

It is with no small degree of pleasure I assure you that I seize an hour's leisure to devote to an undeservedly neglected friend; for as such I am sure you will think I have treated you, by not writing to you sooner; although I hope I need not use any arguments to convince you that my neglect has been undesigned. I am exceedingly obliged to you for the kind letter you sent me when my servant returned from Göttingen, and am happy to hear that my young friend, whom I recommended to your care has answered the character I was authorized to give of him from personal acquaintance, and the general opinion of his friends. It is no small satisfaction to me to have in any respect contributed to gratify the desire which you often expressed of being placed in such a situation when I had the pleasure of conversing with you on the subject. The letter you lately sent to Mr Smith has given you a very high place in her esteem, and your account of her son is very satisfactory. I hope he will continue to profit from his very eligible situation, and remember that it is the fortunate lot of few of his countrymen, at his years to enjoy such peculiar advantages. I often regret that I did not pass the younger years of my life at Göttingen instead of Oxford, because an ambitious mind is gratified there by being reputed studious, whilst with us a man who devotes his time to books is too frequently treated with contempt. I was much pleased a short time since with a letter written in your favour by Gottrat Limmelman of Hanover, who seems to have your welfare very much at heart. It was written to a particular friend of mine, who sent it for the perusal of Mr Smith. I