

**LETTERS FROM  
BRUSSELS, IN THE  
SUMMER OF 1835**

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Letters from Brussels, in the Summer of 1835 by Mrs. Arthur Thorold

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**MRS. ARTHUR THOROLD**

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BY

MRS. ARTHUR THOROLD.

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PRINTED BY MANNING AND SMITHSON,  
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TO  
MY MOTHER,  
WITH  
EVERY SENTIMENT  
OF  
LOVE AND VENERATION.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee.

2.

3.

4.

5. 6.

7.



## LETTERS FROM BRUSSELS.

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### I.

HUNDREDS have doubtless read descriptions of Brussels; therefore, to them this little work could not hope to offer any charm of novelty; but I will conclude, that you, whom I am now endeavouring to amuse, have not yet become acquainted with this city, either in person, or from books. You will allow me also to believe, that you are a "kindred soul," thereby enabling me to think that my opinions and feelings will be understood. I have seen a beautiful idea attached to the words "kindred soul;" it supposes that we have formerly inhabited some other planet, and on meeting again

in this our earth, are irresistibly attracted towards each other. If, then, we have winged our way together in some other sphere, let us still wander on this earth undivided in our sentiments.

On any intimation of going abroad, have you not observed that all your friends congratulate you? do you not hear "How delightful!" "How I envy you!" so many times, that at last you actually fancy you are going to enjoy some very new and unexpected delight, and in spite of the misery of leaving your own home, and perhaps some who are dear to you behind, you reconcile yourself with the idea,—surely, what all appear to unite in thinking so pleasing, must have charms, which I also shall discover.

You see, I am supposing those who are to discover the charms, tolerably contented mortals, loving and beloved, not in want of occupation or amusement, and not infected with that love of change, which must be a torment to those who have it. Instead of enjoying that portion of comfort and happiness within our reach, are we not too apt to dwell on some anticipated change, which is to increase it? Do not our lives often express

the truth of this line—"Man never is, but always to be blest."

It is, that we hope too much; we want to be more happy than our nature will admit, and thus encounter many disappointments, which a less sanguine temperament would have borne lightly, or perhaps have not experienced. You will therefore be moderate in your expectations, and provided with a due degree of patience, to meet many small inconveniences which attend travelling: remember, I am not taking it for granted that you are provided with a carriage, attendants, and every other luxury that money can produce; you would then be no fit judge of these minor miseries; but, that you intend making use of the public conveyances from one country to another, and accommodating yourself to the manners of those you meet. The necessary passport must be procured from the Belgian Ambassador, for which seven shillings is the fee; and when you are thus in possession of an accurate description of yourself, carefully calling the attention to any little beauty or deformity, you may proceed to the Tower-stairs, and fight a hard battle against the impositions of the hackney-