



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

Containing His Miscellaneous Pieces In Verse and Prose

Pope, Alexander

London, 1751

To Mrs. B. on her birth-day

Nutzungsbedingungen

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T O

Mrs. M. B. on her BIRTH-DAY.

O H be thou blest with all that Heav'n can send,
 Long Health, long Youth, long Pleasure,
 and a Friend :

Not with those Toys the female world admire,
 Riches that vex, and Vanities that tire.

With added years if Life bring nothing new, 5
 But like a Sieve let ev'ry blessing thro',
 Some joy still lost, as each vain year runs o'er,
 And all we gain, some sad Reflection more ;
 Is that a Birth-day ? 'tis alas ! too clear,
 'Tis but the Fun'ral of the former year. 10

Let Joy or Ease, let Affluence or Content,
 And the gay Conscience of a life well spent,
 Calm ev'ry thought, inspirit ev'ry grace,
 Glow in thy heart, and smile upon thy face.
 Let day improve on day, and year on year, 15
 Without a Pain, a Trouble, or a Fear ;

80 MISCELLANIES.

Till Death unfelt that tender frame destroy,
In some soft Dream, or Extasy of joy,
Peaceful sleep out the Sabbath of the Tomb,
And wake to Raptures in a Life to come.

VARIATIONS.

VER. 15. Originally thus in the MS.

And oh since Death must that fair frame destroy,
Dye, by some sudden Extasy of Joy ;
In some soft dream may thy mild soul remove,
And be thy latest gasp a Sigh of Love.