepherd has confided to your care, doubtless much more than I do mine. This thought encourages me to speak confidently to you, as a son to his father.

Your benevolence, Reverend Sir, to my departed mother, is an evidence of the manner in which you cherish those committed to your charge. You have had the same regard for her which you would have had for your own mother. My heart is penetrated with the most lively gratitude. My parents have always represented that virtue as one of the most noble. Permit me then to express, by letter, the gratitude which I shall feel towards you whilst life will last. But can I describe it to you? No! it is impossible to tell you what my feelings are; my heart is too full, too much excited. I beseech Almighty God every day to reward you fully, for all the kindness which we have received at your hands; and I hope that he will deign graciously to listen to my fervent entreaties, and pay you what I owe you, by the effusion of his richest blessings and graces.

Allow me, Reverend Sir, to unite an humble petition to my thanks. My sister is a poor helpless orphan; I am her eldest brother; I should not abandon her. But, unhappily, I am as poor as I possibly can be. I have with tears prayed to God that he might direct me to follow his will; the thought then came to my mind of writing to you, to beg you to take my poor desolate little sister under your protection; for she has no assylum, no hope, but in the tender charity of her kind and respected Pastor. O Sir! I entreat you from the bottom of my heart, in the sacred name of God, to take pity on the forsaken orphan, and become a parent to her. I write this with the consoling hope that you will receive my petition favorably.

With sentiments of gratitude and veneration, I have the honor to be, Reverend Sir,

Your humble and obedient Servant,

JOHN MULLER.

Mrs. Ast
Thomas Lyons
Edward Cavanagh
William Brown
Patrick Healy
William Rowley
William Carey
Nicholas O'Rourke
William Lynch
Mr. Grinnion
John Wall
John Eustice
Patrick Flanigan
Miss Hiffenan
Jeremiah Fogarty
John Barron
Henry Cooper

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