

**A LETTER FROM A MEMBER OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: TO
A GENTLEMAN IN THE COUNTRY;
CONTAINING A PARTICULAR
ACCOUNT OF A WATCH-PLOT**

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A Letter from a Member of the University of Oxford: To a Gentleman in the Country;
Containing a Particular Account of a Watch-plot by Various

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VARIOUS

**A LETTER FROM A MEMBER OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD: TO
A GENTLEMAN IN THE COUNTRY;
CONTAINING A PARTICULAR
ACCOUNT OF A WATCH-PLOT**

A
L E T T E R

F R O M

A MEMBER of the
University of OXFORD,

T O A

GENTLEMAN in the Country;

C O N T A I N I N G

A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT

O F A

W A T C H - P L O T

Lately discovered there;

Together with some serious Reflections upon
the present Circumstances of that UNIVER-
SITY, and the Conduct of its Enemies.

*Remember the Children of Edom, O Lord, in the Day
of Jerusalem, how they said, Down with it, Down
with it, even to the Ground, Ps. cxxxvii. 7.*

L O N D O N :

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THE
P R E F A C E.

THE Writer of the following Letter, it may easily be observed, is not so studious to obtain a Character for Elegance of Composition, as for the Honesty of his Heart and Intentions. He solemnly declares that the main Motive by which he is induced to publish it is a Zeal for the Honour of an University, which, notwithstanding the repeated

repeated Stabs she has lately received from some of her own Sons even now in her Bosom, is still in a fairer Way than she is generally thought to be. All Party-Spirit he utterly disavows and abhors; and if he has expressed himself rather warmly in one or two Passages, he desires it may be attributed to the above Motive; which it is hoped will not yet be thought to have carried him beyond the Bounds of Decency, much less beyond those of Truth. It may perhaps with some Justice be objected to him,

*Non tali Auxilio, nec Defensoribus
istis*

Tempus eget:

That

That the present Circumstances of the Univerſity are ſuch as ſeem to demand a publick Vindication of its Character from ſome authoritative Pen. But this, it is preſumed, has been delay'd for prudential Reaſons: And therefore, with a View to gratify, in ſome Meaſure, the general Impatience of ſeeing ſomething from theſe Parts, the following Letter is publiſhed. To a candid Reader, the Hurry in which it was drawn up, will be a ſufficient Apology for the Inaccuracies he will meet with in it. After the Writer had waited ſo long in Expectation of ſeeing the Cauſe undertaken by a more able Advocate, the Time would admit of no formal

(iv)

formal and methodical Defence. If what he has here written shall answer the Purpose of stopping for a while the Voice of the Slanderer and Blasphemer, the Enemy and Avenger, he will think himself richly rewarded for the small Pains he has taken.

A

A
LETTER, &c.

Oxford, Dec. 28, 1754.

Dear Sir,

I AM very ready to gratify your Curiosity to know every Thing of Consequence that passes in this University: Because I am sensible that it is in you both a natural and a commendable Curiosity, and that you will not, as some others have done, make an ill Use of any Thing that shall be communicated to you from these Parts. You have often told me that you entertain a Kind of sacred Reverence for the Place to which you owe your Education; and indeed you have great Reason to do so: For that Education has made you an Ornament to your Profession,

B

fession, and procured you a comfortable
 Subsistence for the Remainder of your
 Life. I could wish every one cherished
 the same grateful Sentiments of the in-
 valuable Blessings they derive from hence.
 But the Account you sent me in your last,
 was not so surprizing to me as you seem'd
 to imagine it would be. The Gentle-
 men in your Neighbourhood, whose Names
 you mention, are not the only Instances of
 the Kind I have heard of, or met with;
 there are others who go a Step beyond
 them, who make a Merit of employing
 that very Eloquence which they owe to
Oxford in set Harangues and bitter Invec-
 tives against it. Like the fabulous Giants
 of old, rebelliously exerting their *bodily*
 Strength against Heaven from whence they
 derived it *. These frequently descend
 even

* *Sed quid Typhoeus, & validus Mimas
 Contra sonantem PALLADIS Ægida
 Possunt ruentes? —*

The former of these Heroes is aptly represented by
 Mr. *K—n—t* who, having originally sprung
 from a *D--ngh--ll*, may not improperly be called
Terra Filius. His Brother *Mr. Br—* may pass
 for