



## **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 Second of his Letters

**Pope, Alexander**

**London, 1751**

Letter VIII. Of disappointments from great men: Friends commemorated.

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**Nutzungsbedingungen**

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that even pigeon-pyes and hogs-puddings are thought dangerous by our governors ; for those that have been sent to the Bishop of Rochester are open'd and prophanely pry'd into at the Tower : 'Tis the first time dead pigeons have been suspected of carrying intelligence. To be serious, you and Mr. Congreve and the Doctor will be sensible of my concern and surprize at his commitment, whose welfare is as much my concern as any friend's I have. I think myself a most unfortunate wretch : I no sooner love, and, upon knowledge, fix my esteem to any man ; but he either dies, like Mr. Craggs, or is sent to imprisonment like the Bishop. God send him as well as I wish him, manifest him to be as innocent as I believe him, and make all his enemies know him as well as I do, that they may think of him as well !

If you apprehend this period to be of any danger in being address'd to you, tell Mr. Congreve or the Doctor, it is writ to them. I am,  
Your, &c.

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L E T T E R   V I I I .

July 13, 1722.

**I** Was very much pleas'd, not to say obliged, by your kind letter, which sufficiently warm'd my heart to have answer'd it sooner,  
had



had I not been deceived (a way one often is deceived) by hearkening to women; who told me that both Lady Burlington and yourself were immediately to return from Tunbridge, and that my Lord was gone to bring you back. The world furnishes us with too many examples of what you complain of in yours, and, I assure you, none of them touch and grieve me so much as what relates to you. I think your sentiments upon it are the very same I should entertain: I wish those we call great men had the same notions, but they are really the most little creatures in the world; and the most interested, in all but one point; which is, that they want judgment<sup>a</sup> to know their greatest interest, to encourage and chuse honest men for their friends.

I have not once seen the person you complain of, whom I have of late thought to be, as the Apostle admonisheth, one flesh with his wife.

Pray make my sincere compliments to Lord Burlington, whom I have long known to have a stronger bent of mind to be all that is good and honourable, than almost any one of his rank.

<sup>a</sup> Instead of — *that they* | have said — *there where they*  
*want judgment*, propriety of | *want judgment* —  
 expression requires he should

I have



I have not forgot yours to Lord Bolingbroke, tho' I hope to have speedily a fuller opportunity, he returning for Flanders and France next month.

Mrs. Howard has writ you something or other in a letter, which, she says, she repents. She has as much good nature as if she had never seen any ill nature, and had been bred among lambs and turtle-doves, instead of Princes and court-ladies.

By the end of this week, Mr. Fortescue will pass a few days with me: we shall remember you in our potations, and wish you a fisher with us, on my grass plat. In the mean time we wish you success as a fisher of women at the Wells, a rejoycer of the comfortless and widow, and a play-fellow of the maiden. I am

Your, &c.

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L E T T E R IX.

Sept. 11, 1722.

**I** Think it obliging in you to desire an account of my health. The truth is, I have never been in a worse state in my life, and find whatever I have try'd as a remedy so ineffectual, that I give myself entirely over. I wish your health may be set perfectly right by the waters,