

**MILTON'S
FAMILIAR LETTERS**

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Milton's Familiar Letters by John Milton & John Hall

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JOHN MILTON & JOHN HALL

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FAMILIAR LETTERS**

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FAMILIAR LETTERS.



Translated from the Latin, with Notes,

BY

JOHN HALL.

Philadelphia:

PUBLISHED BY E. LITTELL,

No. 136 Chestnut Street.

1829.

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1829

Eastern District of Pennsylvania, to wit :

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the fourteenth day of April, in the fifty-third year of the independence of the United States of America, A.D. 1829, E. Littell, of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following, to wit :

"Milton's Familiar Letters. Translated from the Latin, with Notes, by John Hall."

In conformity to the act of the Congress of the United States, entitled, "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned;" and also to the act entitled, "An act supplementary to an act, entitled, 'An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned,' and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints."

D. CALDWELL,

Clerk of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

*Printed by James Kay, Jun. & Co.
Printers to the Philadelphia Medical Society,
Library Street, Philadelphia.*

THE domestic correspondence of MILTON possesses a value independent on positive merit; and however little attractiveness this collection may offer in other respects, the name of the author must reflect upon it an adventitious importance.— This consideration was the only literary motive to the present publication.

The *Epistolæ Familiæres* were published by Milton in 1674, the year of his death. It is believed that they are the only known remains of his private letters, with the exception of one which is given by several of his biographers, and a note lately discovered in the English archives and printed

in the recent edition of his life by Mr Todd. And although it seems unaccountable that they have been heretofore neglected and almost unmentioned, yet the Translator has no reason to think that he has been anticipated.

He has studied to make the translation as plain and exact as the difference of phraseology would admit, and to insert no more in annotation than was necessary to elucidate, or add some interest to, the text.

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MILTON'S LETTERS.

I.

TO THOMAS YOUNG.

[Mr Young was Milton's private teacher before he entered St Paul's school in London. This connexion seems to have been dissolved nearly three years previous to the writing of this letter, at the date of which Milton was little older than sixteen. Young was one of the confederacy of polemics who wrote *Smectymnus*, which was, probably, one of the reasons that induced his pupil to undertake its defence against the attack of Archbishop Usher. He issued several tracts with that design in the years 1641 and 1642.]

LONDON, MARCH 26, 1625.

My dear Preceptor :

Although I had determined to send you a short