

**LETTERS FROM ELIZABETH
WILLIAMS TO ANNE MOWBRAY;
OR, JUSTICE TO OURSELVES AND
OTHERS, THE CONSEQUENCE OF
TRUE PIETY**

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Letters from Elizabeth Williams to Anne Mowbray; Or, Justice to Ourselves and Others, the
Consequence of True Piety by Elizabeth Williams

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ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

**LETTERS FROM ELIZABETH
WILLIAMS TO ANNE MOWBRAY;
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TRUE PIETY**

LETTERS ³⁵

FROM

ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

TO

ANNE MOWBRAY;

OR,

JUSTICE TO OURSELVES AND OTHERS,

THE CONSEQUENCE OF

TRUE PIETY.

"DO JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, AND WALK HUMBLY
WITH THY GOD."

Wellington, Salop:

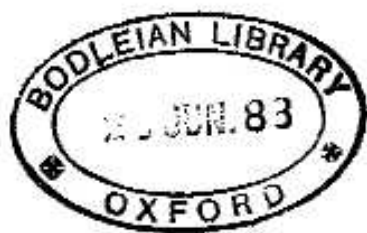
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ADDRESS.

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,

I HAVE written the following pages for your instruction and entertainment; and I trust that while I have been writing them, I have remembered that, like you, I too have been young, and, consequently, ignorant of many of the simple truths which this little volume contains: and although I cannot say that I now am *old*, yet I am old enough to form a pretty correct judgment of the just value of temporal things, compared with those which are eternal. I am also fully persuaded, in my own mind, of the great importance of the latter compared with the former.

Your Bibles tell you, that *there is a rest prepared for the people of God*, and that this rest is promised to those who seek it by a patient continuance in well-doing. That you may be of this happy number, has been my inducement to write the following pages, in the hope that, by making you better acquainted with a few circumstances connected with Sacred History, you may study your Bibles with still greater advantage.

It has been my most anxious wish, to write in such a manner as to make you comprehend that Christianity is not a mere profession; it must be ever present to your minds, and influence every action of your lives. If you take upon you the name of Christians, you must endeavour to understand what Christianity requires. To do this effectually, you must read carefully, and try to discover the different duties which you are expected to perform. *Thinking* in this manner, and reading for

this purpose, will assist you in fixing important truths upon your minds; and, in time, those truths, will influence you to a right and steady conduct. But, above all, let me intreat you to give *conscience* fair play: never be tempted to do anything which conscience tells you is improper; or unbecoming your station in life; if inclination is in favour of it, consider well, and suppose you are going to advise some dear friend in whose conduct you were deeply interested, and it is quite clear that what you would wish a dear friend to do in like circumstances must be right for you; and determine to act accordingly. The good conduct which is merely the result of accident, can be of little value either to yourselves or others; and will be apt to fail you when the hour of temptation comes. On the contrary, the good conduct which arises from piety and love to God, strengthened by the Saviour's precept—*Do as you would be done*

unto, will be productive of the happiest consequences to yourselves, your families, and all with whom you may be connected.

With good consciences towards your God, and cheerful minds, you may look around you in this beautiful world, which is to be your home for a short time, and have a perpetual feast: each day will display before your admiring eyes new wonders; and new pleasures will be your reward, if you study to make yourselves acquainted with the works of your almighty and heavenly Father. Frequent meditations on His power and goodness will lessen your bodily labour, and sweeten your hours of less active employment; your burdens will be lightened, for you will ever have in remembrance that your particular situation in life, and all your power to perform your appointed duties, are His ordering, and your heart and understanding will tell you that all is good.

These are blessed feelings; and if such

are the reward of our present imperfect endeavours to do the will of our heavenly Father, according to the example of the blessed Jesus ; how inconceivably great must be the riches of His grace, who hath declared, that, *Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive, the happiness which is prepared for those who love God and keep his commandments.* That you, my young fellow Christians, through the mercy of God, may be found among the happy number of His good and faithful servants, and enter into the joy of your Lord, is the sincere prayer of,

Yours, &c.

M—— R——