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XLVIII

Milret, Bishop of Worcester, writes to Bishop Lul concerning the death of Boniface and the love to be preserved between them. The end of 755.

To the dear lord, beloved in Christ, Bishop Lul, Milret, servant of the servants of God.

After I departed sadly and unwillingly from thy presence and the bodily sight of that holy pastor and blessed father, Boniface, through many chances and diverse hazards,² we came, by your kindly prayers, to the land of our birth; there before the circle of the year had run, the mournful news was borne to us that the blessed father had departed from the prison-house of the flesh to the realms above, if it is right to call this a sad thing, that we have deserved to send before us to the kingdom of heaven such a patron, through whose holy intercession we trust, nay feel assured, that we are by God's help supported. And though we have mourned

¹ Bishop of Worcester from 743 to 775.

² Cp. Aeneid I. 204.