

Ld. Bute to Pces of Hales

Sep. 7 1759

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I am not at all surpris'd to find by My Preced  
Letter, that serious study provokes in some, where the  
heart has met with a violent Convulsion, his long  
before, reason, entirely recaptures its empire; You  
have had a great loss, My Dear Sir, a Companion  
Sister, Friend; but You have advantages to bear it  
that few of your age, shall feel as your Rank enjoys  
accustom'd from your Childhood, to look up to  
Heaven; You can in the day of affliction, put firm  
Confidence, in Him who gives & resumes at pleasure  
who being infinitely good, as well as omnipotent  
& omnipotent; cannot take delight in poor mortals  
sufferings; He who can read that book of fate He  
Himself dictates, is frequently most compassionate  
when wee smarting under grievous sorrow; think  
Him most severe; his infinite consolation for  
to be able to take fast hold on our Great Creator, constant

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Preserver; in all the good or bad that happens to us; to have our souls to pure, our Conscience to free; that oppress'd with Misery; we may at once fly to Him, our best & surest friend; open all our griefs unto him, implore his assistance, Deprecate his wrath; & finally submit entirely to His high will, fully convinced that as nothing can befall us, without His almighty Fiat, or sufferance; neither can any thing finally hurt us; if we serve Him faithfully; Poor short sighted Creatures; we are for ever reasoning on single events; could we perceive at one view, the whole plan of omnipotence; the reasons, Consequences &c. of this or that event; we should I make no doubt; feel a double passion, & in the midst of human sufferings, be admiring the leader hand inflicting them, & thought like these Ser (that I make no doubt occur to you frequently) turn evils into blessings; I render us after every Trial of this kind, better Men, warmer Friends, nobler & more exacted creatures; but I must not tire you Sir; tho' it

were easy to write whole sheets, on this subject; Let me finish with inculcating one great Truth; You are the second Person in a vast extensive possess'd Empire; You will Please God be the first, to act so superior a part well, is perhaps the height of human Wisdom; & yet virtue, Religion, joined to a nobility of Sentiment; will support a Prince better, & make a People happier, than all the abilities of an Augustus; with the heart of a Fabricius; the inference I draw from this, is; that a Prince ought to endeavour in all his thoughts & actions, to excel his people in virtue, Piety; Generosity; nobility of Sentiment; that when they have occasion to approach Him; they may do it with love & veneration; & feel He merits, by His own virtues, & not the fickle eye of fortune; the vast superiority he enjoys above them.

Friday morn.  
part ten.

E. J. Roberts  
Newgreen Sep. 7. 1759.