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The Works Of Alexander Pope Esq.

In Nine Volumes Complete. With His Last Corrections, Additions, And Improvements; As they were delivered to the Editor a little before his Death

Being The Third of his Letters

Pope, Alexander

London, 1751

XCVII. His acceptance of the Commentary on the Essay on Man.

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-54342](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-54342)

LETTERS

O F

Mr. POPE

T O

Mr. WARBURTON.

LETTER XCVII.

April 11, 1739.

I Have just received from Mr. R. two more of your *Letters*^a. It is in the greatest hurry imaginable that I write this, but I cannot help thanking you in particular for your *Third Letter*, which is so extremely clear, short, and full, that I think Mr. Crouzaz^b ought never to have another answerer, and deserved not so good an one. I can only say, you do him too much honour, and me too much right, so odd

^a Commentaries on the *Essay on Man*.

^b A German professor, who

wrote remarks upon the philosophy of that *Essay*.

as the expression seems, for you have made my system as clear as I ought to have done and could not. It is indeed the same system as mine, but illustrated with a ray of your own, as they say our natural body is the same still when it is glorified. I am sure I like it better than I did before, and so will every man else. I know I meant just what you explain, but I did not explain my own meaning so well as you. You understand me as well as I do myself, but you express me better than I could express myself. Pray accept the sincerest acknowledgments. I cannot but with these letters were put together in one book, and intend (with your leave) to procure a translation of part, at least, of all them into French^c; but I shall not proceed a step without your consent and opinion, &c.

L E T T E R XCVIII.

May 26, 1739.

THE dissipation in which I am obliged to live through many degrees of civil obligation, which ought not to rob a man of him-

^c They were all translated into that language by a French gentleman of condition, who is now in an eminent station in his own country.

