

A
L E T T E R
To a V I R T U O U S
L A D Y,
To Disswade her from her Resolution of being
A N U N.

This may be printed, February the 19th, 1685. R. P.

R Ecall this Resolution, or you'll prove
A Renegade to *Nature*, and to *Love* ;
He that did form all Creatures for Increasing,
Made *Fruitful Amity* the first great Blessing,
Why were you made a Woman ? Why were we
(By different Sex) put in Capacity
Of getting Children ? You cross Gods Decree ;
You will live single, does not every thing
Contribute to the Store-House of the Spring :
Beasts, Fish, Fowls, Grain ; one Ear of Corn will yield,
(With Husbandry) enough to fill a Field :
Were every thing Fruitless (as you would be)
You'd Eat the Walls down of your *Nunnery*.
But your Transgression unto *Love* is such,
As no Man's Pen can aggravate too much ;

A

Were

Title: A Letter to a virtuous lady to dissuade her from her resolution of being a nun

Author:

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Were those *Blem Veins, Red Lips, White Hands, Black Ey's,*
 Made only for a *Vestal Sacrifice* ?
 But you reply, 'Tis to prevent those Crimes,
And bot Allurements, which pollute the Times :
 Madam, are you so weak, or Sin so stout,
 That nothing but *Stone-Walls* can keep it out ?
Ulysses when he fear'd to be Imbrac'd
 By *Syrens*, bound himself to the Ships Mast ;
 Because he found his Soul so much inclin'd
 Unto Temptation, did his Body bind ;
 And is it so with you ? must you needs run
 This Tempting Race, unless y'have Fetters on ?
 Are Maids so frail, can Virgins find no trick
 For Chastity, but to be Buried Quick ?
 And yet when all this streight preventions wrought,
 Not all your *Walls, nor Bars,* can keep out Thought :
 In my conceipt those Hearts have finest Stations,
 That can be Chast in spight of all Temptations.
 Chast Wedlock was at first design'd, that we
 Might not Abuse, but keep our Chastity.
 You may do so, and yet not Live alone,
 That Woman's Chast enough that knows but one :
 Stop your Resolve then e're it farther runs,
 For *Virtuous Wives* are better than some *Nuns.*

F I N I S.

L O N D O N, Printed for *John Harris,* 1686.