

LETTERS

FROM AN

OLD MAN

TO A

YOUNG PRINCE;

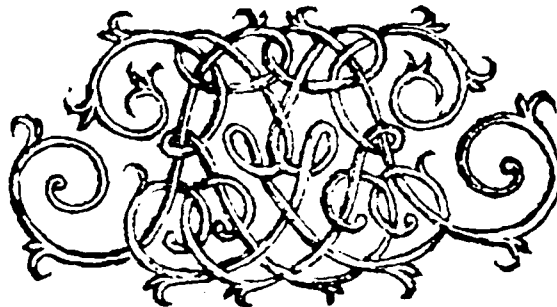
WITH THE

ANSWERS.

TRANSLATED from the SWEDISH.

VOL. II.

The SECOND EDITION.



LONDON:

Printed for R. GRIFFITHS, in Pater-noster-Row.

M.DCC.LIX.

177 00

L E T T E R XLIII.

THIS letter brings Your ROYAL HIGHNESS another of your favourite fables. I am the more willing to translate them into our own language, as it may be a means to give my countrymen, yet unborn, a true idea of your taste, even in the very dawn of life.

F A B L E.

The ELEPHANT, RHINOCEROS, and Jupiter's
MONKEY.

IN former days, as poets chant,
Rhinoceros and Elephant
Fell out; and, if I'm told no lie,
They quarrell'd for precedency.
Their side-way looks, and fullen mein,
Had murmur'd long their jealous spleen,
But now they could no more dissemble:
High words made all the forest tremble.

They

They threaten'd, rag'd, and flew from far,
 Whilst Fame proclaim'd th' impending war.
 The bloody day was fix'd : and now
 Sir Elephant was marching slow,
 Revolving in his martial brain
 Triumphant heroes, heroes slain,
 And every stratagem of fight,
 When Jove's own Monkey came in fight.
 This Monkey, as the sage aver,
 Was often chose ambaffador,
 When Merc'ry by the thunder-god,
 Was sent, perchance, some other road.

' THANKS to the gods !' the heroe cry'd,
 ' With mè they shall be satisfy'd.
 ' I know to tell me, thou art sent,
 ' That heav'n, impatient; waits th' event
 ' Of that great day, when I shall wield
 ' My trunk, amid the martial field.—
 ' I, who, in strength and right of birth,
 ' Am 'noblest animal on earth.

‘ Yes,

‘ Yes, thou’rt descended from the sky
 ‘ To see me slay mine enemy,
 ‘ And bear the welcome news on high.’

‘ I CRAVE thy pardon, noble beast: ’

‘ Not such my errand in the least, ’

Reply’d the Monkey. ‘ I am sent

‘ To see if yon poor ants have spent

‘ Their winter store : that’s my intention.

‘ Of thee, in heav’n, I heard no mention.’

THUS we see that even the heathen world
 did not believe the great and mighty on earth
 to be of equal consideration in heaven. How
 much more reason have we to remember this
 truth, whose religion teaches, that all sub-
 luntary grandeur is as nothing in the sight of
 the Supreme Being ; that he is a God of peace,
 who is greatly offended at the sight of cruel
 discord and innocent blood : we, I say, who
 are taught, that the higher he hath been pleased
 to exalt us, the greater and more extensive are

16. L E T T E R S T O A

our duties ; and that as we perform or neglect those duties, we become pleasing or despicable in the sight of that God, whose boundless providence extends even to the least insect ; to whom an honest and religious beggar is an angel, and an unjust and impious monarch a devil.

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS's entry into the world gives me reason to believe you will take a happy, and I hope a late, leave of it. I, in the course of nature, must go hence much sooner. God grant that we may meet again in a better life !

I am, &c.

Hellekis, August 25,

1752,

L E T-