

Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle

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the Negus or Abyssine Emperour of a lame Arm, came unto the Court of France, and brought a confession of the Abyssinian faith with him; as they sent such a Confession, when they sought formerly the friendship of Phil. II. as King of Portugall.

Mr. Posnicof came from Archangel with the last ship, and is gone by the way of Holland for France to reside there with a Character from the Tsar. I am not without hopes that God will sanctify the Talents bestowed upon him, that he may serve God and his Country with them, if he lives to see those happy times, wherein true Wisdom from above is minded in the government of publick affairs.

Ad cundem, My Lord,

d. 13. Febr.

1703.

I easily imagine, how great a grief Your dear Daughters departure must have occasioned in Your Soul, so that I should fear a fatal consequence upon Your own life, if I had not the confidence in Gods infinite mercy, that He will support you, and convince you at last, that all things must work together for good to them, that love God. It is the wise method of his infinite Goodness, to deprive us of all outward comforts, when he designs so great a Happiness for us, as to be Himself our only Comfort and Delight within ourselves, which neither Death nor Hell itself can tear from us any more. It is sign, we love God very imperfectly, as long as the enjoyment of

the Creature, is dearer unto us, than the Will and good pleasure of the Creator, in taking away again, what he had bestowed upon us. But if such a sorrow be sanctified, and we humbly acknowledge our fault in doing more upon the gift than upon the Giver, God uses to make us such amends for our losses, as to convince us that he afflicted us for our good, and that whatsoever is charming and delightfull in any of his Creatures, is but a very imperfect shadow of that glory, which is in Himself and whercof he will make partakers those, that are willing to part with what is dearest to them at any time he thinks fitt to call for it. The great Comforter of distressed Souls grant Your Excellency such a clear experimental insight into this fundamental Truth of a Christian faith, as to bear Your loss with a chearfull submission to the Will of God, and to look upon it as a favour that God would court You for having Your Heart intirely to himself, by freeing it from any snare of the most warrantable natural affection.

I am with due respect

Y.