

L E S S O N S
O F A
G O V E R N E S S
T O H E R
P U P I L S

O R,

Journal of the Method adopted by ~~Madeleine~~ de
SILLERY-BRULART (formerly Countess de
GLNLS) in the Education of the Children of
M^r d'ORLÉANS, First Prince of the Blood-Royal.

PUBLISHED BY HERSELF.

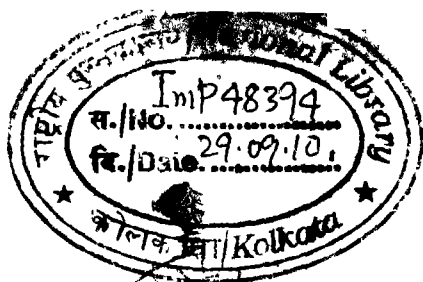
TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

V O L. II

L O N D O N

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College of Fort William



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P R E F A C E.

WHEN I began the first volume of this work, I had just given in my resignation to Madame d'Orleans at her request. It was my intention, after settling some business that required my presence at Paris, to travel for two or three years, solely for my instruction, and then to renounce the world for ever. Determined never again to appear in society, particularly at Paris, I meant solely to publish the fragments of my Journal of Education, but without complaining of or accusing any person ; in those fragments I consequently suppressed all the history of the Abbé

Guyot's retirement, which was related at full length, as well as every thing else of a similar nature. On my departure for Auvergne, I sent to the press the first sheets of the copy of that Journal, leaving the original in the hands of a person who transcribed the rest in my absence, according to marks which I made in the margin. Though I had irreconcilably quarrelled with M. Lebrun from the time of his refusing to justify M. de Chartres and me against a calumny from which he might have exculpated us by bearing testimony to the truth, I wrote to him on the eve of my departure, the 24th of April last, to inform him that, quitting the education for ever, I should now publish fragments of my Journal, but that nothing would appear to throw blame

on those who had been under my directions, or on any one else. At that time this was truly my intention, as I believed I should never again make my appearance in the world. I had no desire of avenging myself: those who are acquainted with me know, that, independent of principle, my temper and disposition render me absolutely incapable of so odious a feeling. Determined to retire for ever from the intriguing, the ungrateful and the wicked, I thought it sufficient to shew that I had never instilled any but good principles into my pupils: every thing else that might be imputed to me I regarded with indifference; I was sure that oblivion would soon succeed to enmity, and that even my direct foes would cease to hate me when I resided far from them in re-

tirement and obscurity. One reason still more powerful led me to consider this moderation as my duty: I deemed it a species of cowardice to break the silence I had so long imposed on myself, and then only to complain of my enemies when I was quitting them, and getting out of the reach of the envenomed shafts of their resentment. . . . Oh ! if ever after so many labours and vexations, fortune grant to my wishes a safe and peaceful asylum, I will not profane the sweet leisure of a happy solitude by complaints, disputes, and censures. I will never attack or accuse either *in flying or at a distance* *. But when I found

* An anonymous author is particularly contemptible, because he never attacks but in security, and dares not expose himself to the resentment of the person he accuses. To write
in

found myself compelled by my affection for Mademoiselle d'Orleans to
renounce

in foreign countries against our enemies, or men in power, is a dastardliness of a similar nature, unless we are compelled to it by juridical process. Another species of cowardice still more detestable, is to leave behind us at our death private memoirs in which our countrymen are calumniated. Is it possible to think of avenging ourselves when we shall be slumbering in the silent tomb? For my own part, I kept, during the nine years that I resided at the Palais Royal, a minute Journal of the scenes that passed before my eyes; but with an intention never to publish it. The work is voluminous, and I have attempted to draw in it an accurate picture of the manners of the age in which I lived. In this I flatter myself I have succeeded; but there is not to be found in it one serious charge even against those by whom I was hated: I mention names only when I have praises to bestow, or my blame falls upon frivolous objects, and I attack neither the morals nor the probity of any man. I will add, and I can say it with equal truth, that during my whole life I have never printed a single line

nounce liberty and quiet, and again enter the world; I felt that my return would increase the malignity of my adversaries and that I was going to be more than ever exposed to slanders of every kind: I then adopted the measure of at length speaking without restraint, and of exhibiting an accurate and faithful picture of my conduct for the period of the last twelve years; and this I could not do without giving extracts of the Journal kept by M. Lebrun. A report has been extensively propagated, that the tutors subordinate to me have borne every thing that a haughty, violent and imperious woman, full of pride and caprice, could inflict on

without my name. This declaration is not altogether useless at a time when all the world writes, and few think it a duty to avow their works.

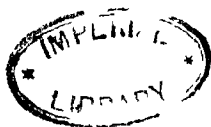
those

those who were subject to her directions. In reading the Journal of M. Lebrun it will not be difficult to guess from what quarter these imputations, repeated in a thousand libellous publications, have proceeded. This Journal will shew what party has been to blame, and where lies the injustice. The extracts I give are taken from the original work written wholly by M. Lebrun or the Abbé Guyot; my answers and remarks excepted, which are in my own hand. This work is also deposited with M. Gabion, where all who have the curiosity may compare it with the printed fragments. These fragments contain a multiplicity of frivolous and childish details, and a chain of domestic altercations and intrigues, the paltriness of which I
am

am more aware of than any one, because unfortunately I did not escape with the reading, I had to suffer and endure them. How unceasingly have I been tormented by them, and by the dishonesty, pride, envy and hatred from which they originated ! How much valuable time, which I might have usefully employed, have they obliged me to lose ! In consequence of reproaches and falsehoods, continually renewed, I was a thousand times forced to repeat in the Journal the same answers and explanations : in this way I have written the quantity of three or four volumes, and shall all my life regret time so disagreeably employed. M. Lebrun's Journal consists of eleven volumes, and more than a half of them is filled with our quarrels and reconciliations.

tions. These long accounts I have reduced to a few hundred pages, but what I have omitted perfectly resembles the specimen I have given; the same conduct and the same sentiments on both sides are constantly displayed from one end of the Journal to the other. In the mean time there will be found amidst these alterations and intrigues (which I am obliged to publish in order to make my justification in every respect complete) a variety of things relative to education, and these fragments will not prove wholly useless to preceptors entering on a course of education, and who have not yet had an opportunity of studying the dispositions of children; they will find in them counsels that experience alone can give, and which every preceptor of honest

honest intentions will always receive with pleasure even from those who may possess inferior talents to himself: for in education nothing can be of more value than reflections founded on facts, and a long observance and study of the characters of children.



L E S S O N S
OF A
GOVERNESS TO HER PUPILS, &c.

PRIVATE JOURNAL OF THE EDUCATION
OF THE PRINCES,

Commenced at Saint Cloud 28 January 1782.

THE princes were placed under my care, 5 January 1782. I requested a minute account of the distribution and employment of their time. For this I waited six days. It ought to have been given in writing, but it was not, and beside was very imperfect. From this account I learned, that M. Bonnard scarcely concerned himself at all in their education, and that the whole care had devolved upon the Abbé Guyot, and M. Prieur, first valet de chambre. The

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hours

hours of study were not unalterably fixed, no one presided at the lessons of the masters ; the reading did not occupy three quarters of an hour in a day ; and three times a week the princes took a lesson in musick for an hour. I struck off the musick master, and altered the whole plan of studies. Among other books, I took away the Fables of Fontaine, Telemachus, Racine*, and I substituted instead of them, books of history and moral writings suited to the understandings of two children, the eldest of whom was but eight years old. . .

Upon our arrival at St. Cloud, that is to say, three weeks ago, I examined the princes as to their improvement.

* I have always thought it absurd to put works of the first merit into the hands of children ; my reason for this I have assigned in Adelaide and Theodore. The idea was greatly censured at the time, but it since appears to have been pretty generally adopted.

They were perfectly ignorant of Latin and English, and could neither read or speak a word of these languages, though they had studied them for the space of three years. They had no accurate knowledge of history but what they had derived from some tables which I had written for the Duchess de Chartres, and which have been five years in her possession. They knew very little of the history of the gods, and nothing of the fabulous metamorphoses: I speak of the Duke de Valois; for as to the Duke de Montpensier, he absolutely knows nothing of any subject. The Duke de Valois could not write a note of six lines that had common sense. They were both unpolite to an extreme, giving no other answer than *yes* or *no*, or a nod of the head, and never expressing their thanks on any occasion. They were also extremely tender and delicate, fearful of the wind and the cold, and incapable not only of running and jumping, but even

of walking any tolerable pace, or for more than half an hour. The Duke de Valois had so horrible a dread of dogs, that he turned pale and shrieked whenever he saw one : it was impossible to take hold of a lap dog without murdering it, and he was sure upon these occasions either to burst into tears, or to shew ill humour. The Duke de Valois was fond of silly prattle, and would tell lies sometimes for his diversion. I add to all this, the utmost indifference for the Duke and Duchesse de Chartres, never thinking, never caring about them, cold and inanimate when they saw them, and perfectly regardless whether they saw them at all. Such were their bad qualities : now for their good ones. They do not draw badly for their age, and they write very well : the eldest has some knowledge of accounts : they are both mild and obedient : since I have had the care of them they are already less unpolite, and express themselves in better terms.

The

The Duke de Valois can see a dog without any signs of fear; it may be caught without being choaked. He also applies more closely to his lessons.

6 March 1782.

I AM every day more satisfied with the young princes. The Duke de Valois has considerable force of mind and an astonishing memory. I can as yet form no judgment of what may be expected from the Duke de Montpensier.

I have written for them both some moral principles, which are read to them twice a week.
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I read to them continually. I stop sometimes to ask them questions, or to make some reflection. The Duke de Valois always answers with propriety, and appears attentive and interested.

8 April 1782.

I CONTINUE to be charmed with the Duke de Valois, though he has still some very disagreeable manners and low expressions, and occasionally considerable vulgarity. At present that he is perfectly at his ease with me, he vents without hesitation all the pretty conceits and phrases that have been taught him. For example, he constantly calls his backside *my fifteen* *, and the stinging gnats that tease us in warm weather his *kindred* †. To express the having made a bad drawing he says, *I have made a splotch*; to fig-

* *Mon quinze.*

† The French appellation for this insect is *cousin*, which seems to have been originally derived from the persevering importunity of the creature, the persons tormented by it conceiving a sort of resemblance between this importunity and that of poor relations, whose petitions can with difficulty be dismissed by a man of any fortune. By habit the word has come to lose any ambiguity of meaning. T.

nify

nify that he has knocked at a door, *I have beat a march upon it*, &c. All this is highly seasoned with the proverbs of Sancho, and a forced and loud laugh, which is not the least disagreeable of his manners. He is beside a great gossip, an admirer of old women's tales, and frequently invents lies for his diversion. He has another quality which very much displeases me, that of weeping with a facility which I have never observed in any other person. He is little sensible of gratitude*, because he imagines that there are no cares, no attentions, no respect to which he is not entitled, a fault that proceeds solely from the defects of his early education, and not from his natural disposition; and I am convinced that, had he been put into my hands a year later, it would have been out of my power to rectify all the injury that would

* Most assuredly I cannot now reproach him with such a fault.

have been done him. He has strength of mind, self-esteem, and a good heart; admirable sources of hope. Yesterday at the conclusion of the lessons some company called upon me. I withdrew for a moment and presently returned with Mademoiselle de Chartres, who had in her hand a basket of little cakes. I said to the Duke de Valois, "Though
" your Highness did not give to your
" sister any of the pears which were sent
" you a few days since, she is willing to
" divide with you her basket of sweet-
" meats." This accusation, made before strangers, threw him into confusion; he blushed, turned pale, fluttered, and received the cakes without any marks of pleasure. I asked him to day
" if the present of Mademoiselle de
" Chartres had not been agreeable to
" him?" He answered me in the negative, and with tears in his eyes. " You
" see then," said I, " that our greatest
" satisfaction does not consist in receiving
" ing

“ing such things as we most love, but
“in the approbation and esteem of
“others; and in future you will, I trust,
“feel how much better it is to be
“thought obliging and generous, than
“to eat by yourself all your pears and
“sweetmeats.”

22 April 1782.

A FEW days since I had a long conversation with the princes. What I said to them was nearly as follows. “I have
“hitherto employed myself in examining
“and studying your minds: now
“that I know them, I shall begin your
“education, the object of which is to
“render you virtuous and amiable, that
“you may be happy and beloved.
“You may be sure of my attachment.
“Had you been placed in the hands of
“a governor, he would have been paid
“for instructing you: I despise money,
“and have refused to accept any kind

“ of salary or recompense. A governor
“ might have aspired to honours, such
“ as the blue ribbon, to which I can
“ have no pretension. Lastly, a gover-
“ nor would not have taken the pains
“ to instruct you himself; all the cares
“ of your education would have de-
“ volved upon a sub-governor. I have
“ no sub-governor⁺, I shall discharge
“ myself all its functions, and you will
“ owe your education to me alone
“ You ought therefore to regard me
“ not only as your friend, but as your
“ benefactress; for I shall bestow upon
“ you what is of more value than birth
“ and fortune, which you owe to acci-
“ dent: I shall give you reason, virtue,
“ agreeable and useful knowledge. The
“ happiness which I promise you here-
“ after, you may begin to enjoy at
“ present: be obedient and sincere,

* M. Lebrun had then only the title of Reader ;
it was some years after that the title of Sub-governor
was conferred upon him.

“ and

“and you will always find me indulgent; be attentive and industrious, and your studies will be pleasing to you, and beside I shall give you some charming rewards.” As I said this the children threw themselves upon my neck, telling me that I was *very good*, and that they had never received *any rewards*. “These however I promise you; but I must tell you at the same time that there will be punishments. If you behave well, I will reward you; if ill, I will punish you.” They exclaimed that this was just. “I know that you have not been accustomed to do penance, but neither have rewards been bestowed upon you. I will imitate the conduct of God towards his children, who punishes the wicked and rewards the good.” The princes very cordially assented to this agreement, and I told them that their first recompense should be a charming

toy, a little wooden temple, which might be taken to pieces, and which they might pull down and build up again for their diversion as often as they pleased. This recompense will begin their course of architecture, which will be the more instructive and useful, as it will occupy no part of the time consecrated to study, and as it will have the air of amusement.

I shall here speak of the persons concerned in their education. The Abbé Guyot, who owed his place to my recommendation, I did not at that time know. In future I will never recommend a person upon the report of another. With a very moderate understanding and superficial information, he has the misfortune to think himself possessed of superior penetration, and the most accurate knowledge of the world. So far from this however he has no more penetration than an infant, and is perfectly ignorant

ignorant of manners and mankind. He is pedantic * and capricious, with a cold heart, a narrow mind, and a barren imagination. He has high pretensions, with slender merit, little frankness, and nothing amiable. I believe him to have probity, that he is incapable of a dishonest action, that he possesses prudence and decency, that he is punctual and circumspect. He entertains for me the strongest aversion : these are his reasons. The society of M. Bonnard was agreeable to him. M. Bonnard, attentive solely to his pleasure, never troubled himself about the princes, and every thing devolved upon the Abbé, who loved to dictate and domineer. Beside, the summers had been spent at Saint Cloud, a few miles only from Paris, where he received and entertained his friends : now we are to reside at Saint

* In the Journal of M. Lebrun, which contains many notes of the Abbé's writing, the reader will be able to judge of his pedantry.

Leu, a distance of no less^d than five leagues from the capital, where he will see nobody, and where he will be obliged to observe a plan of education marked out by a woman : all this is less flattering and agreeable. The princes also, who do not understand a word of Latin, had been accustomed to devote two hours and a half to this study ; whereas it is now to occupy but three quarters of an hour. Such are my wrongs, which I suppose are not to be pardoned. I pass to the other personages.

M. Lebrun, who has just been appointed by me to his office, is a man of honesty, cold and precise, full of good sense, and capable of executing with judgment such things as are prescribed to him. He has read but little, but he has a tolerable knowledge of the English language, and is a very good mathematician.

M. Prieur, first valet de chambre, I found already in the service of the
princes ;

princes ; he had possessed all the confidence of M. Bonnard, and it was he in reality who had been sub-governor. The princes have derived from him the most corrupt pronunciation, and by his little mistaken cares he had rendered them absurdly delicate. To him also is it to be ascribed, that, when they were first committed to my care, they were so timid and inanimate, that they could neither run nor jump, that they could neither endure the wind, nor the cold, nor the rain, nor the sun, that they could not prick a finger, or make a false step without bursting into tears. They are still far from being hardy and alert ; but they endeavour at least to conquer their weakness ; they begin to run and jump, and the Duke de Montpensier can descend a staircase without holding by the hand of M. Prieur, which is no inconsiderable point gained. M. Prieur thinks me greatly inferior to the chevalier Bonnard, who in the country used to let him sit at table with him
and

and the Abbé. He was heard to call him every day *a dear creature*; but he has none of these honied words for me. His office is simply that of first valet de chambre; but that his feelings might not be too much hurt, I have assigned to him the care of hearing the princes repeat what is given them to learn by heart*.

6 May 1782.

SINCE the 6th of March I have read with my pupils the continuation of Bosquet's Universal History, and an accurate and detailed life of Henry the Fourth of France, in four volumes, by Buri. I point out to the children such faults of style and bad expressions as strike me. This History of Henry has made a con-

* This complaisance was very much misplaced, M. Prieur having a corrupt pronunciation, which had a considerable effect on that of the Duke de Montpensier. I have been charged with exercising a very despotic authority; and I now can only censure myself for having shewn a number of little acts of condescension which I ought not to have shewn.

siderable

siderable impression both on the heart and the head of the Duke de Valois, to which I have contributed as much as possible by my reflections. I saw with pleasure that the child was proud to think that the blood of the great Henry flowed in his veins. The particulars of his death drew torrents of tears from his eyes. A few days after, he asked me for a portrait of this prince, and I gave both to him and his brother a seal on which the head of Henry was engraved. The Duke de Valois kissed the head. "I am delighted," said I to him, "to see in you this sentiment. Think often of this great man, whose memory will ever be dear to Frenchmen, because he was generous and good, and whose love of truth merited a friend like Sully. Henry the Fourth had his weaknesses; but I have proved to you, as we read his history, that they are to be attributed solely to the defects of his education and the pernicious examples which he received in his early youth.

“ youth. You, who are descended
 “ from him, you, who will have a better
 “ education than his could have been,
 “ will, I hope, possess all his virtues and
 “ his greatness of soul, without any of his
 “ weaknesses. Beside a king has one
 “ sure way of obtaining our indulgence
 “ for his weaknesses; he has only to
 “ make his subjects happy: but a
 “ prince who is never to reign, does not
 “ experience the same lenity. Thus,
 “ as you will not be a king, if you should
 “ acquire all the virtues of Henry the
 “ Fourth, and should have at the same
 “ time his defects, you will not obtain a
 “ fourth part of his glory; and these de-
 “ fects will dishonour and degrade you,
 “ as you cannot expiate them by effecting
 “ the happiness of the nation.” . . .

From the moment that M. Lebrun
 entered upon his office, I ordered him
 to write a minute journal of every thing
 which the princes should say and do
 when I was not present. The article of
 the day, accurately made, is regularly
 brought

brought to me ; and the princes, seeing me read every evening a detailed account of their behaviour, have the continual fear of this Journal before their eyes, which produces astonishing effects.

Saint Leu, 8 May 1782.

WE arrived this day at Saint Leu. The Duke de Valois is ordered to take asses milk. Though he has apparent strength, his health is very far from being good, which I attribute to the bad regimen of his early education, to the frequent use of dainties, of rich pastry, of a profusion of cream with his coffee, and the total want of exercise. His brother, naturally more delicate, has an alarming degree of weakness, though they are both stronger and have better health than when they were first committed to my care. I observed also that their apartment in the Palais Royal, being on a level with the ground, might be damp and unwholesome ; the physician, M. Michel,

Michel, was of the same opinion; and it is resolved that they shall have next winter a different apartment, and not on the ground floor.—I have had a pulley fixed in their chamber, that they might draw weights proportioned to their strength, an exercise that is very salutary, and from which Mademoiselle de Chartres and Pamela derive the most astonishing benefit. They have also a little garden appropriated to themselves, in which there is an artificial well, that they might exercise themselves in drawing water: their buckets have a double bottom for the purpose of adding pieces of lead in proportion as their strength shall increase. They have all the necessary tools, and the garden will be cultivated by themselves under the inspection of the gardener. The gardener attends them likewise in their morning promenade, to teach them the names of the different trees and shrubs. Thus will they learn agriculture during their

walks and recreations, and no time will be lost upon it. They have already one of their palaces of architecture, and they know by heart almost all the terms of this science.

10 May 1782.

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I AM very much dissatisfied with Prieur. The princes are faultless while they are with me, because they both fear and love me ; but when they are out of my sight their behaviour is very different. On these occasions Prieur is continually saying to them, *I shall tell your friend*. Then follow prayers and entreaties on their part, which are always concluded with a promise that he will be silent. Two inconveniences result from this ; the first that Prieur loses all influence and weight with them, as they know that he has engaged to tell me every thing they say and

and do; and secondly that the princes themselves are thus habituated to dissimulation, since on their parts they have equally promised to conceal nothing from me. I am disgusted with this conduct, and if I cannot persuade Prieur to alter it, I will put a stop to it by dismissing him. In the task I have undertaken, the difficulty is not to educate the children, but to guide and direct the subordinate persons who are necessary instruments in the execution of our plan.

20 May 1782.

I HAVE commenced with the princes a course of natural history. We read the Dictionary of Bomare, in a systematical order, by means of a Key which I have made to it, omitting such articles as are not adapted to their age, or which decency will not permit me to read. My daughter and four or five other persons attend these readings, which last for an hour

hour and a quarter, and with which the princes are infinitely delighted. . . .

27 August 1782.

THE princes have the assistance of the only master I am able to procure them here, a joiner. They have all the implements of his trade, and the occupation is highly amusing to them. This, with their wooden palaces, and shuttlecock, constitute their recreations in wet weather.

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Among other things, I have composed for the princes a compendium of moral and religious instruction, consisting of seven pages, which is read to them three times a week

The princes are much less unruly, are more polite, and have particularly more feeling than was apparent some months since. I may say with confidence that they have an infinitely stronger sense of the affection they owe to the Duke
and

and Duchefs de Chartres. They have loft the chief defects of their pronounciation, and their vulgar and abſurd manner of ſpeaking. They did not underſtand a word of Engliſh ; they can now ſpeak it with tolerable facility, and they read proſe charmingly. They could neither run nor walk ; at preſent they are not deficient in activity for their age, and they walk very well. The Duke de Valois was afraid of every thing ; he is now diſciplined in hardineſs, and a dog has no terrors. He was extremely addiſted to lying*, and it is ſtill neceſſary to keep a watch over him in this reſpect ; but he is almoſt entirely cured of the vice. He is ſtill too talkative, when at

* This vice was merely the effect of the ſilly prattle in which he had been indulged, for it was only in his goſſipings that he practiſed it, and never to exculpate himſelf from any accuſation ; in ſuch caſes he always confeſſed his faults with a candour and frankneſs that were a ſtriking feature in his character.

his ease, but he is much less so than he was. He has acquired during his recreations a perfect knowledge of the three orders of architecture, and a thousand other little things, as the terms of heraldry for example, and he has some idea of the different handicraft trades. He has more than a smattering of natural history, a science of which he is particularly fond. He has made an astonishing progress in drawing, as well as in every thing else that has been taught him, and has derived singular advantage from our readings. In short, it is impossible, I believe, for any child to make a greater general proficiency in the space of a single year. In the winter I accompanied him once a fortnight to the theatre. On our return, I accustomed him to write analyses of the performances he had seen, leaving a marginal space for my observations. We also read the plays of Campistron: the prince, as we proceed, makes in his own apartment an analysis of each play

from memory, which is regularly brought to me ; and I then write my observations in the margin, and explain them to him. In proportion as his copy books are filled, I lay them by in regular classes. . . .

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30 January 1783.

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I GAVE to the princes, the day before yesterday, a new moral disquisition which I had composed for them.

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Education of Mademoiselle de Chartres.*

MADemoisELLE de Chartres was only twelve months old when she was confided to my care : she is now five

* She was still called by this name, though her sister, Mademoiselle d'Orleans, was dead.

years

years and a half. She walks and runs with surprising agility, and a promenade of six miles does not tire her. She is mild, tractable, obedient, sensible, and sincere. Her spirits are uniformly cheerful, and her application is astonishing. She has nothing of obstinacy, or sullenness, and exhibits every promise of a strong discernment and a rich understanding. A native of England of the same age could not speak the language of that country with greater facility, or understand it better. She reads French currently on every kind of subject, and music perfectly when written in the G cleff. She knows some prayers in English, a little of the Catechism, and a few short tales. She begins to explain her historical tapestry in a very pretty manner, as well as her fire-screen of the history of France.

11 February 1783

.....

 IN short, the whole expence of Mademoiselle d'Orleans has not exceeded, for the past year, the sum of 3055 livres, 9 sols*, by an account, which I have in my possession, kept and drawn up by Mademoiselle Nonnon. The expences of the preceding years have been in the same proportion. A private person in good circumstances is scarcely at less expence in a convent, and certainly Mademoiselle de Chartres is as well dressed as it is possible to be at her age. To introduce this economy, I was obliged, upon my arrival at Belle Chasse, to inform myself of the prices paid by Madame de Rochambault to the different tradesmen and work people, all of which I reduced by at least one half. For example, for

* 127 l.

making

making the robes of Mademoiselle de Chartres, at that time twenty months old, they paid fifteen francs : a woman of the most splendid appearance does not pay for the making her robe more than twelve francs. I reduced this price from fifteen francs to five livres, and the charge for this article has never since exceeded the average at which I fixed it. I acknowledge indeed that there are a thousand reasons why a princess, grown to woman's estate, should pay higher than another ; but I can see none why she should pay dearer in a period of infancy.

I return to the accounts of Mademoiselle Nonnon. They afford sufficient proof of her honesty, but they have neither the order nor perspicuity that might be desired, nor are sufficiently pervaded with a spirit of economy. I have not yet been able to bring her to deliver in her account on the first day of each month ; a

thousand frivolous pretexts and unmeaning excuses perpetually suggest themselves. The unhappy incidents that have occurred in the course of the last year of her life, have very excusably deprived her of the perfect command of her understanding for a period of more than eight months. She also depends upon the particular indulgence I entertain for her in consideration of her services, her affection for the children of the Duke and Duchesse de Chartres, and her unwearied efforts for their benefit. Hitherto indeed I have yielded to this consideration, and nothing but the gratitude to which she is entitled from Madame and Monseigneur could have given me three years patience with her as to this and some other omissions: at length I have told her fairly that I expected the same obedience from her as from the rest. I determined to terrify her, and she has faithfully promised to adopt the method I had so often vainly prescribed.

prescribed. This method is to deliver in her accounts on the first of every month, with the receipts of all the trades people, the payment of whom is entrusted to her. If in these accounts there be any useless expences, I shall comment upon them in the margin, and forbid their being repeated ; I shall then sign this account, which shall be carried to the treasurer to be paid, and the whole making a large volume, like the collection of the house-keeper's accounts, the accounts shall be separately signed by the treasurer, and the book deposited in my hands. I have also forbidden Mademoiselle Nonnon to buy any toy or plaything without my directions. By these means the expence will be considerably reduced ; though, such as it is, it might pass for well-regulated, if we formed our judgment by comparison.

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3 March 1783.

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I ACCOMPANIED the princes a few days since to the house of a poor paralytic woman of the name of Busca, but who is called in the neighbourhood where she resides, opposite S. Jacques du haut pas, the holy woman. The princes wept at sight of her distress; and having heard the recital of her misfortunes, they gave her each a louis, and promised her twelve francs a month during her life. On coming away they voluntarily asked me to accompany them to the house of this poor woman once a year.

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28 May 1783

Education of the Count de Beaujollois.

AS the Count de Beaujollois is but three
 years

years of age, I have conceived that it would not be practicable to place him with his brothers. He is, I am told, stubborn and unmanageable, and always crying, or beating a drum. This would be a perpetual source of distraction to them, and the more so, as their apartments, both here and at Paris, consist only of a bed-chamber and an adjoining room. I have thought it necessary therefore to form a separate arrangement for his education

.
 This arrangement occasions considerable mortification to the two elder princes; but I affect not to notice it, and proceed as if nothing was the matter.

14 June 1783.

THE Count de Beaujollois arrived this morning: he is handsome and good-natured. I have given to the Abbé Ma-

riotini, a copy of a paper of instructions relative to this child ; the original, in my own hand-writing, I have preserved. .

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11 July 1783.

WE continue our little abridgment of natural history, which we read for twenty minutes every evening : we devote also three quarters of an hour to the study of botany, from some fresh plants with which we are supplied by an excellent botanist in the neighbourhood : we began to-day. This course will be completed in about a month or five weeks, as the princes have been taught by me already all the terms of this science. . .

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14 July 1783

THE Count de Beaujolais is headstrong and capricious ; but he displays astonishing

ing marks of understanding. He is cheerful, fond, and has a thousand graces.

9 September 1783.

I HAVE this summer been more dissatisfied than ever with the Abbé Guyot. His petulance, his caprice, and his personal enmity to me have been so apparent as to attract the notice of every one. He makes himself ridiculous in the house. I do not most assuredly in any way contribute to it by my behaviour: I never speak of him, I treat him with unalterable politeness, and am careful not to let him perceive that I am conscious of his frequent rudeness to me, and how much he is governed by spleen. In other respects, he attends invariably to the Latin lessons, and observes with exactness all my injunctions relative to the princes. As to M. Lebrun, he appears to know at least, if not to feel the injustice of his

conduct towards me* He has done every thing in his power to make me forget a proceeding which nothing I think can justify. I am upon perfectly good terms with him ; but he may perceive, though I have no rancour, that I have the remembrance of his wrongs. My mother tells me that he has spoken to her upon the subject, that he wept and discovered great sensibility. All this, as yet, makes no impression on me. I am far from being vindictive, I abhor malice ; I believe however that there are wrongs

* Gratitude and friendship ought to have attached M. Lebrun to me by inviolable ties. He had been secretary to M. de Sillery ; I obtained him a place of five thousand livres in the Palais Royal ; and afterwards, conceiving that I should possess in him a true friend, I associated him in the education of the princes. His place in the Palais Royal, which he resigned, I procured for one of his brothers who lived in Provence, and who holds it to this day. Notwithstanding all these services, M. Lebrun became my enemy.

which

which we ought not to forget, and which we cannot forget without weakness. This want of firmness I have a thousand times fallen into in my youth ; reflection has taught me the danger and even absurdity of it. A person may reform his character, but he seldom or ever totally changes it. I am certain that I shall never have a true confidence in M. Lebrun, though it is possible that he may one day regain my friendship.*

15 September 1783..

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WE began to-day a little course of engraved gems, from an immense collection of casts in sulphur, brought from Italy by the Duke de Chartres for the use of the Duke de Valois. This collection

* He not only regained my friendship, but my unbounded confidence, which he has since obliged me a second time to withdraw, and that for ever.

complète

complete cost fifty louis : it is accompanied with a very minute explanation in Italian, which we translate to the princes into French, myself one day, and M. Laurent the next.

I have this day given a new disquisition to be read to the princes, consisting of three pages of my writing

I have been in the habit of dining regularly at Belle Chasse with Mademoiselle de Chartres at one o'clock, an hour which is not at all convenient to me. But as Mademoiselle de Chartres completed her sixth year the 22d of last August, it is time to introduce her into company. She repeats to me every day some little moral tales in verse. To-day she took her first lesson in drawing : she formed an eye very successfully. Tomorrow she will take her first lesson in writing.

. THE

20 September 1783.

. : : :

THE Count de Beaujolmois is the most charming child in the world. At so early an age I have never met with an instance of so strong a desire to oblige. He is mild, sensible, and sprightly. He has not the smallest timidity, a feeling that I shall be careful to preserve in him. His temper is delightful, and there is a grace in his deportment that is truly original.

8 November 1783.

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SINCE the day before yesterday the Duke de Valois has been indisposed by a fever which has interrupted our lessons. M. Saiffert says that great care must be
taken

taken to cool his blood. The high living, as crisp almonds, pastry, coffee with cream, in which he was indulged in his infancy, and the want of exercise till he was put into my hands, have very much injured his constitution.

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2 December 1783.

M. SAIFFERT has informed me that the liver of the Duke de Valois is affected, that continual exercise is necessary, and that close application will be prejudicial to him. I have therefore contrived that he should walk up and down my chamber during the whole time that he takes his lessons with me. This must unavoidably be injurious to his education, and is the more to be lamented as he has an excellent memory, and the most promising talents. With good health,
he

he would have been a prodigy at the age
of fifteen *.
.

Mademoiselle.

SHE is perfect in reading ; she begins to write ; she draws eyes and other features of the human face. She knows her catechism in English. She can repeat three or four French and two English tales, in verse. I have given her her first lessons in French and Roman history, and in mythology. Mademoiselle is less timid, and uniformly mild and assiduous ; but I perceive in her a strong inclination to violate truth, and invent little idle stories. She has learned this solely from Mademoiselle Nonnon, who, with

* I succeeded at last in perfectly establishing his health. But the attention it required was a considerable impediment to his studies during the first four years of his education.

a thou-

a thousand valuable qualities, is strangely addicted to falsehood, which is a source of very great regret to me, as I am singularly fond of Nonnon. I cannot conceive how, with so many virtues, it is possible to possess so mean a vice. But the habit is rooted in her. If I perceive that it continues to influence the mind of Mademoiselle, I shall think myself obliged to take a step that will be painful to me beyond expression. . .

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8 June 1784.

THE princes continue to cultivate their gardens, and they take every day an English walk *.

A few days ago I gave them their first lessons in Italian, as they now understand

* A walk with such persons only as spoke English, and during which they were not allowed to converse in any other language.

English

English well enough to begin this language. At present nobody instructs them but myself. When we have cleared the way a little, I shall consign them to the Abbé Mariotini ; but I am desirous of saving them the tediousness of the first rudiments, as I conceive that I have a happy method for that purpose. . . .

The Duke de Valois, by the express order of Monseigneur, has begun to ride on horseback, and already rides tolerably well. The other day he rode four leagues, and was not at all fatigued in the evening. His age is ten years and a half ; and the Duke de Chartres, his father, did not begin to ride till the age of thirteen : his son will, at that age, be a complete horseman *. . . .

* M. de Beaujollois, at the same age, rode last year twenty leagues on horseback in one day without being fatigued. But I had had the care of his infancy from the time of his being three years old.

THE

2 July 1784.

THE Duke de Chartres has introduced the most economical reforms in his expenditure, with a view to liquidate his debts. He has only reserved for himself a hundred thousand francs; and he gives a hundred to his children, and a hundred and fifty to the Duchesse de Chartres.

Since my return from Saint Leu I have risen every morning at nine o'clock at latest, Mademoiselle requiring now my most assiduous care, particularly as I find that Nonnon is continually giving her sweetmeats, cream, and other dainties, in defiance of my express prohibition. Mademoiselle is by this means grown exceedingly thin. I have lately accustomed myself to pass half the day with her; but as this is not sufficient, I

will in future never permit her to be out of my sight. As soon as she awakes I send to her Aimée, upon whom I have the most perfect dependance, and Pamela, who give her her breakfast, which, by order of the physicians, is rye-bread and milk without sugar.

To prevent any improper indulgence on the part of Mademoiselle Nonnon, Aimée and Pamela stay with her till my hour of awaking, and she then comes into my chamber and studies till eleven, when she goes out every day to walk with Pamela and Aimée. Afterwards she returns to my apartment till dinner : we then dine together, and after dinner she and Pamela walk again. In the afternoon she comes to me and takes her lesson of English, and I give her myself her afternoon's refreshment. The time of her brother's lessons she spends with Aimée and Pamela in my closet; at half

after eight we sup together, and I then see her to bed.

18 December 1784.

THIS day the ears of Mademoiselle were bored, when she not only avoided crying out, but did not even make the least wry face, which at her age is a proof of courage.

31 December 1784.

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THE Count de Beaujollois gives hopes of an understanding equal to the sweetness of his disposition. He is more obedient, more attentive to his little lessons, and reason and friendship have already the greatest power over him.

Mademoiselle has made considerable proficiency. She has learned by heart this year a hundred verses, and an abridgment of the history of France. She reads, explains

explains and speaks English admirably. She has acquired a general idea of geography. Her improvement in drawing is apparent. Her character is precisely what one could wish : sensible, grateful, generous, mild, equal, persevering ; she has not the shadow of a fault ; I have never seen an instance in her of peevishness or impatience ; she is incapable of the slightest impulse of envy or jealousy ; and at the same time is alive to emulation. To all this I may add the utmost cheerfulness and vivacity, though I have never seen a child so little volatile and unsteady. She has gained prodigiously in every species of knowledge within the past year. Every Sunday, for the last eight months, she has gone with me to mass ; she knows her catechism perfectly ; and at Easter she shall go to confession.

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TO

18 *January* 1785.

TO attach the children to the Duchess de Chartres, I have proposed their dining with her every Monday, which she approves. She comes for Mademoiselle, and brings her back with the princes at a quarter before four. I shall attend in future their dancing lessons : my reason is that they are not yet able to dance a country-dance. They shall also draw no more on Sundays in their own apartments ; but they shall be brought to me, and I will superintend them. . . .

1 *May* 1785.

THE children have begun to study Medicine ; the mode of instruction being that of shewing them drugs ticketed with a short account of their virtues, &c.

For a fortnight past I have taken the princes about three mornings in the week to see some manufactories and cabinets.

I write

I write but little in this book, having other Journals *, in which I give an account of every thing we see that is worthy of notice. I accustom the Duke de Valois to write similar accounts, and beside this he composes occasionally upon some subject which I propose to him. I shall collect his compositions at the end of every year, and form them into a volume, with my remarks.

Saint Leu, 28 May 1785.

THE princes have begun a course of chemistry, which they study three times a week. They went through the same

* I have two Journals of this nature written with my own hand, and which consist of two large volumes, one containing a description of the monuments, cabinets, and paintings that we have seen at Paris; the other an account of all the manufactories of the kingdom, and which we examined at Paris and during our travels.

course last year, which I studied with them *.

The eldest prince, in consequence of the death of the Duke d' Orleans, has taken the title of the Duke de Chartres, and hereafter I shall call him by no other name.

* They have repeated this course three times, and have read beside a course of natural philosophy.

JOURNAL OF THE EDUCATION
OF THE PRINCES *by M. Lebrun,*
from the 5th of January 1782 : inter-
persed with Notes by Madame de Sillery,
and the Abbé Guyot.

Preliminary instructions given me by the
Countess de Genlis, 5 January 1782.

“ PRIVATE conversation with the
“ Abbé Guyot ; to request his friend-
“ ship, civility, &c. ; to beg of him
“ general information with regard to
“ every thing that concerns the princes,
“ not forgetting the customs that have
“ hitherto been followed ; and after this
“ conversation to write down the principal
“ heads, to assist my memory.

“ You will let the Abbé do the honours
 “ of the apartment, and supply his place
 “ in his absence.

“ You will reprove the princes equal-
 “ ly before the Abbé Guyot, as in his ab-
 “ sence. That you may be immediately
 “ useful, it is my desire that you should
 “ have the sole instruction of the princes
 “ in mathematics, and that M. F**** be
 “ dismissed : on this point you will re-
 “ ceive orders from Monseigneur.

“ Mr. Rose, the music master, must also
 “ be dismissed. I shall mention this to
 “ the Abbé ; remind me of it *.

“ I wish you to be always in the apart-

* A preceptor, destitute of taste for the arts and ignorant of music, had thought proper to give his two pupils, princes of the blood-royal, a music and singing master, with whom they were employed an hour and a half every day. And a woman, who was passionately fond of music, and had all her life cultivated this delightful art, not without success, deemed this study much too frivolous for men, and dismissed the music master.

“ ment,

“ ment, except at the hours in which
“ the Abbé gives his lessons.

“ The *public account* which the princes
“ have been accustomed to give of *their*
“ *sins* *, I suppress : you will be mindful
“ of this injunction.

“ As a favour I request you to make
“ a Journal at two different periods in
“ the day ; the first during the Abbé’s
“ lessons in the afternoon, and the second
“ before you go to bed. In this Journal
“ you will write every thing the princes
“ say or do that is at all remarkable,
“ whether it be good or bad, every thing
“ you say or do yourself respecting them,

* M. Bonnard and the Abbé Guyot had taken it into their heads to make the young princes, the last day of every week, confess* their sins, in the presence of all the persons concerned in their education, and of the principal domestics; and at the confession of every sin, these tutors gave them a lecture. It will be seen that the Abbé carefully retained his taste for *sermonizing*.

“ and every thing worthy of observation
“ that is said by others. The greatest
“ proof of confidence I can give you is
“ the charging you with this Journal ;
“ it requires all your veracity, and all the
“ soundness of judgment which I know
“ you to possess. In a work of this na-
“ ture, style demands no attention ; ac-
“ curacy and truth are the principal re-
“ quisites ; and above all things be not
“ afraid of being too minute : minute-
“ ness is necessary when we speak of
“ children of the age of our pupils. By
“ writing at two different periods, your
“ Journal will be the more faithful.

“ I say nothing to you at present of what
“ I could wish you to teach the princes,
“ beside Geometry, because it is first ne-
“ cessary I should be informed what
“ knowledge they have acquired.

“ The following are the principal
“ things for which you are to reprove
“ them : for exaggeration and the use of
“ outrée

“ outrée expressions, as *horrible, abomi-*
 “ *nable, incredible*; be attentive also that
 “ they are not guilty of repetitions, and
 “ that they do not acquire habitual
 “ phrases.

“ Reprove them for speaking too
 “ loud, or between their teeth. Correct
 “ the Duke de Valois of his habit of say-
 “ ing plain *yes* or *no*, or of answering only
 “ with a nod of the head. Do not suf-
 “ fer, on their part, the slightest degree of
 “ laughter when you reprove them. Let
 “ the tone of your reproof be mild, but
 “ extremely serious.

“ Accustom them to be polite to every
 one, and complaisant to each other.

“ Never overlook, in them, a single
 “ proverbial expression, or mode of
 “ speaking that is not perfectly clear
 “ and simple; as for instance when they
 “ say, *I have beat a march upon the door*,
 “ instead of *I have knocked at it*; *I*
 “ *have made a splotch*, for *I have drawn*

“ badly, or my drawing is good for no-
“ thing ; *he is pot-bellied*, for he is dis-
“ proportionably fat. These examples
“ may suffice : you will be careful not to
“ pass over any thing of this kind.

“ In their recreations endeavour to
“ make them jump, and let them take
“ as much exercise as possible. Accustom
“ them also to run, and for that purpose
“ run with them, giving them the ad-
“ vantage of some distance. At table
“ let them help themselves : let them
“ have knives with blunt points : let
“ them cut their own meat : let the
“ eldest cut his own bread, &c.

“ I entreat you to keep a dog, and to
“ be careful that it is always with them.
“ You need not say that it is to accustom
“ the Duke de Valois, who is afraid of
“ dogs, to the sight of them, but simply
“ that you are fond of dogs. Appear
“ surprised at his timidity ; laugh at it,
“ and add, that you are sure a moment’s
“ reflection

“ reflection will make him blush at such
 “ weakness. As the dog will be always
 “ in the room, you may accustom the
 “ Duke to it by degrees, without his
 “ perceiving that your intention is to
 “ cure him of his folly ; for you should
 “ seem to take it for granted that, from
 “ the few words you have said, he is no
 “ longer afraid of a dog. I hereby fur-
 “ nish you with means of making him
 “ courageous.

“ The princes are to be punished for
 “ two things only, of which I shall ap-
 “ prise the Abbé Guyot : for *intentional*
 “ *disobedience*, and a *falsehood persisted in*.
 “ These faults must never be overlooked.
 “ The punishments shall be, for the of-
 “ fender to dine without any other com-
 “ pany than that of the person who pu-
 “ nishes him. After dinner he shall take
 “ his recreation without his brother ;
 “ and shall be placed in a closet, into
 “ which no person shall be suffered to
 “ enter. I prohibit all the books they

“ read at present, and order that they
 “ may never know where to get them.
 “ I shall tell the Abbé Guyot to give
 “ them, till farther orders, the follow-
 “ ing: Abbé Millot’s Historical Abridg-
 “ ments; Plays and Dialogues for Chil-
 “ dren, by Madame de la Fitte, in 2 vo-
 “ lumes; Robinson Crusoe; The Moral
 “ Plaything (*Les Hochets Moraux*), or
 “ Tales in Verse, by M. Monget. When
 “ they have read this last book, I wish
 “ them to learn two of the tales by heart,
 “ the Prince and the Menial (*le Prince*
 “ & *le Frotteur*), and that entitled Theo-
 “ philus.

“ Twice a day you must read with
 “ them; at one time the Historical
 “ Abridgments, at the other, some one
 “ of the works I have just enumerated;
 “ and endeavour to make them reflect on
 “ what they read.

“ I request you to read, for your own
 “ improvement, *Emile*; *the Education of a*
 “ *Prince*, by the Abbé Duguet; and Locke

“ in

“ *in English.*— You will shew this paper to
“ Monseigneur; afterwards copy it, and
“ return me the original* ”

I was presented to the princes by Monseigneur, who left me immediately to assume the duties of my office †. I found with them the Abbé Guyot, with whom I had the conversation recommended to me by my instructions. He treated me with great civility; but it was easy to perceive how much he was chagrined by the changes that had taken place, and particularly his regret at having lost the chevalier de Bonnard, whom he highly extolled to me. He expressed his hopes that we should live upon good terms with each other; and I promised,

* These instructions I gave to M. Lebrun, because he was to spend some days with the princes at Paris without me. I was at that time at Saint Cloud with Mademoiselle d'Orleans; her brothers were not brought to me till several days after.

† It is M. Lebrun who now speaks, after having recited the copy of my instructions.

on my part, to do every thing in my power to establish a mutual confidence and cordiality; without which the task of education we had undertaken could not but prove abortive.

I requested of him general information relative to every thing that concerned the princes. The Abbé said a great deal to me upon the subject, but in a desultory way, and wrote a note, in which he gave Madame de Genlis an account of the manner of spending every hour in the day. Believing that this would nearly answer her intentions, I was not pressing to see the note, as I shall be informed of its contents as soon as is necessary, according to the plan that Madame de Genlis has laid down.

During the four or five first days of my being in my office, I saw but little of the Abbé, who had affairs to attend to previous to his setting off for Saint Cloud. He left me to do the honours of the apartment, of which, no doubt, I should
have

have acquitted myself awkwardly enough; but fortunately I saw scarcely any body.

I had no dog, Monseigneur having promised, by the time the princes returned to Saint Cloud, to give me one that should be gentle and familiar : but in a walk which they took with me and M. de Rochemont, I had an opportunity of observing how much the Duke de Valois was afraid of this animal, and I expressed to him my astonishment. I called the little dog, and patted it on the head; and, though the Duke always kept a little on one side to avoid it, he did not cry out, nor did we quicken our pace. I hope that he will be cured of this fear. We took a few turns in the Bois de Boulogne : I perceived that the Duke de Valois walked with his knees bent, for which I reproved him : but this habit will not be easily corrected; it was contracted imperceptibly, by wearing the sailor's dress, of which M. Vestrès had already complained. Madame de Genlis has

written to me upon this subject a letter, No. 1. which I shall keep, as well as every other that relates to the education of the princes. The taylor has been directed to remedy, as far as possible, the inconvenience of the sailor's drefs.

On the 15th of January the Countess ordered me to get a pully fixed in the hall where the princes study, for them to draw up weights : this was executed immediately, and a kind of semicircular barricado erected on the ground, that there might be no danger of the weights falling on their heads or that of any other person.

Wednesday, 6 February 1782.

• • • • •

AFTER the first reading, after dinner, the two princes were standing engaged in conversation with me : the eldest was desirous of sitting in his brother's chair, which

which the latter would not permit: in an ill humoured manner he obliged him to rise, and sat down himself. The Duke de Valois, without persisting, gave him his seat, observing at the same time: "I am certain M. Lebrun will not be pleased with this." The Duke de Montpensier looked at me: I had laid aside the cheerful countenance I wore an instant before; but before I had time to open my mouth, he rose and ran in tears to embrace his brother. This action, which was perfectly spontaneous, moved me: I embraced him, saying, "Your Highness has committed a fault, you have acknowledged it, and you have as far as possible made reparation: I hope such a circumstance will never happen again." He made no reply, but resumed his tranquillity, and we continued our conversation as before.

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I cannot avoid relating here a very extraordinary action of Mademoiselle de Chartres.

Chartres*, relative to her sister Mademoiselle d'Orleans. She was playing at a game of forfeits: it fell to her lot in one instance to decide what should be done for the recovery of a pledge, when, without being prompted by any one, she ordered the person to whom it belonged to pray to God for her sister d'Orleans. The impression such an idea, in a child four years old, made on all present, may easily be conceived. For myself, I know that I shall not forget it as long as I live.

* Now Mademoiselle d'Orleans. Her sister, who bore that name, died that day: the other only knew she was ill, and no play could divert her mind from the idea. It is difficult to believe that a child four years old could for the space of two years retain a lively and profound grief for this loss: but that she did so every one about her can witness. The circumstance of the forfeit is mentioned by M. Lebrun, because I was at that time at Paris; for I no sooner learned the dangerous situation of a child so dear to me, than I departed from Saint Cloud, that I might nurse and take care of her.

Made-

Mademoiselle d'Orleans died this day between four and five o'clock.

Thursday, 7 February 1782.

AGREEABLY to the orders I received yesterday evening from M^{on}seigneur, and from Madame de Genlis, to inform the young princes this morning of the death of their sister, I directed M. Prieur to tell them of it before their dinner, and to prepare them previously, by saying that she was extremely ill. He executed the order given him, and the princes were acquainted with her death before they were out of bed : the intelligence affected them; the younger prince wept, and the elder was dejected for some minutes. They were desired not to speak of this event either to Madame de Genlis or their sister : this they promised, and have kept their word. It even appeared that the impression did not remain long, as they engaged in play, with somewhat less

less noise, it is true, than usual, but seemingly with all their hearts*. . . .

Friday, 8 February 1782.

THIS morning, upon entering the apartment of the princes, I saw the eldest stroking a dog belonging to one of the valets de chambre : thus does his fear diminish, and I trust we shall reconcile him to animals of this species, however large may be their size.

Wednesday, 13 February 1782.

THE Abbé and I have expressed our obligations to the Countess for the measures she has taken that we may have the

* Having been hitherto educated separately, they scarcely knew their sisters, and consequently had no love for them. But to the education that has united them all are they now indebted for the tenderness they mutually feel for each other, a tenderness that will be the charm of their lives.

use

use of the carriage to pay some visits, while the princes are at Belle Chasse.

Wednesday, 27 February 1782.

I ACCOMPANIED the Duke de Valois to the apartment of Madame de Genlis, where he said a thing that does him honour, and which I cannot avoid relating. The Countess read to him an extract from the Life of the Duke of Burgundy, who, though he died at the age of nine years and a half, merited, by his conduct and the good qualities of which he gave promise, the attention of mankind, and that his actions should be recorded. The young prince was struck with the picture which this extract exhibited, and bursting into tears, he said to Madame de Genlis, *Nothing yet can be recorded of me.*

Thursday, 28 February 1782.

A LETTER in the *Journal de Paris*,
on

on the subject of dogs which some people permit to run before their carriages at Paris, where it may occasion, and no doubt has already occasioned accidents, led us to talk of this strange caprice, which men of sense neither can nor ought to allow themselves.

Saturday, 9 March 1782.

THE English lesson was interrupted to-day, in order to go to the apartment of the Duke de Chartres*, where the Duke de Valois entered with a dog under his arm. Monseigneur was gone; but on his return he found the two princes playing with *Captain* and *Collette*. Collette had only been given to the princes at eight o'clock in the morning. Monseigneur was highly pleased, and embraced his eldest son several times †.

* Now M. d'Orleans.

† Because he appeared to be cured of the strange fear of dogs which he had acquired by means of an improper education.

The

.
 The Duke de Valois seemed to derive satisfaction from the return of his Papa's favour. In going up stairs I heard the younger prince say to M. Prieur—*Provided my brother plays familiarly with Captain!* He was mortified; but they came down well pleased.

Saturday, 13 April 1782.

DURING the sitting of the Duke de Valois for his picture, he requested his brother to read to him some of the Select Histories, that he might not be tired: the younger refused upon the pretence that he should in that case be tired himself: the Duke urged him to it several times without being able to prevail; upon which I said to the Duke de Valois, that I would myself read to him what he desired, since his brother had not the complaisance, which one would naturally have expected from him without so many

many entreaties. I added, that it appeared to me very extraordinary that the Duke de Montpensier should be tired with the Select Histories, as they were by no means calculated to produce such an effect, and that he deserved in future whenever he should ask any favour to meet in like manner with a refusal. The child began to cry, or at least pretended to do so : I said, that it was certainly because he felt himself in the wrong, and I read till the sitting of the Duke de Valois was at an end.

When it came to the turn of the Duke de Montpensier to sit, I shut the book : but I saw with extreme pleasure, that the Duke de Valois, of himself, and without the smallest hint from me, asked him what he would wish to have read. The child mentioned the book, and his brother read. I said to him, with an air of satisfaction, that it was by acting as he had just done, that we made others repent

pent their want of civility and complaisance. I continued to treat the Duke de Montpensier with coldness till the time of our walk.

I ought not to forget, that, in consequence of my having done several little things which the Duke de Valois asked of me relative to his play-things, I observed that he assumed the tone of demanding such services. I determined to put a stop to this, and in the evening I had an opportunity of making him feel that this was not the way to succeed with me. He said to me with an air of authority, M. Lebrun, you must make me a key to-morrow morning. No, sir, I replied, I shall do no such thing ; and I entreat you to remember that in this mode of asking you will never obtain any thing from me, or from any person else who is not under your commands, and even those who are will serve you with more zeal, punctuality

and readiness, if you ask them with politeness and civility.

Monday, 13 May 1782.

DURING the time of recreation, the Duke de Valois, who is to perform to-morrow the part of Vasco de Gama, studied the short speech he is to make to the Samorin of Calicut *

Sunday, 23 June 1782.

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ON returning from mass, the Duke de Valois merited from the Countess at

* I had contrived to make them act in the gardens, during their walks, some interesting passages taken from De la Harpe's Abridgment of the History of Voyages. The parts were performed by themselves and the rest of the family. The scene being a large garden in the English style, a river and boats represented the sea and ships, harbours, hastily constructed by the children, the huts of savages; and in this manner we acted several voyages; among others those of *Vasco, Snelgraeve, de Brue, &c.*

dinner

dinner the remission of three remaining days of penance. She had forgotten his situation, and was dividing some strawberries between the two princes and Mademoiselle; though there was company at dinner, he said to his friend, that she need only divide them into two portions, as he was doing penance. She was pleased with the honesty of the proceeding, and pardoned him, praising him at the same time for what he had just done.

Friday, 26 July 1782.

AFTER the lesson, the Countess having related the history of Madame de Sallency's femme de chambre, the Duke de Valois was affected by it, and said, he was sorry that he was not older. The Countess asked him why: he replied, that, if he were his own master, he would bestow a pension on that charitable and virtuous girl. The Countess told him that, if he were to ask his papa,

the pension would perhaps be granted. He ran down instantly, made the request and obtained it ; and the Duke de Chartres was so touched with this mark of benevolence that he mingled his tears with those of his son. The Duke de Valois was extolled for his sensibility, and the praises he received will unquestionably produce on his pure and artless mind, an impression that will not soon be effaced*

Friday, 23 August 1782.

IN our morning walk the Duke de Valois fixed to different trees in the garden labels given him by the gardener without telling him to which they belonged ; he mistook in some instances, but he suc-

* This incident I have related at length in the *Tales of the Castle*, without naming the young prince. See the *History of Marianne Rambour* (vol. i. p. 137, third edition). The Duke de Valois obtained from his father a pension of six hundred livres.

ceeded in a great number. These cards would be very serviceable to persons learning the various kinds of trees, if the wind or the rain did not soon destroy them; they should be made of tin, and the names painted in black: this may be practised next year.

Friday, 11 October 1782.

AT half after eleven we set off for Belle Chasse, without acquainting the princes with the object we had in view, that the Countess might have the pleasure of informing them herself, which she did on the road. The princes thanked her with caresses. We entered the Hôtel de la Force*, and I observed with pleasure in the young princes an air of seriousness and sensibility which proved the goodness of their hearts. We visited the cells of fifteen prisoners, whom we set at liberty; and the princes, before they were re-

* A sort of Bridewell. T.

leased, gave them a louis each, for the support of their families. We were all affected by the respectful manner in which these poor unhappy beings were regarded by the princes.

We had set down the Countess at Belle Chasse, and on our return to the Palais Royal, the conversation turned upon the action that had just passed, which afforded me an opportunity of introducing a reflection upon a slight instance of hastiness of temper displayed yesterday evening by the Duke de Valois. I said to him : “ Your Highness
“ has just done a good action, and made
“ a number of beings happy. They
“ were strangers to you : with how much
“ greater reason may those about you expect you to contribute to their happiness by the gentleness and civility of
“ your language and deportment ? If you
“ suffer yourself to be hasty, remember
“ that, though the Duke of Burgundy
“ was

“ was equally so, he became the most
 “ gentle and affable child in the world.”
 The prince shed a few tears; we embraced, and no more was said.

Tuesday, 29 October 1782.

I TOLD the Duke de Valois, that he might read in Don Quixotte. This occasioned a slight degree of altercation between the two brothers. The younger was in the wrong: I desired the Duke de Valois to proceed, and let his brother pout by himself in the *Petite Maison**. He remained there, began to cry, and, after half a quarter of an hour, his brother went to him and returned to tell me, that he (the Duke de Montpensier) was extremely sorry, and very much wished I would lay aside the air of severity I had assumed. I represented to him the

* A small closet with glass windows which they had in their chamber, and which they called by this name.

impropriety of the ill humour he continually displayed on the least contradiction : he embraced the Duke de Valois, who was charmed to see harmony re-established.

Friday, 1 November 1782.

AT ten o'clock, when the Abbé was about to explain the Catechism, and while I was gone to my own apartment, a trifling dispute arose respecting a stone to be placed in the temple which the princes were re-building : it was interrupted by their being called to their lesson, and during the lesson the Duke de Valois requested the Abbé's permission to whisper something to his brother. He was to confess after mass, and the Abbé readily guessed what he wanted to say, and gave him leave. He had no sooner said a few words in his ear, than the little one ardently embraced his brother, and they both burst into tears. The Abbé embraced

embraced this opportunity of reminding them of their little quarrels, which frequently made them uneasy, and exhorted them to be more indulgent and accommodating to each other: they mutually acknowledged their fault, and we saw with pleasure the happy effect it produced.

Thursday, 23 January 1783.

RETURNING at a quarter before twelve from a promenade with the Count de Beaujollois and his brother, the postillion rode against a man about sixty years of age, tolerably corpulent, by which he was thrown down: fortunately the coachman stopped his horses in time, and the man was not hurt. He was lifted up by the footmen, and conducted into a house: we remained till we were sure that he had received no injury. The two princes appeared to feel properly on the occasion.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ TWELVE livres should have been
“ given to the man, if he were a person
“ whom such an offer would not affront ;
“ if he were above receiving money, his
“ address should have been procured,
“ and enquiries made the next day in
“ the name of the princes respecting his
“ health : the princes ought also to have
“ quitted their carriage, and should have
“ gone themselves into the house, to see
“ in what state the man was.”

Wednesday, 13 March 1783.

AT a quarter after six we examined the engravings given by the Duke de Penthièvre, and read an account of the lives of the great Condé, of the Regent, the Dauphin, and Louis XV. When we had finished our reading, the Duke de Valois, pointing to the Dictionary of Illustrious

lustrious Men, said that he would so act as to have a place in that book. We applauded his virtuous desire. . . .

Tuesday, 13 May 1783.

A LETTER was brought me from a woman, complaining that she had been thrown down by the carriage of the princes this morning, and that she was confined to her bed by the bruises she had received. We knew nothing of the accident, as the coachman did not stop; and I have reprimanded the footmen for not informing us of it at the time, that assistance might have been given. In answer to the woman's letter, I sent word that some person should call on her according to the address she had indicated. M. de Saint Martin not being at home when the letter was brought, we have requested him to visit her early to-morrow morning; and on his return, M. Prieur

will carry her such assistance and compensation as may be found just.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ IT is inconceivable how a woman
 “ could be thrown down without any
 “ one perceiving it. The servants should
 “ have the most positive orders to stop
 “ the instant an accident happens, though
 “ it were less considerable than the present.
 “ This is the second in one year; and
 “ nothing of the kind has happened to
 “ me in the space of eighteen years. The
 “ servants must certainly be in fault. It
 “ will be necessary to speak to them sharply
 “ upon this subject, and, I repeat it, to
 “ insist upon their stopping on the slightest
 “ accident, and give assistance even
 “ though they are not the cause of it. I
 “ made them do this the other day, when
 “ we met with a carriage overturned, and
 “ the Duke de Valois sent to offer his services.
 “ They must be perfectly accustomed to such proceedings.”

Sunday, 18 May 1783.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“M. LEBRUN will inform the Duke
“ de Valois, that when he (M. Lebrun)
“ or the Abbé shall have pardoned any
“ fault, I shall never inflict a punishment,
“ and that I shall not hesitate to pardon
“ even a fault committed to me, if M.
“ Lebrun or the Abbé desire it. Thus
“ the princes ought to feel that, as I
“ frequently repeat to them, they have
“ as much interest in giving satisfaction
“ to the Abbé and M. Lebrun, as to
“ myself, because we have all an equal
“ authority over them.”

Tuesday, 17 June 1783.

THE princes on their return home rested themselves till eight o'clock, when I conducted them to the Countess.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

" I DO not like these restings; they
 " must not be accustomed to regard total
 " idleness as necessary repose: beside they
 " ought not to be fatigued with an hour's
 " walk. They should never remain,
 " even for six minutes, without doing
 " something. They might have employ-
 " ed this quarter of an hour in playing
 " at chess, or at heraldry, or repeating
 " terms of architecture, or lastly in
 " reading. In a word, there should never
 " be two minutes, nor even *one* of idle-
 " ness."

Sunday, 7 September 1783.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

" I HAVE told the Duke de Valois
 " that I would desire M. Lebrun in fu-
 " ture to double the punishment, when-
 " ever the slightest murmur shall escape

“ the Duke as to any penance inflicted
“ by M. Lebrun.”

Thursday, 9 October 1783.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I HAVE assured the Duke de Valois
“ that he shall be punished if he do not
“ get the better of his silly timidity. I am
“ very much displeased with the manner
“ in which he received the Duchefs de
“ Bourbon. When we see an aunt after
“ a long absence, we ought to shew the
“ liveliest demonstrations of joy : the
“ princes have endeavoured to-day to
“ repair their fault, but not sufficiently.
“ If between this and Sunday they do
“ not again see the Duchefs de Bour-
“ bon and Princess de Lamballe, either
“ here or at their own houses, and do
“ not testify a becoming joy by a frank
“ and cheerful air, saying civil things,
“ answering them with a good grace,
“ &c.

“ &c. I will not take them to the play
 “ on Sunday. M. Lebrun will be so
 “ good as to read to them this article.”

Tuesday, 30 December 1783.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ ON new year’s day the princes
 “ will pay visits to the Countess de Pont
 “ and Madame Defrois, beside those to
 “ the princes: if Madame Defrois be
 “ not at Paris, they will write to her*.”

Monday, 2 August 1784.

WHILE I was dressing in the evening, a message was sent me from the Countess, desiring me not to take the princes into the upper part of the gar-

* It may be seen from this Journal, as well as from my own, how ardently I desired that they should entertain proper sentiments towards those whom they were bound to love.

den.

den, as there were precipices there. I could have wished this had been said to me privately, and not before the valets de chambre, or the princes, who may suppose that I am inattentive to such dangers when I take them out, which is calculated to diminish the confidence they ought to place in me.* I have already observed in several instances, that, when I have desired them to do a thing, they have hesitated, and have asked me if their friend had directed it. The Countess must be sensible of what importance it is they should be persuaded that I do nothing but in concert with her; and I therefore beg of her, at all times,

* These precipices were very deep holes which had been lately made: I knew nothing of the circumstance till the evening; and as the children rose before me, I was desirous of acquainting M. Lebrun with it before I went to bed, certainly not imagining that so simple a caution could be construed into an offence. But such are the things which these gentlemen style *my ill treatment of them*.

seemingly

seemingly to approve of what I do, even though she should feel differently : on her mentioning it to me in private, I would correct my conduct, and act otherwise.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ THIS is an instance of susceptibility
“ that I could not have suspected. As
“ precipices level with the surface of
“ the ground are not seen at the distance
“ of ten steps, I had no reason to suppose that, by informing M. Lebrun
“ of them, it was possible to diminish
“ the respect which the princes ought
“ to feel for him. As they are not infants, whom it is necessary always to
“ lead by the hand, they might run on
“ before him, and the caution was as
“ simple as it was useful. Since the moment that the princes were entrusted
“ to me, I have never neglected a single
“ opportunity of increasing their confidence in M. Lebrun, and of shewing
“ him,

“ him, before the princes and other
“ persons, all the respect he merits,
“ both on his own account, and from
“ the nature of his situation.* This
“ punctilious reproach therefore, on the
“ part of M. Lebrun, friendship might
“ take offence at, and it is certainly a
“ violation of justice. If the princes
“ have an appearance of doubt and he-
“ sitation when M. Lebrun tells them
“ any thing, it is new to me, and I
“ have done nothing that can at all have
“ occasioned it.”

.

An attempt has been made at Saint Leu, to give the princes some notion of the sphere; but it was soon found that such abstract science was premature: they were eager, therefore, to return to the earth, and will not again mount the skies till their minds are suffi-

* As may be seen from this Journal, and from my private one.

ciently formed to follow, without difficulty, the real or apparent motions of those enormous bodies which revolve in the immensity of space in a manner that the diversity of their marvellous revolutions is not less striking than their regularity.*

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ RESPECTING whatever relates
 “ to the education of the princes, I re-
 “ quest that M. Lebrun will in no case
 “ give me a verbal account. It is one
 “ of my reasons for instituting this Jour-
 “ nal, which will be a faithful record of
 “ the manner in which we have mu-
 “ tually conducted ourselves, and will,
 “ I hope, do honour to us both.”

* This paragraph was not written by M. Lebrun, whose style, as the reader must have observed, has nothing of this strange affectation: it is a *poetical flight* of the Abbé Guyot, who has enriched the Journal with various fragments in the same strain.

Note

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“THE privation of the dessert is a
“ mode of punishment which I have
“ hitherto approved and advised ; it was
“ natural therefore that the Abbé should
“ employ it on the present occasion.
“ But I have reflected that the Duke de
“ Valois being in his twelfth year, such
“ punishments, calculated to prolong
“ his infancy, and which might now
“ debase his mind, ought no longer to
“ be continued. Prohibiting him from
“ going to a play, depriving him of an
“ agreeable party, and treating him with
“ distance and gravity, are punishments
“ more suitable to him at present. We
“ must also begin to let him have a little
“ more liberty in things that are not
“ inconvenient, and dispense altogether
“ with his asking leave, either of the
“ Abbé, of M. Lebrun, or of me, re-
“ specting a thousand trifles ; as for in-
“ stance,

“ stance, if he wished to lend a book, or
“ any thing else of this kind (which he
“ did not immediately want himself), to
“ a proper person, he should have the
“ power of doing it without asking per-
“ mission; and he need only say, that
“ he has lent such a thing for a certain
“ time. Hereafter also, when he has
“ behaved so as to give satisfaction, he
“ should be permitted to choose the
“ place of promenade, with the consent
“ however of his brother, and observ-
“ ing the necessary precautions respect-
“ ing the horses. He will himself give
“ orders to the footmen and coachman,
“ as to these airings, when he gets into
“ the carriage. It is to be understood, that
“ he must not be allowed to be deficient
“ in complaisance to his brother, or to
“ oppose any representations which may
“ be made relative to the horses. For
“ the future, his valets de chambre shall
“ every evening take his orders in per-
“ son,

“son, and ask him if he has any
 “commissions for the next morning,
 “enquiries concerning any person’s
 “health, cards, billets, &c. If he say
 “no, when he ought to have given some
 “message, the gentlemen will in that
 “case rebuke him, and make him sensi-
 “ble of his inattention. I beg that this
 “rule may be accurately observed.
 “The gentlemen will inform him of it,
 “adding that the change is adopted,
 “because he is in the twelfth year of his
 “age, and that we have all three deter-
 “mined upon it by common consent;
 “but that, if his conduct shall be such as
 “to deserve the forfeiture of this distinc-
 “tion, he shall once again be treated
 “like an infant*.”

This

* I dare affirm that there is nothing in these ideas but what is reasonable, though these gentlemen were extremely mortified at them. They saw in them *the loss of their authority*; and I was obliged on this subject to encounter complaints, discontent

.

This multiplicity of minute circumstances, incessantly repeated, of which it is impossible for those who have not practised them to have an idea*, requires extreme patience : but it is the essential characteristic of zeal, and justice authorises me to confess, that I am greatly encouraged by the example of the director of the education†, by that of M. Lebrun, and, above all, by the happy dispositions of the princes, by their incomparable docility, and, lastly, by their uniform and persevering emulation, qualities which, affording certain hopes of success, give the co-operators in their

discontent and remonstrances, without end, of which I shall quote only a part ; for if I were to relate every thing of this sort, I should weary the reader almost as much as I was wearied myself.

* This note also is written by the Abbé Guyot, who here alludes to his teaching the Latin language.

† A compliment for me.

instruction

instruction to enjoy beforehand the most pleasing recompense with which they can possibly be gratified.

Monday, 10 January 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I SHALL here reply to a small article in the Journal, which I had not time to answer when I read it. It relates to the liberty I have given the Duke de Valois. I have been surprised at the apologies made by M. Lebrun on this subject, who, among other things, says : *The princes might have assured you that it has never been our desire to thwart them.* I have in no case, either in conversation, or in writing, supposed that either M. Lebrun or the Abbé wished to thwart the princes : had I entertained such an idea, I should have told these gentlemen so in express terms, with whom
 “ no

“ no interest could induce me to act in
“ an indirect manner : the journal is a
“ testimony of what I have said on this
“ subject. As the idea appeared to me
“ a good one, I read the article to the
“ Duke and Duchefs de Chartres, to
“ whom it did not suggest the most dis-
“ tant imagination that my design was to
“ counteract any opposition in these gen-
“ tlemen, who had never been mentioned
“ by me, but that I might praise their
“ zeal and punctuality. Monseigneur
“ and Madame conceived instantly,
“ which was natural enough, that my
“ intention was to draw the Duke de
“ Valois out of a state of infancy ; to
“ inspire him gradually with greater man-
“ ners of character ; to accustom him
“ to think for himself, and to behave
“ towards his attendants with gentleness,
“ or with firmness, when firmness shall
“ be necessary ; to afford him opportu-
“ nities of practising that decorum and
“ attention

“ attention to others, which might lead
“ them to feel the more obliged to him,
“ as knowing that the letters he wrote,
“ the enquiries he made, and every in-
“ stance of civility and politeness on his
“ part, were perfectly voluntary. Mon-
“ seigneur and Madame conceived also
“ the change to be desirable, as it fur-
“ nished the means of inflicting on the
“ Duke de Valois punishments suitable
“ to his age, and likely to make a deeper
“ impression, because when his governors
“ shall be dissatisfied with his conduct,
“ they may deprive him of this liberty,
“ and again treat him like a child ; that
“ moreover it would be an object of
“ emulation for his brother (for I have
“ only granted this trifling degree of li-
“ berty to the eldest), who will think that,
“ by behaving well, he also shall obtain
“ the privilege of being treated as a
“ young man ; that the place of pro-
“ mised being left to the decision of the

vol. II. F “ Duke



“ Duke de Valois would afford daily
“ occasions of exercising his complaisance
“ to his brother, which must necessarily
“ induce his brother to be complaisant in
“ return. In fine, the Duke and Duchesse
“ de Chartres highly approved of the
“ alteration, and wanted no explanation
“ to enable them to comprehend all the
“ advantages that might be derived from
“ it. I will add, without ceremony,
“ that if M. Lebrun had taken the trouble
“ to read what I have written, free
“ from the prepossession he constantly
“ feels, that I seek to find fault, and to
“ controul indirectly upon every occasion,
“ this long commentary would have
“ been unnecessary. I have neither caprice,
“ nor prejudice, nor ill humour,
“ of which this Journal is a proof. I will
“ never suffer an opportunity to escape
“ of doing justice to the gentlemen in
“ question. I will ever embrace, as I
“ have hitherto done, all possible occasions

“ sions of obliging them, and of procur-
“ ing them all those little conveniences
“ that may render their situations plea-
“ sant, and to which they have not the
“ claim of right. If I imagine that I
“ perceive in their conduct, as tutors,
“ any thing I cannot approve, I will
“ mention it to them with becoming de-
“ licacy, and with all the frankness which
“ my office and the nature of the busi-
“ ness shall demand; and I ardently
“ desire that they will in future see in
“ what I write nothing more than the
“ words express.”

Wednesday, 12 January 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ **I** KNOW not why it should appear
“ to M. Lebrun that I am not satisfi-
“ ed. Is it because I ask to see the
“ cook’s journal? It is my duty to do
“ so, as Monseigneur has given me the

“superintendence of the expenditure.
 “Is it because I compare its expence
 “with ours? This is the only way in
 “which I can form a judgment of it.
 “Is it because I have told M. Lebrun
 “that I would give him some instruc-
 “tions upon that head? It was what he
 “himself desired, as he was by no
 “means, he said, competent to the bu-
 “siness. Thus, supposing the expence
 “not to have been well managed, which
 “I already perceive to be the case, M.
 “Lebrun has nothing disagreeable to
 “apprehend; no blame can fall upon
 “him, his zeal is unquestionable, and it is
 “not my character to blame unjustly.”

Monday, 17 January 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“IF I frequently speak of economy,
 “it is certainly no more than I have a
 “right to do; for five years and a
 “half have I set the example. I am
 “well aware that low and narrow minds
 “may

“ may say, *that it is beneath the dignity*
“ *of a prince* to establish such economy
“ in his house: but those who think
“ justly, know that economy is a very
“ estimable virtue, when it is not our
“ own money of which we are sparing:
“ and that without economy it is impos-
“ sible to be noble and beneficent. As
“ long as the princes are under my care,
“ there shall neither be disorder, dissipa-
“ tion, nor magnificence in their house;
“ and it is only by the observance of this
“ rule that I shall be enabled to make
“ them do, or to do in their name, good
“ actions; that I can give them the
“ power of liberating prisoners, of assist-
“ ing a poor paralytic woman*, and a
“ number of other unfortunate beings.
“ It is thus only I can enable them to
“ give ten louis for a box at the theatre,
“ though they have one of their own,
“ when an author permits his play to be

* Madame Busca.

“ acted for the benefit of the poor*,
“ and that I can in their name admini-
“ ster succour to their sick servants, as I
“ did last autumn in the case of Bernieré,
“ Mademoiselle’s footman, to whom
“ riding on horseback was prescribed for
“ the space of three months. Mademoi-
“ selle paid the hire of a horse during
“ the whole time ; she also gave twenty
“ louis to poor Darnal, that he may have
“ the satisfaction of dying in the arms of
“ his father and mother, who live at the
“ distance of two hundred leagues.
“ These are actions that I could wish
“ them to be able to perform, though I
“ would at the same time spare nothing
“ that could at all contribute to their
“ instruction : but how are they to per-
“ form them without the constant and
“ strict observance of economy ? It is
“ requisite that we shew ourselves worthy
“ of the confidence with which we are

* *Coriolanus.*

“honoured by the Duke de Chai-
“tres, by rendering his children
“good, amiable and virtuous, by culti-
“vating in them agreeable talents, and
“extensive and solid knowledge. Such
“should be our aim, and the constant
“object of our united cares; but with-
“out economy this cannot possibly be
“attained.”

Thursday, 20 January 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“**I** DO not in the least recollect having
“told the Duke de Montpensier, that
“he might purchase things without ask-
“ing leave; but I remember, on the
“contrary, to have told him that, as he
“had not behaved properly to M. Le-
“brun, he should not have that permis-
“sion, and that one of the principal
“things which would lead me to confi-
“der him as having quitted a state of
F 4 “infancy

“infancy would be his gentleness, do-
 “cility, and respect towards the Abbé
 “and M. Lebrun, and the proofs he
 “should give them of friendship and
 “gratitude for their cares. I request
 “M. Lebrun to read to him this ar-
 “ticle.”

Tuesday, 25 January 1785.

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AS to *preserves* *, or what I have called so, they were merely baked pears and apples dressed in steam and with a little sugar. I considered them as rather economical than otherwise, and supposed I was giving the princes a very wholesome sort of regale.

* I had forbidden the giving to the princes preserves, and many other things of a similar nature ; and having observed in the Journal that they had eaten preserves, I had expressed my disapprobation, which gave occasion to this reply from M. Lebrun.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ IF what M. Lebrun calls *preserves*
 “ were not *preserves*, my remark was un-
 “ doubtedly useless; but that was a
 “ circumstance I could not divine. I
 “ have farther to add, that if the *baked*
 “ *pears* he mentions were really baked
 “ pears, and that this is not also a name
 “ given at hazard, it is the most un-
 “ wholesome food, and the most difficult
 “ of digestion, that a person of any age
 “ can possibly take.

“ As to the *almost total separation* be-
 “ tween the gentlemen and me, I shall
 “ answer that reproach also, and have
 “ done with the subject altogether.
 “ When I took charge of the education
 “ of the princes, I was sensible of what
 “ advantage it would be to me to possess
 “ the friendship of the persons who were
 “ to assist in it. Certain that I should
 “ never be able to overcome the discon-
 “ tent of M. Bonnard, who lost six
 “ months of the preceding year in enter-

“ taining his friends at Saint Cloud, in-
“ viting them to dinner every day, and
“ leaving all the duties of his office to M.
“ Prieur, as is proved by a paper in my
“ possession, written by the Abbé Guyot,
“ giving an account of the manner in
“ which the princes employed their
“ time, where the name of M. Prieur
“ continually occurs, M. Bonnard’s not
“ once—Certain, I say, that it would be
“ impossible to surmount the high pre-
“ tensions, ridiculous envy and pride of
“ M. Bonnard, I wished him to re-
“ sign, though he was desirous of re-
“ taining his place. I signified to him
“ my wish, and, to induce his compli-
“ ance, I assured him that he should be
“ still more amply rewarded than M. de
“ Foncemagne had been, though the
“ latter had completed his task of educa-
“ tion. In fact, M. de Foncemagne had
“ an apartment, and an annuity for life
“ of fifteen hundred livres, and was sa-
“ tisfied ;

“tified; the recompense of M. Bon-
 “nard, beside his apartment, the furni-
 “ture of which I chose myself from the
 “*garde meuble* of the Duke de Chartres,
 “was the cross of Saint Louis, a colo-
 “nel’s commission, the fortune of his
 “wife insured, and a pension of five hun-
 “dred livres; and yet he retired in rage,
 “my irreconcilable enemy*. As to the
 “Abbé

* Such was my conduct to the late M. Bonnard: these are incontestable facts, and the Abbé Guyot, who read this Journal, and frequently wrote in it, never denied a syllable of them, because it was impossible. M. Bonnard was beside indebted to me for his introduction at the Palais Royal. M. de Buffon spoke of him to me in terms of the warmest friendship, and requested me to solicit the place of sub-governor to the princes: I did so, with readiness and zeal, and I succeeded. • Thus M. Bonnard owed to me his military promotion, his marriage, and his fortune; for he obtained nothing but by addressing himself directly to me, and by my solicitations alone. The only reproach he could ever make me, was the consenting to take upon myself the charge of the

“ Abbé Guyot, I thought that the benefits
 “ I had heaped on his friend would at least
 “ give him a good opinion of my disposi-
 “ tion. I perceived in him a considerable
 “ share

children, which friendship was desirous of entrusting to me. The appointment of a *governor* was what he expected, and he saw the period approach without uneasiness; but he could not bear the idea of being under the direction of a woman: he forgot that this woman had given proofs of some talents for education (the *Theatre of Education*, and *Adela and Theodore* were already published), and in fine, that this woman was his benefactress and his friend. I offered to continue him in his place; in the mean time I did not conceal from him that we should lead a very austere life, and that the plan I should lay down must be followed with the most scrupulous exactness. I assured him that, if he resigned, he should be treated better than he could have hoped, had he even completed the task of education with the most brilliant success. He resigned; I prevailed on M. D'Orleans to do for him what I have stated above, and M. Bonnard would from that moment never set his foot within my doors. Since his death however, his family have had recourse to me in behalf of the two children he left; and M. d'Orleans has granted them,

“ share of ill humour, no just idea of education, no knowledge of the children; but I

them, in consequence of my urgent solicitations, a pension of six hundred livres. In short, after M. Bonnard's resignation, I had the happiness to render some services to one of his relations, the one too whom he most loved, M. de Broval, whose virtues and talents have a just claim to esteem. Notwithstanding M. de Broval's tender friendship for M. Bonnard, he will pardon, I trust, these complaints, founded upon indisputable facts, with the truth of which he is perfectly acquainted. In confirmation of them I have all the letters of M. de Buffon: that great man, offended at M. Bonnard's ingratitude, strongly reproached him for his conduct, and refused ever after to see him. Meanwhile M. Garat (so estimable both for his principles and his talents) has asserted, in a eulogium on the character of M. Bonnard, *that I had done him the greatest injustice*. How can this distinguished writer justify to himself such an attack on a person whom he does not know? When we accuse in this positive manner without certain evidence, do we not hazard the being chargeable with calumny? This question I submit to M. Garat himself. My esteem for his character persuades me that he will be sorry for what he has done.

“ imagined

“ imagined that by civility and kindness I
“ should acquire his friendship, and this
“ point gained, I saw no other difficulty,
“ especially as I then believed myself
“ certain of finding in the person who
“ was to succeed M. Bonnard, a firm
“ and true friend; and I had every rea-
“ son to flatter myself with this hope.
“ During the whole of the first journey
“ to Saint Cloud, I was solely occupied
“ with the care of ingratiating my-
“ self with the Abbé: after supper I
“ staid in the saloon till midnight, talk-
“ ing or rather listening to him, with a
“ sincere desire of pleasing and render-
“ ing my company agreeable to him;
“ my mother also invited him to her
“ apartment in the afternoon, to tell him
“ how ardently I wished for his friend-
“ ship. When I left Saint Cloud I told
“ both the Abbé and M. Lebrun, that,
“ though I admitted none but my own fa-
“ mily to dine with me at Belle Chasse, I
“ excepted them, whom I wished hence-
“ forth

“ forth to consider as forming a part of
“ it, and I hoped that they would favour
“ us with their company in turns, as it
“ would not be necessary every day for
“ them both to dine with the princes*.
“ Meanwhile on their arrival at Paris
“ neither of them came to Belle Chasse,
“ except to conduct the princes thither.
“ I had requested M. Lebrun, when he
“ had occasion to write to me, to lay
“ aside ceremony, which ill accorded
“ with the friendship I wished to see esta-
“ blished between us ; and on a sudden,
“ without explanation, without quarrel,
“ without the slightest cause, he again
“ assumed the air and tone of the coldest
“ reserve, and in his letters to me ob-
“ served all the old formality and punc-
“ tilio which I had prevailed on him to
“ avoid. Still I was not disheartened ;
“ we set off for Saint Leu, and I pursue

* The princes at that time continued to dine in their apartment at the Palais Royal, and were not brought to me till after their dinner.

“ my

“ my plan with perseverance. I take
“ but one meal a day ; yet, to be more in
“ company with these gentlemen, I go
“ down to dinner and supper with them ;
“ every evening I remain at table till
“ eleven o’clock ; forced by my health
“ to keep my chamber for a fortnight, I
“ request them to come and sup with my
“ family in our most private retirement.
“ I suffer no opportunity to escape of
“ praising them before the Duke de
“ Chartres, and of increasing his esteem
“ for them. To the Abbé I show, un-
“ solicited, the most lively concern for
“ his interest and welfare, entreating the
“ Duke de Chartres to obtain a pension for
“ him from the Bishop of Autun ; the Ab-
“ bé has been informed by me of every
“ thing that has passed upon this sub-
“ ject : on the other hand, to the young
“ princes, I talk of nothing but obe-
“ dience and the gratitude they owe to
“ these gentlemen, and I punish them
“ severely for the least failure in this re-
“ spect.

“ spect. I give the gentlemen an un-
“ bounded authority over them. In fine,
“ every means I could devise, cares, at-
“ tentions, demonstrations of friendship
“ and a desire to live upon terms of fa-
“ miliarity with them, were employed,
“ with a patience and assiduity that asto-
“ nished all who were witnesses of so
“ many advances being thrown away.
“ At length, seeing their coldness and ill
“ humour still subsist, and their preten-
“ sions increase, I have recourse to ex-
“ planations; I express particularly to
“ M. Lebrun the utmost sorrow, and
“ the truest friendship. To these he ap-
“ peared sensible, and I found no diffi-
“ culty in forgetting what had passed;
“ but after two days, I perceived again
“ the same dissimulation, the same con-
“ straint, the same coldness, and the
“ same irritability. As to the Abbé, a slave
“ to insuperable peevishness, he continu-
“ ally adds rudeness to caprice, and no
“ longer opening his mouth at table but
“ to

“ to eat, observes a disdainful silence accompanied with an air so extraordinary, that my presence and authority are sometimes necessary to keep my eldest daughter particularly from bursting into peals of laughter during the whole time of supper. Beside my mother and my daughters, the good and honest Moncigny has beheld all the particulars of this strange conduct with inexpressible surprise: notwithstanding his conciliatory disposition, he could not refrain from telling me a thousand times, that such behaviour was insupportable; he spoke of it in terms of asperity to the Abbé, and could not conceal from me the indignation he felt at these conversations. In fine, I lose every hope of gaining the friendship of these gentlemen: but I lose it without experiencing enmity, without displaying any ill humour, and determined to serve and oblige them as often as possible, even without their
“ knowing

“ knowing it, which I have already had
“ an opportunity of doing as to one of
“ them ; determined also ever to behave
“ to them not only with that attention
“ which is their due, but with that from
“ which our respective situations would
“ naturally excuse me without any breach
“ of the strictest politeness. For example,
“ when the princes are with me, and cere-
“ mony is out of the question, the gentle-
“ men are totally useless to them, and I
“ might have them alone without the least
“ incivility: yet I invite the Abbé and M.
“ Lebrun to dinner on Sunday, though
“ I have on this occasion an additional
“ excuse for dispensing with their com-
“ pany, since, according to the rules of
“ etiquette, if these gentlemen are per-
“ mitted to eat with their pupils, they
“ have no such right with Mademoiselle.
“ It is true that I observe not this eti-
“ quette respecting two or three other
“ persons ; but as it is a favour, it would
“ be natural that I should grant it only
“ to

“ to my friends, and friendship alone
“ can lay claim to such exceptions. Be-
“ side I frequently take M. Lebrun to
“ the play with the princes, and I have
“ offered him the box for himself, when
“ it has not been disposed of by Monseig-
“ neur. I am under no obligation to
“ do any of these things; for though
“ there are no bounds to the duties of
“ friendship, those of politeness are very
“ limited: I will add however that li-
“ mited and simple as they are, they have
“ yet not been observed by the Abbé
“ Guyot. I will only mention one in-
“ stance which every person at Belle
“ Chasse has witnessed. When the Abbé
“ comes to take the princes, he never
“ approaches or speaks a word to me,
“ which may be natural enough, as I am
“ playing on the harp*: but my mother
“ plays on no instrument, and is neither

: * It was customary with me to play while the children were drawing.

“ engaged

“ engaged in reading nor in writing.
“ Without being much conversant with
“ the world, he might know that it
“ would be proper on entering the
“ apartment to go up to her and ask her
“ how she did. The Abbé has some
“ confused notion of this politeness, and
“ seldom neglects to observe it when
“ there is a stranger in the academy; but
“ otherwise he does not approach her
“ chair oftener than once a month. His
“ daily practice is to salute my mother
“ by walking up to the fire place, where
“ he remains his ten or twelve minutes
“ without saying a word or even looking
“ at her. It is impossible that such rudeness
“ should not at last be noticed even
“ by the children, who constantly see a
“ different behaviour in M. Lebrun and
“ M. Mariottini; and I have in reality
“ been obliged to impose silence on
“ them respecting this strange proceeding
“ of the Abbé, with which they dis-
“ verted

“verted themselves by laying wagers
“with one another *whether he would or*
“*would not wish my mother a good night.*
“I put a stop to this raillery the moment
“I was acquainted with it: and this is
“all I can do; for it is impossible to
“make the children feel that, when the
“Abbé talks of *politeness*, and *evenness*
“*of temper*, such lessons are graceful and
“becoming in his mouth.—Such is my
“answer to M. Lebrun’s reproach, rela-
“tive to what he calls *the almost total*
“*separation between them and me.* Had
“it not been for this unjust reproach, I
“should have observed that silence which
“I shall without difficulty impose on my-
“self in future upon this head. And of
“what have these gentlemen to com-
“plain? That they are not my intimate
“friends? I have never yet perceived
“that to inspire friendship was confi-
“dered by them as a duty of their office.
“In the mean time I have made them
“an

“ an offer of mine, and they have re-
“ fused it.

“ M. Lebrun farther says, that they
“ can neither see me nor speak to me.
“ I see these gentlemen every day ; I
“ dine with them every Sunday ; I some-
“ times go to the play with M. Lebrun ;
“ beside all this, I answer every thing
“ that is written to me in the most full
“ and exact manner : and yet M. Lebrun
“ asserts that he cannot see me, or speak
“ to me, or impart to me his sentiments !
“ Surely this is a strange reproach. I
“ shall conclude this explanation by tell-
“ ing M. Lebrun (with the frankness of
“ a person who has felt and demonstrated
“ the truest friendship for him) that he
“ has been mistaken in his reckoning,
“ because he has suffered himself to be
“ blindly guided by the Abbé Guyot.
“ Had he listened to the dictates of his
“ own heart, he would have conducted
“ himself more wisely ; his real merit was
“ such that it is astonishing he has not
“ proved

“ proved superior to little insignificant
“ pretensions, and a thousand suscepti-
“ bilities, which I hesitate not to affirm
“ have at length altered the natural recti-
“ tude of his understanding. Of num-
“ berless instances in which he has adopt-
“ ed the opinions and language of an-
“ other person I shall quote but one,
“ which, as well as many others, I have
“ avoided noticing in this Journal. I
“ had made a reform in the enormous
“ quantity of periodical publications, for
“ which the princes were made to sub-
“ scribe, as it was a real abuse ; I said at
“ the same time that, having a right to
“ the Gazette, they should subscribe in
“ future only for the *Feuille de Paris*.
“ Upon this M. Lebrun replies in the
“ Journal, that it is all very well ; but
“ that he and the Abbé would subscribe
“ themselves for the *Mercure*, in order
“ that the princes might derive from that
“ work some idea of *politics*, and become
“ acquainted with *public affairs*. In the
“ first

“ first place the princes have scarcely
 “ time to read the *Feuille de Paris*, and it
 “ would be impossible for them to devote
 “ a moment to the *Mercur*. Secondly,
 “ during dinner and supper their atten-
 “ tion is employed on Italian and Eng-
 “ lish; and those are not times that can
 “ be chosen to read to them the political
 “ part of the work in question. During
 “ their recreations joinery or architecture
 “ occupies their thoughts, and this there-
 “ fore is not a fit time for talking poli-
 “ tics. And what other time is there to
 “ devote to this work? Thirdly, I con-
 “ ceive the *Mercur* to be not at all cal-
 “ culated to give princes of their age an
 “ idea of politics. Fourthly, it is not
 “ behaving politely to me, to tell me
 “ that a publication is necessary for the
 “ instruction of the princes, which I had
 “ deemed useless; nor was it becoming
 “ to add that they would pay for the
 “ work themselves, that the princes might
 “ have the benefit of it. Lastly, the po-

“ litical part of the *Mercure* is merely a
“ repetition of the Gazette, and the Ga-
“ zette the princes have regularly. M.
“ Lebrun would certainly not have said
“ such things had he been guided by
“ himself.—To this long article, that I
“ may never again resume this subject,
“ I will add that, void of ill-humour,
“ prejudice, caprice, or resentment, I
“ have seen, and still see, things with
“ my own eyes exactly as they are ; that
“ I have sufficient firmness, experience,
“ and knowledge both of men and chil-
“ dren, to be assured, that what I have
“ begun I shall finish with honour and
“ success ; that I am resolved to do at
“ all times more for the gentlemen in
“ question than is due to them from
“ their situation, and to embrace every
“ opportunity of serving them, if it be
“ attended with no inconvenience to
“ the education of our pupils : at the
“ same time I shall think it extremely
“ strange if this conduct do not satisfy
“ them,

“ them, and they lay claim to an intri-
“ macy which it is not possible should
“ henceforth exist between us. Esteem
“ and politeness we are mutually bound
“ to shew to each other, and these are all
“ I can hereafter grant, unless time, and
“ a conduct of which there is no proba-
“ bility, should convince me that they
“ have entered into my way of thinking,
“ and been sensible of the reflections
“ which their conduct has not failed to
“ excite in me ; unless, in short, I see in
“ them a sincere desire of repairing the
“ wrongs which have broken every tie
“ of friendship between us. This I do
“ not expect ; and I have before to-day
“ made up my mind upon the subject.
“ I again repeat, that, but for the strange
“ reproach of M. Lebrun, I should never
“ have written this long and final ex-
“ planation : but it was a duty I owed
“ to myself to insert my justification in
“ this Journal, which I wish to consider
“ as containing the most indisputable

“ proofs of my conduct upon all occa-
 “ sions, as the record of my true senti-
 “ ments, and as a faithful picture of our
 “ attention to our pupils, and our be-
 “ haviour to each other.”

Monday, 7 February 1785.

“ M. LEBRUN will be perfectly at
 “ liberty to dine with me at Belle Chasse,
 “ not only on the three days in the week
 “ on which the princes dine here, but
 “ likewise on Monday, when the princes
 “ are accustomed to dine with the Dukes
 “ their mother. As to the Abbé Guyot,
 “ he by no means appears to receive any
 “ pleasure at Belle Chasse; and as his
 “ want of politeness, to speak of it in the
 “ most moderate terms, towards my mo-
 “ ther and me is arrived at such a height
 “ as to suffer no restraint before strangers,
 “ particularly Madame de Nansouti, who
 “ was singularly struck with it, as well
 “ as the children, who observe and jest
 “ upon

“ upon it in spite of every thing I can
“ do; and as beside he has frequently
“ complained of the want of opportunity
“ to associate more frequently with his
“ friends and relations; I imagine I shall
“ spare him a great deal of mortification,
“ restraint, absurdity, and error, by re-
“ ducing within the narrowest limits the
“ occasions he may have to dine at Belle
“ Chasse. In this there will be nothing
“ exciting notice or remark, since he
“ may very naturally be supposed to
“ take advantage of the leisure I give
“ him to visit his brother, his niece and
“ his friends. I have constantly avoided
“ the appearance of any quarrel with
“ the Abbé Guyot, which would have
“ been impossible if I had regarded him
“ as my equal. M. Lebrun therefore
“ will be so obliging as to inform him
“ of the contents of this note in general,
“ if he should think that most proper, or
“ else merely that I invite him to dine
“ at Belle Chasse Sundays and Wednes-

“ days; but have not that honour for
“ Fridays, on which day Madame de
“ Valence, her sister, when she is at lei-
“ sure, and other persons of my family,
“ favour me with their company; and
“ when the Duchefs de Chartres will
“ sometimes come, as opportunity may
“ serve. As to Mondays, on which day
“ the princes dine with their mother, I
“ imagine the Abbé will not think it ex-
“ traordinary that I should not ask him
“ to dine in private with my mother and
“ me. He may therefore give to the
“ different branches of his family Mon-
“ days and Fridays, and even whenever
“ he pleases all the four days that the
“ princes do not dine at home. M. Le-
“ brun, as I have already said, we shall
“ always be glad to see at Belle Chasse
“ without distinction of days; at the same
“ time that I shall not think it strange if
“ he should take these days to visit his
“ friends whenever it shall be most agree-
“ able to him. I must add for the in-
“ formation

“ formation of M. Lebrun, that I shall
“ give directions to the cook to prepare
“ no dinners of any sort on those days
“ that the princes are abroad ; but that
“ the ordinary supper shall be regularly
“ served, as these gentlemen will not be
“ equally able to spend the evening with
“ their friends.”

Monday, 21 February 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ **T**HE princes dine at Belle Chasse
“ three times a week, for reasons men-
“ tioned in this Journal. I thought, and
“ it was surely natural, that the Abbé
“ would be pleased with having two
“ days in the week to bestow on his fa-
“ mily and his friends : he has asked to
“ dine with me when the princes do, to
“ which I have assented. With respect
“ to Monday, as it is a day on which the
“ princes do not dine at Belle Chasse, I
“ see no reason that should induce the

“ Abbé to come. Had he hitherto
“ given me room to flatter myself that
“ my mother’s company and mine were
“ agreeable to him, I should have con-
“ sidered it as a duty and a pleasure to
“ have received him as one of our fa-
“ mily ; but that not being the case, I
“ will not on this occasion abuse the
“ Abbé’s politeness, which can be his
“ only motive for asking to dine with us
“ on Mondays. With respect to dinners
“ at the princes apartments, when they
“ do not dine at home, I have thought
“ proper, on that head, to take the or-
“ ders of Monseigneur, which are *that*
“ *there should be no table provided on such*
“ *occasions*. I am therefore obliged posi-
“ tively to enjoin the cook to make no
“ provision, on the days when the princes
“ are absent, for any person whatever.
“ I will add that it is neither fitting nor
“ possible that the princes cook should
“ take upon him to provide for others :
“ the Abbé, therefore, when he chooses
“ to dine in his chamber, will be pleased
“ to

“ to adopt some other mode. I beg M.

“ Lebrun to tell him all this.

“ I have forgotten to observe that the
“ arrangement respecting dinners will be
“ dispensed with if either of the gentle-
“ men should be ill ; for then the cook
“ will have directions to provide every
“ thing that may be necessary for them.

.

Thursday, 24 February 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ **T**HE Abbé Guyot has been here
“ to tell me in positive terms that he
“ cannot dine out on Monday, because
“ neither his brother nor any of his
“ friends keep fast ; and, from what M.
“ Lebrun had read to him of the Journal,
“ his determination was to dine at Belle
“ Chasse : had M. Lebrun read to him
“ the whole of what I have written upon
“ the subject, his determination I suspect
“ would have been very different. I

“ might have replied to the Abbé, that
 “ since my own observance of Lent has
 “ been necessarily interrupted, there is
 “ no one at Belle Chasse who fasts, and
 “ that it would be much more natural
 “ that his brother should have the com-
 “ plaisance to provide him fast dishes,
 “ than I, who am neither his relation,
 “ nor his friend, nor his associate, or in-
 “ deed that he should dine in his cham-
 “ ber. But the determination of the
 “ Abbé was so imperious, that I took
 “ the part of holding my tongue. I
 “ shall find some other means of eman-
 “ cipating myself from this strange ty-
 “ ranny.”

Monday, 21 March 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I HAVE had no time to make ob-
 “ servations upon this Journal for some
 “ days past, and I shall therefore do it
 “ now. I have written in form in the
 “ Journal,

“ Journal, that the Duke de Valois was
“ to be absolute master of the choice of
“ place where he would take the air,
“ with the sole restriction of his being
“ submissive to any remonstrances that
“ may be made respecting the ease of
“ the horses. This article, as I have
“ before observed, I read to the Duke
“ and Duchefs de Chartres, by whom
“ it was highly approved. But M. Le-
“ brun takes from him this liberty, and
“ without any reason relative to the
“ horses, since it was more fatiguing
“ for them to go to Mouceaux than to
“ have remained in the stable. Should
“ the Duke de Valois frequently choose
“ the Palais Royal for his airing, it
“ would be less conducive to his health,
“ the air of that place not being so good;
“ but it would be sufficient to point this
“ out to him ; and the orders of M. Le-
“ brun were improper, because I had en-
“ joined the contrary. Beside, as I read this
“ Journal every day, M. Lebrun might

“ complain in it of any want of complai-
“ fance on the part of the Duke de Va-
“ lois, and I should know how to punish
“ it ; but he ought not authoritatively to
“ take from the Duke a right given him
“ by me. The Duke strongly felt the
“ injustice of the proceeding, and men-
“ tioned it to me. I contented myself
“ with observing that it was true I had
“ given him this right, but that I should
“ deprive him of it again if I found that
“ he abused it ; and that he might be
“ sure if M. Lebrun had not followed
“ my directions, it was from forgetful-
“ ness, or from his thinking of something
“ else ; as I knew him to be extremely
“ punctual and just.—The Duke de Va-
“ lois farther complained that M. Le-
“ brun would assign no reason for refus-
“ ing him to go to see the black woman ;
“ and that he told him it was *his fancy*.
“ To this I replied, that M. Lebrun was
“ too wise a man to act merely from
“ fancy ; and that he had a very good
“ reason

“ reason for the refusal, namely, that
“ the black woman was naked : I added,
“ it is true you have seen a thousand
“ naked figures, and you draw them in
“ this state : but at your age, in particu-
“ lar, it would be a breach of decorum
“ to go and examine, in a garden that is
“ almost public, an indecent object. In
“ this manner I told him what was nearly
“ the truth ; I did not excite his curi-
“ osity, but I satisfied it ; and it is in
“ this simple manner that M. Lebrun
“ should have acted. To an infant we
“ do not assign our reasons ; but it is
“ dangerous and disgusting to tell an
“ intelligent, sensible, and well-informed
“ child, in his twelfth year, that we act
“ solely from fancy : if he believe it, he
“ receives a very bad example, an ex-
“ ample of caprice, and consequently of
“ irrationality : if he believe it not, we
“ lessen his confidence and friendship,
“ and set his imagination at work, as he
“ burns with the desire of discovering
“ our

“ our true motive. In fine, I do not
“ with the Duke de Valois to be treated
“ for a single moment as a prince ; but
“ it is time that we should begin to treat
“ him as a man ; that he should be
“ guided by reason and friendship ; that
“ our reproofs should have an air of con-
“ sideration for his age, to raise him in
“ his own eyes, and set him altogether
“ above a state of childhood ; and that
“ he should be spared every little useless
“ contradiction, in order that in things
“ of importance an inflexible severity
“ may have due weight. The Abbé
“ Guyot and M. Lebrun are at all times
“ too severe and despotic in trifles ; they
“ preach to the children a great deal too
“ much ; they always indeed preach, and
“ never talk. They should do exactly the
“ reverse : preaching wearies, conver-
“ sation alone instructs. We should
“ artfully contrive to render our lessons
“ of this nature profitable, without the
“ children perceiving what is our aim.

“ They

“ They both fear and love me, and are
“ fond of my company, though I find
“ them constant employment, and fre-
“ quently réprove them : but I practise
“ no unnecessary tyranny, no pedantry,
“ no caprice, and I therefore find them
“ submissive, mild, sensible, and desirous
“ of pleasing me. I must positively in-
“ sist on M. Lebrun’s being in future
“ more attentive to such things as we
“ have agreed upon : I begin to be
“ weary of being obliged frequently to
“ repeat at length the same things ; and
“ I have not time for this * .”

Thursday, 14 April 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I CANNOT conceive how the Duke
“ de Valois, who is always so submissive

* The design of these continual contrarieties was, that, by wearying me, I might be tempted to relinquish my painful task ; and indeed to continue it required a perseverance that was proof against every thing.

“ with

“ with me, can be guilty of saying im-
“ pertinent things ; but I know that M.
“ Lebrun ought not to prevent him from
“ giving what orders he thinks proper to
“ his servants. If these orders appear
“ to be unreasonable, a short remark is
“ sufficient; and even this would be ill-
“ timed before the servants. He ought
“ not to be prevented from giving or-
“ ders, unless he should choose for that
“ purpose a time that would interrupt
“ his lessons. He thinks that the trifling
“ degree of liberty I have granted him
“ in this respect is not pleasing to the
“ Abbé Guyot and M. Lebrun ; and
“ the representations they have made on
“ the subject, of which this Journal bears
“ witness, convince me that he is right :
“ but I told him that he was mistaken,
“ and that the supposition was absurd ;
“ he is however of an age when we be-
“ gin to see things with our own eyes.
“ As to the interference of M. Lebrun
“ respecting the window, it was natural

“ enough, as he had a cold ; but it was
“ by no means so that the Abbé, having
“ no cold, should imperiously keep the
“ windows shut in such fine weather,
“ which is not only disagreeable, but
“ injurious to the health of children,
“ and all young persons. Oppositions
“ like these they have never experienced
“ from me. At Saint Leu, when I had
“ a very bad sore throat, and the weather
“ was damp, I opened the window to
“ give them their lesson. The Duke de
“ Valois observed me putting on my
“ cloak, and asked me why I did so : I
“ answered that the air incommoded me;
“ but as it was pleasant to him, I wished
“ the window to be open. He was sensible
“ of this attention, and would have
“ shut it : to this I would not consent,
“ and from that hour I might have kept
“ him in a stove without his expressing
“ any dislike. Convinced that I am not
“ selfish, and that I love them, they obey
“ me without reluctance. I punish with-
“ out

“ out irritating them ; I careſs without
“ ſpoiling them ; and I am ſo little jea-
“ lous of my aſcendancy, that I let no
“ opportunity eſcape of unfolding the
“ myſtery to the Abbé and M. Lebrun,
“ who would underſtand it as well as I
“ do, if like me they had reflected twenty
“ years on the ſubject, and like me alſo
“ had completed the education of ſeveral
“ young perſons, previously to the pre-
“ ſent undertaking. Theſe gentlemen
“ never aſk me any queſtions ; they ima-
“ gine that they are acquainted with the
“ minds of children : but this is no eaſy
“ acquiſition ; and all the merit in the
“ world will be of little avail without
“ long experience and meditation.—The
“ Duke de Valois has alſo appeared to
“ me deſirous of having the diſpoſal of
“ his cakes (*briocheſ*) ; that is to ſay,
“ of having the pleaſure of giving them
“ himſelf. He has not aſked this of me,
“ nor have I ſaid any thing to him upon
“ the

“ the subject ; but I recommend to the
“ gentlemen to grant, as of themselves,
“ this permission both to the Duke de
“ Valois and his brother ; instructing
“ them at the same time to what persons
“ among their attendants they should
“ make these presents. If the gentlemen
“ appeared desirous that the princes
“ should enjoy, in this and other trifling
“ matters of equal indifference, a liberty
“ suited to their age, they would be ex-
“ tremely grateful for it ; and the gentle-
“ men would soon perceive its good ef-
“ fects in a real increase of friendship.
“ All however that I can do in the busi-
“ ness is to give them my advice, though
“ it be perfectly unasked.”

Sunday, 17 April 1785:

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I HAVE received from the Abbé
“ Guyot a letter of eleven pages, relative
“ to an article in this Journal, written
“ by

“ by me a month ago. I shall begin
“ by declaring, that in future I will re-
“ ceive no letter from either of the
“ gentlemen, upon the subject of the
“ education in which we are engaged.
“ When they have any thing to say to
“ me, let them do it in this Journal, and
“ I will take the same mode of answering
“ them ; but they must excuse my read-
“ ing whatever they may write to me
“ in any other way.—In his eleven pages
“ of large paper, the Abbé tells me, that
“ he never says a word too much, and
“ that I have unjustly accused him of
“ being too fond of sermonising, preach-
“ ing, &c. to the children. To this I
“ answer, that I may possibly have mis-
“ taken, but it appears otherwise to me ;
“ and I have said nothing but what I
“ thought.—The Abbé seems to accuse
“ me of inconsistency in now recom-
“ mending to govern the children by
“ reason and friendship ; when, at the
“ time

“ time they were put into my hands, I
“ expressed the utmost astonishment at
“ finding that they had never been pu-
“ nished. But the eldest was then eight
“ years old; gross, ignorant, cowardly,
“ ready to faint whenever he saw a dog,
“ unpolite, and a liar ; fond of relating
“ stories equally devoid of sense and of
“ truth. All this justly merited repeated
“ punishments ; and of consequence I
“ was for eighteen months by no means
“ sparing of them. At length, when
“ I saw him better informed than is usual
“ at his age, polite, sensible, desirous of
“ pleasing, attached to truth, and in his
“ twelfth year, I thought it no longer
“ proper to treat him as a spoiled child :
“ but I am still ready again to have re-
“ course to severity and punishment, if
“ his behaviour be improper, as I proved
“ to-day in the presence of M. Lebrun,
“ who accused the Duke de Valois of
“ rudeness to him. I shall here remark,
“ that

“ that my greatest severity to the princes
 “ has been upon occasions when the Abbé
 “ or M. Lebrun has complained of them;
 “ and that I continually remind them
 “ in the presence of these gentlemen that
 “ they owe them unbounded confidence,
 “ and as much respect as tenderness : I
 “ will add, that I have never said any
 “ thing of this nature to the children
 “ relative to myself, and yet they never
 “ behave improperly to me ; they are
 “ pleased with my company, and they
 “ have an equal fear and love for me.
 “ The Abbé, to prove that he does not
 “ display any pedantry in his treatment
 “ of the princes, informs me, that he
 “ permits the Duke de Valois to call
 “ him *preacher*, and to say that he *ser-*
 “ *monsjes*. For my own part, though no one
 “ has ever thought me pedantic, I here
 “ avow that as long as I live I will never
 “ suffer a pupil under my care to take
 “ such a liberty with me. *Preaching* is
 “ always

“ always pedantry and an absurd mode
 “ of conveying moral instruction, that
 “ must fail of its end. A *preachment* is
 “ another word for *tedious discourse*; and
 “ I repeat it, I should think every thing
 “ lost if one of my pupils thought or
 “ spoke in this manner of what I said to
 “ them. I will not permit their freedom
 “ with me to degenerate into familiarity
 “ or ridicule. I know them too well to
 “ give them such an ascendancy over
 “ me.—In the Abbé’s letter there is
 “ one article that has occasioned me no
 “ little surprise. It relates to M. Le-
 “ brun: the following is a literal tran-
 “ script of it. *His labours, his cares, his*
 “ *pains, the contradictions he has to encoun-*
 “ *ter, are continual; I fear that his health*
 “ *will sink under them: would it not be bu-*
 “ *mane and well worthy of you, madam, to*
 “ *spare him one part, and to assist him daily*
 “ *to support the other?*

“ Four days of the week, including
 “ those on which they dine with the Du-
 “ chess

“ chefs de Chartres, the princes are at
“ Belle Chasse from half after twelve
“ till nine at night. M. Lebrun has
“ thus four entire days in every week at
“ his own disposal. On the other days
“ they are at Belle Chasse from five till
“ half after eight : and here again he
“ has three hours and a half at liberty on
“ these days. What man filling such a
“ situation ever had so much time to
“ himself*? The princes have learned
“ nothing by heart but from me; I
“ have myself made all their extracts,
“ and these extracts, exclusive of
“ those I have given to the Abbé and

* In the order of things established before my connection with the princes, their governor, fond of society, gave his pupils only two or three hours of his time, and not a single lesson, for an excellent reason, which it is not difficult to divine ; and the sub-governor was totally deprived of liberty, and had not a moment to himself. M. Lebrun's leisure time will soon be increased still more than it is at present ; in the latter years of the education, we shall find that he will have ten hours liberty every day.

“ M. Le-

“ M. Lebrun, form three volumes, which
 “ I constantly read to them at our les-
 “ sons. To this must be added, that
 “ when the children are at home M.
 “ Lebrun is not the only person em-
 “ ployed with them ; he has only to teach
 “ them the elements of geometry and
 “ hear them repeat verses: this is the
 “ whole of his task, and he can dispose
 “ of himself as he pleases during the
 “ time when the Abbé gives his lessons.
 “ I cannot therefore but think that
 “ he has considerable leisure and rest.
 “ Where then are those *continual labours*
 “ of which the Abbé speaks, and in what
 “ do they consist? I am equally unac-
 “ quainted with the *pains and contradic-*
 “ *tions he has to encounter.* What are they?
 “ How can I assist him more effectually
 “ than I do? What more ought my huma-
 “ nity to perform to prevent *his health from*
 “ *sinking under his cares, his labours, &c?* I
 “ earnestly entreat the Abbé to answer
 “ these questions in the Journal, for I
 VOL. II. H “ should

“ should in vain rack my understanding
 “ to comprehend this strange article.
 “ I request him to answer them imme-
 “ diately, and not three weeks hence,
 “ when this volume will be finished,
 “ and it will require some pains to find
 “ them all. An answer is then only
 “ clear when it directly follows the ques-
 “ tion.—As to the *friendship* and *confi-*
 “ *dence* which the Abbé is desirous should
 “ subsist between us, I have already given
 “ an answer to it in the Journal, which I
 “ request M. Lebrun to acquaint him
 “ with, and to read to him the whole of
 “ this note.—The Abbé concludes with
 “ saying that somebody *calumniates* these
 “ gentlemen to me. But the Journal and
 “ many letters which I have in my pos-
 “ session prove, that the Abbé had com-
 “ plained of my pretended prejudices,
 “ and that M. Lebrun was on the same
 “ footing with me as he is at present,
 “ before this *somebody* had any thing to
 “ do with the education. I have expe-

“ rience and firmness enough to see with
 “ my own eyes, and not to suffer myself
 “ to be led away by the opinions of any
 “ one ; good sense and integrity enough
 “ to hate calumny and not to be its
 “ dupe ; too little leisure to think of
 “ wasting my time upon wranglings and
 “ tale bearing, when I have a right to in-
 “ terrogate openly, to call to an account,
 “ and to complain without mystery and
 “ reserve, if what I direct be not carried
 “ into execution. In fine, had the Abbé
 “ employed the least reflection he would
 “ not I believe have accused, without
 “ any kind of proof, the person to whom
 “ he alludes of being a *slanderer*, nor me
 “ of being a silly dupe, deliberately and
 “ knowingly suffering myself to be led
 “ by so disgraceful a character ; for such
 “ would be the case if I secretly listened
 “ to and believed *calumnies*, as the Abbé
 “ asserts, without assigning the smallest
 “ reason.

“ I beg M. Lebrun to read to the
“ Abbé all that I have written in the
“ Journal to-day. I conclude with as-
“ suring the gentlemen that they are not
“ slandered, that I esteem them, that it
“ depended on themselves alone to have
“ possessed all my friendship, that I shall
“ always feel a real concern for their
“ welfare, that I perceive in them confi-
“ derable merit, but at the same time it
“ seems to me that they are not suffi-
“ ciently acquainted with children, and
“ with the art of making themselves
“ feared and loved by them ; that what
“ I say to them upon the subject pro-
“ ceeds, not from a propensity to find
“ fault, but from a desire that they
“ should have more influence over the
“ hearts and minds of their pupils, for
“ the sake of their present and future
“ happiness and the success of our la-
“ bours ; that they appear to be easily
“ irritated and hurt, that they suppose
“ me to possess a petty pride to which
“ I am

“ I am a stranger, and seldom under-
“ stand me; that I have never wished to
“ be consulted by them from motives of
“ vanity, but because, being a mother,
“ having begun and finished the educa-
“ tion of two children, and I will ven-
“ ture to say with some success, having
“ for twenty years turned all my thoughts
“ to the subject, and published some
“ works destitute neither of reason nor
“ a knowledge of children, I must na-
“ turally be better acquainted with it
“ than they; that at the same time I
“ give them credit for zeal and good in-
“ tentions, and have hitherto said every
“ thing to the Duke and Duchesse de
“ Chartres that could heighten them in
“ their esteem, a justice which I shall al-
“ ways be ready to do them with the
“ greatest pleasure”.
.

Wednesday, 20 April 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I HAVE but one object in view, the
 “ good of the education in which we are en-
 “ gaged; and as I act neither from ca-
 “ price nor ill humour, I am very cer-
 “ tain that reflection, and the experience
 “ and honesty of M. Lebrun will ulti-
 “ mately lead him to think and act like
 “ me in this respect. In the mean time
 “ some little disputes will perhaps arise;
 “ but certain of the scrupulousness and
 “ purity of M. Lebrun’s principles on
 “ essential points, I shall be sufficiently
 “ attentive and quick sighted to watch
 “ minuter matters, and patient enough
 “ to endure slight murmurs and tran-
 “ sient dissatisfaction.”

Note of the Abbé Guyot.

SINCE the Countess de Genlis leaves

no

no other way of communicating any remarks on the subject of education but the Journal, the Abbé Guyot takes this method of answering some articles of a note she has inserted in it relative to the long letter which he had the honour to write to her. He admits that it is very long, but it was necessary in order to do away the distressing opinion which the Countess had expressed respecting the manner in which M. Lebrun and the Abbé conducted themselves towards the princes.

The first and most considerable argument is drawn from the gentleness and forbearance of their principles, and a conduct flowing from those principles. The Countess pretends that mildness and indulgence were ill-timed during the first eighteen months of the princes being under her care. From the picture she draws of the princes at that period, the Abbé Guyot does not know them. They had a lively

sense of religion, of justice, benevolence, honour and emulation, with perfect docility and confidence in their preceptors; and their acquirements were certainly superior to their age. In fine, the blossoms of the fruits that now excite our admiration, were sufficiently developed. The cares and talents of the Countess have hastened and augmented these fruits; but she is too just not to acknowledge that the time had not been lost, that none of the happy dispositions of the princes had been thwarted, and that such exertions had been made to correct their childish faults as to give hopes that the progress of their age would shortly obliterate every trace of them*.

The Abbé Guyot then ran over, in

* What, of those shrieks and faintings at the sight of a dog, a *childish fault* which had been permitted to take root from the age of four to that of eight, without the least attempt to correct it? of that effeminacy, that rudeness, that selfishness, that propensity to telling lies and to gossiping?

his

his letter, all the means by which he could suppose the Countess to have acquired the opinion which he was attempting to overturn. Was it from her own observations ? from any complaints of the princes ? from the representations of other persons ? He knows no other way of acquiring an opinion. The last of these three modes has made a lively impression on the Countess ; not without reason had the idea been other than general ; but when it is made personal, the Abbé no longer recognises it for his own. In conjectures he allows himself, but never in accusations, unless they are indispensable and evident.

The Countess blames the Abbé Guyot for permitting the Duke de Valois to call him preacher, because she considers the word as synonymous with a tedious talker. To give these two words an identity of signification it would be necessary to connect with them an idea of

pedantry. The Abbé Guyot has carefully avoided every thing of that kind *, and the prince certainly imputes no such quality to him ; the expression has been the result of mere pleafantry, the meaning of which is determined by the gaiety and good-will that accompanied it. It would therefore have been an unreasonable piece of captiousness to have censured it. The Duke de Valois, whose intentions are honest and direct, would have been astonished at the censure, and perhaps by such a captiousness a degree of improbability would have been given to the part that it is sometimes necessary, whether we like it or no, for a tutor to play with his pupils †.

* Nothing can surely more strongly suggest the idea of pedantry than such a manner of expressing oneself.

† We ought never to play a part, and least of all with children ; assumed manners and passions are what they most easily detect, and most certainly dislike.

The

The immediate consequence of our justification was, that we merited the entire confidence of the Countess in every thing relative to the education of the princes; and the letter in reality concludes with making this demand. The Abbé Guyot thought it his duty to shew, that M. Lebrun in particular was highly worthy of it. He spoke of his labours, his pains, and the contradictions he had to encounter. The Countess is astonished at this language, and demands an explanation. He can only say, that M. Lebrun does not appear to him to be happy, and that he well deserves to be so. Happiness does not consist in having three hours leisure a day, as the Countess seems to think: constant labour is an additional satisfaction to men whose zeal leads them to devote themselves entirely and solely to the honourable task with which they are entrusted. Unanimity, concord and agreement between

all the persons concerned in it, ought to soften the pains of every day, and ensure the success of their labours. The confidence of the chief can alone procure this just consolation.

The Countess declares that it depended on ourselves alone to have possessed all her friendship. The Abbé Guyot replies with perfect sincerity, that he in particular would have been highly flattered with the friendship of the Countess, and believes that he has done nothing which ought to have prevented his obtaining it. But if every one is master of the confidence arising from sentiment, that which depends on esteem cannot be refused: it is the latter which is demanded of the Countess, and demanded by us only, the more successfully to discharge the important cares with which we are invested. To the granting this she can feel no repugnance, after the protestations of esteem with which she
has

has been pleased to terminate her note. The Abbé Guyot will conclude with protesting on his part, that he has a high opinion of the knowledge, understanding, talents and accomplishments of the Countess. The happiness of her coadjutors would deserve to be cited, if she deigned to shew us greater confidence*, and particularly if, by her manner of treating us before the princes, she were careful to convince them that of such confidence we are not unworthy.

Thursday, 21 April 1785.

“MR. Lebrun says, that he did not
“ answer in time to the article I mention,
“ *because he knows not how to write.* A
“ strange instance of modesty, and which
“ I may, without rudeness, say, is per-

* This confidence, according to them, consisted in my leaving to them all the lessons, and changing my whole plan of education, to follow the beaten track.

“ *scely*

“fectly unfounded. Beside, to confute
 “facts by facts, if it be in our power,
 “requires neither eloquence nor talents
 “for writing: sound reasons have no
 “need of polished language; and the
 “negligent and incorrect style in which
 “I write in the Journal sufficiently shews
 “that I do not think such ornaments at
 “all necessary to a work of this kind.
 “These gentlemen appear to be morti-
 “fied that I will admit of no explana-
 “tions but in this Journal. I remember
 “a proverb which says, *words spoken*
 “*vanish, words written remain*. What
 “is my security in this respect, will be
 “equally that of these gentlemen; our
 “conduct cannot be too clear, too evi-
 “dent, when we are charged with duties
 “of such importance.

“The Abbé says, that a *preachment* in
 “private society is not, as I have as-
 “serted, synonymous with a *tedious dis-*
 “*coursé*. He maintains that he acted

“very

“ very properly in indulging the Duke
“ de Valois in such pleasantries. I think
“ otherwise, and there is nothing in the
“ Abbé’s answer that induces me to
“ change my opinion. The Abbé says,
“ that in accusing *somebody* of calumny,
“ he had no particular person in view.
“ I appeal to his conscience, and to that
“ of M. Lebrun, respecting so improba-
“ ble an evasion, and I shall take care of
“ the Abbé’s letter. The Abbé says,
“ that he should not know the princes
“ from the picture I draw of them, at the
“ time when they were first entrusted to
“ me. This is accusing me of lying,
“ and of lying from the base and paltry
“ motive of enhancing the value of
“ what I have done. Let us see if truth
“ can be pleaded in excuse for this
“ strange rudeness. I have said that the
“ princes were ignorant for their age :
“ not a single extract on any subject had
“ ever been given them; they had
“ learned,

“ learned by heart no one circumstance
“ of history, nor even a date; they had
“ not the least idea of the first principles
“ of morality, of what they owed to their
“ father and mother; they were equally
“ ignorant of the common civilities of
“ life, always answering with a motion of
“ the head, or the monosyllables *yes* and
“ *no*; they had not acquired a word of
“ English, though they had learned
“ the language for some time, nor
“ of mythology, nor of geography;
“ in bodily exercises they were equally
“ deficient, unable to run ten steps, or
“ even to walk, or go down stairs, with-
“ out being led by the hand. To these
“ latter circumstances all the world was
“ witness, as well as to their astonishing
“ vulgarity. Without appealing to tes-
“ timony which the Abbé may consider
“ as suspicious, I will mention the Duke
“ and Dukes de Chartres, who were
“ extremely grieved and offended at it,
“ and

“ and who have still a perfect remem-
 “ brance of it. I have said that the
 “ princes were *liars*, that is, the Duke de
 “ Valois; for as to the other he was so
 “ much below *lies* age, so perfectly in
 “ his first infancy, as to be incapable of
 “ any thing. The Duke and Duchefs
 “ de Chartres will certify that the Duke
 “ de Valois told lies continually and de-
 “ liberately, and this Journal incontestably
 “ proves it, as well as every thing
 “ else that I have said. The first eigh-
 “ teen months are full of M. Lebrun’s
 “ complaints, respecting the falsehoods
 “ and inventions of the Duke de Valois.
 “ This vice, of all others the most mean
 “ and detestable, is of itself sufficient to
 “ enable me to say, that a child has been
 “ *badly educated*; and we ought to spare
 “ no punishment to eradicate so odious a
 “ habit. For more than a year the
 “ Journal has made no mention of any
 “ lies on the part of the Duke de Valois;
 “ he

" he is therefore cured of this fault, or
 " at least it is no longer a habit; and if
 " at six years old he had been punished
 " for it, it would not have existed at
 " eight. I have said that he was *timid*;
 " he was so much so as nearly to faint at
 " the sight of a dog* ; he had a thousand
 " other weaknesses and fears, to which
 " Mademoiselle, though younger, was
 " an entire stranger: and this too is
 " proved by the Journal, in which there
 " are various relations of this nature in
 " the hand-writing of M. Lebrun. Thus
 " does it appear, in spite of all denials,
 " and evasions, that every thing which I
 " have said is scrupulously true. If it

* There are certainly natural antipathies not incompatible with courage, that is to say, with contempt of death. I knew a very brave man who turned sick at the sight of a dead body. It is known that Peter the Great had a natural antipathy to water; but he proved that this kind of weakness is not incorrigible. Nothing is more easy than to cure children of such things.

" had

“ had not existed, how could I prove,
 “ not only that I have not concealed the
 “ truth, but also that I have not exag-
 “ gerated it? When the Abbé thinks
 “ proper to claim my particular confi-
 “ dence, he must let me see that he is
 “ better acquainted with the respect due
 “ to my person, my character and my
 “ situation, and above all, that he has
 “ more sincerity and regard to truth.
 “ For the rest, I would dispense with his
 “ compliments, which I estimate at little
 “ value from whatever quarter they
 “ come, and which between him and me
 “ are certainly misplaced; and I request
 “ him in future to save himself the trou-
 “ ble of assuring me *that he has a high*
 “ *opinion of my accomplishments.* To my
 “ question relative to M. Lebrun, the
 “ Abbé replies, *that all he meant was,*
 “ *that M. Lebrun was not happy.* I
 “ could not have imagined, that, when
 “ he said, *M. Lebrun is sinking under*
 “ *his*

“ *his labours, his health is nearly destroyed ;*
“ and when he requested me *to assist him*
“ *more effectually*, he only intended to
“ express the idea *that M. Lebrun was*
“ *not happy*. The Abbé adds, that
“ *three hours leisure will not confer happi-*
“ *ness*. This is not accurate, for M.
“ Lebrun has more than three hours
“ leisure. In the morning he has at
“ least an hour unemployed, and four
“ times a week, including this hour,
“ he has nearly *ten hours* leisure a day,
“ which is very different from *three*.
“ The Abbé concludes with a very in-
“ dignous expression. He says, that he
“ could wish, particularly before the
“ princes, that I would treat my coad-
“ jutors in a manner that implies greater
“ confidence in them. This tends to
“ insinuate that I authorise the princes to
“ feel for these gentlemen less respect
“ than they ought, which is the extreme
“ of injustice. I have given these gen-
“ tlemen

“ I claim every right over the princes
 “ that I possess myself, of rewarding and
 “ punishing them, of depriving them of
 “ going to the play, &c*. I know not
 “ by what infatuation these gentlemen
 “ have chosen not to avail themselves of
 “ this right, or at least not to derive
 “ from it sufficient advantage. When-
 “ ever they have complained to me, I
 “ have treated the children with the ut-
 “ most severity, and I have continually
 “ repeated to them that these gentlemen
 “ are entitled to their *confidence, affection,*
 “ *submission and respect, both on account of*
 “ *their merit, and the gratitude that is due*
 “ *to their friendship and cares.* All these
 “ things I have said, and repeated inces-

* Conceiving that punishments were calculated
 to excite in children a hatred of their tutors, they
 persisted in leaving this dangerous right, as they
 supposed, to me. Instead of punishments, they
 multiplied long sermons, by which they tired the
 children to death, and rendered themselves neither
 respected nor esteemed.

“ faintly

“santly to the children, and in the pre-
“sence of the gentlemen themselves.
“The Journal abounds with proofs of
“this, and the gentlemen assuredly will
“not deny it. Is it possible for me to
“give them more weight with the chil-
“dren? Is it possible, when I talk in
“this manner to the children before these
“gentlemen, for the blackest malignity
“to suppose that I hold a different lan-
“guage to them in private, and thus de-
“liberately set them an example of hy-
“pocrisy and falsehood. Beside, in every
“thing that regards myself, I treat these
“gentlemen before the children with the
“most scrupulous politeness: but the
“children have observed, during the
“whole winter, a very different example
“in the conduct of the Abbé towards
“my mother and me. I also admit
“these gentlemen into the company of
“Mademoiselle, which I am under no
“obligation to do, as I receive at dinner
“only

“ only my own family and my intimate
“ friends. What can I do more? Must
“ I force myself to demonstrations of
“ friendship? I know not how to assume
“ a false character, and I will never be
“ insincere for a moment. Beside it is
“ not at all necessary, at least not in-
“ dispensable, that the princes should
“ suppose these gentlemen to be my
“ intimate friends : but it is necessary
“ they should believe that these gentle-
“ men cordially approve of all that I di-
“ rect relative to their education, see in
“ this respect with my eyes, entertain the
“ same principles with me, and do with
“ pleasure, and with a persuasion of its
“ reasonableness and utility, every thing
“ on which we have agreed : it is neces-
“ sary that the gentlemen appear to
“ think that I act only for the children’s
“ advantage, and that they are satisfied
“ with my conduct ; it is also necessary
“ on my part, that I have, before the
“ princes, the air of being convinced
“ that

“ that these gentlemen have a love and
“ affection for their pupils, that they
“ cheerfully second my endeavours,
“ that the most sincere esteem unites us,
“ and that I have the interest of these
“ gentlemen strongly at heart. This I
“ can say, that on my side all these du-
“ ties are scrupulously fulfilled, without
“ reluctance or difficulty. I beg M. Le-
“ brun to read the whole of this answer
“ to the Abbé.”

Saturday, 23 April 1785.

Note of the Abbé Guyot.

IN the last two notes of the Countess, the Abbé Guyot could find sufficient matter to make a large volume, so many things has she said which would require minute explanation : he will be as brief as possible.

In refusing every mode of correspondence but the one she has established, of

writing in this Journal, the Countess cites the political maxim, *words spoken vanish, words written remain*: they would equally remain in private letters, and many inconveniences, which may be embarrassing, would be avoided*. But the object of the Countess, it seems, is to secure a magazine of confronted facts to prevent such subterfuges as might afterwards be employed by way of apology. To this the Abbé replies in direct terms, we shall in no case stand in need of apology; and if at any time we incur blame, we desire to be pardoned upon no other terms than those of the most frank avowal. To conclude, he is obliged to remark that a suspicion and mistrust of this sort must be exceedingly painful to those who co-operate in any affair, and very disgusting to the princi-

* Private letters are loose pieces of paper which may be lost; and if a person is really desirous of writing on these separate papers, why should he be averse to writing in a journal?

pal who employs them. The means of escaping from this situation are exceedingly easy; nor is it possible that the Countess should doubt of their efficacy, if she would do us the favour for a moment to reflect on our frankness and integrity

The Countess enters into minute details, to prove that the princes were ignorant, and almost vicious when she was placed at the head of their education. The Abbé Guyot could have wished that she had been pleased to spare him the necessity of explaining himself on so delicate a subject; but the justice which is due to the memory of the worthy man who had till then been their governor, and what he owes to himself, rendered it an absolute law with him to speak his sentiments in answer to the Countess's first note. In her second she seems to

* The object of all these unmeaning words was the suppression of the Journal; a work that was always disagreeable and distressing to the Abbé.

urge

urge him to the proof of what he advanced. This would be too tedious; he therefore contents himself with repeating, that he persists in his assertions, of the truth of which he is perfectly convinced *.

The Countess is astonished at the Abbé Guyot's telling her, that he indulged himself only in conjectures as to any calumnious representations that might have been made to her. For the truth of this she appeals to his conscience. Well then, in answer to this civil appeal, he frankly declares, that if, in writing his letter, his imagination suggested any individuals capable of acting so contempti-

* The Abbé, it seems, could refute every thing I have said; he acknowledges that it is a duty which he owes to the memory of his friend and to himself, to prove that I have been guilty of exaggeration; but it would be *too tedious* a task, and, in spite of these *sacred duties*, he therefore contents himself with saying that he persists in his assertions. It is scarcely possible to carry the inconsistency of duplicity to a more palpable extreme.

ble a part, it would be difficult for him to name the persons deserving the preference. But this was not the business; the business was to annihilate a fountain of injury, which, it may be, existed: he wished, without the burthen of methodical evidence, that his mind should speak to the mind of the Countess; he thought merely of scattering those clouds which darkened the justification of himself and his brother preceptor, and of collecting from all quarters the rays that might bestow lustre on their cause

The Countess again adverts to the situation of M. Lebrun, of which the Abbé's own is a tolerably faithful resemblance. Whether they are with the princes or not, they are constantly employed as men of honour, engaged in a business of importance. Can the leisure time the Countess allows them enter into the calculation of their happiness? Is not the time they devote to their duties accom-

* What an astonishing instance of bombast!

panied

panied with continual inquietude? They labour with all the ardour of the sincerest zeal, and scarcely ever receive the slightest mark of satisfaction. Actions, words, silence, looks, every thing seems to announce an habitual discontent. If a just sensibility manifest itself, instead of being appeased, it is rendered more painful by bitter criticisms and censures, as if it were a crime to wish to shew ourselves irreproachable. Here the Abbé Guyot stops; he is fearful that the intention of complaining will be ascribed to him. But no, he will not, by an instance of weakness, diminish the merit of three years and a half of constancy and courage; and he should deem it a happiness, if, by suffering still more, he could convince the Countess that his character is worthy of esteem and confidence.

The Countess complains that during the whole winter he has behaved with little civility to the Baroness d'Andlau. A complaint of this kind he did not expect;

pect ; it is the first time in his life that he has met with such a reproach, and he is not conscious of having failed either in the respect or civility due to the Baroness. He shall think himself greatly obliged to the Countess, if she will inform him when, how, and in what he has had the misfortune to neglect duties, which the custom of the world and his mode of thinking will ever render inviolable to him. Are there not in this, as in many other things, conjectures, misinterpretations, and suspicions*?

* In consequence of the Abbé's complaints, I had related, as has been seen in the Journal, all the facts which the Abbé pretends to have forgotten. This dissingenuity and these eternal repetitions, which have occasioned me the loss of time that was so precious, were the things most aggravating to me. I should have liked anger and rudeness much better than this habitual falsehood, these vague, insidious answers replete with lies, and that smooth hypocritical tone through which the bitter gall produced by pride and hatred pierced every instant.

“ *Note*

Monday, 25 April 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ THE Abbé replies to my answers in
“ a style of mere declamation.” I exhibit
“ facts, which it is impossible to deny,
“ because I have the proofs in my hands :
“ the Abbé enters into no particulars. I
“ have said, and I repeat it, that the
“ princes were ignorant to a degree
“ below their years, gross in their man-
“ ners, unpolite to an extreme, delicate,
“ indolent, and addicted to lying. Of
“ all these assertions this Journal contains
“ proofs ; they are facts by no means
“ agreeable, and which I should never
“ have recalled to mind, if the Abbé
“ had not very inconsiderately forced me
“ to it, by appearing to blame the indul-
“ gence I now recommend, which he
“ thinks inconsistent with the rigour and
“ punishments which I prescribed and
I 4 “ employed

“ employed during the first eighteen
“ months. In the same manner also
“ have I been forced to compare the
“ time and pains I bestow on the princes,
“ with the time devoted to them by M.
“ Lebrun and the Abbé; because I was
“ told by the latter of M. Lebrun’s *sinking*
“ *under his labours*, and was requested to
“ diminish their weight. I boast not of
“ what I do; but I cannot avoid answer-
“ ing unjust and indiscreet remarks, and
“ unreasonable reproaches. What does
“ the Abbé mean by saying, upon the
“ subject of what the princes were before
“ they were placed in my hands, that he
“ could wish to be excused from explain-
“ ing himself on *so delicate a subject*?
“ Does he suppose that I am jealous of
“ the merit of M. Bonnard? I am not
“ vain; but neither am I so humble as
“ to suppose my talents and knowledge
“ inferior to his. Because M. Bonnard
“ was indebted to me for his place, his
“ fortune,

“ fortune, his wife, and, after his refig-
 “ nation, for a pension, such as no sub-
 “ governor, who had completed a course
 “ of education, ever obtained; and after-
 “ wards repaid all these benefits with ha-
 “ tred; does the Abbé suppose me to
 “ harbour resentment against him? He
 “ has then forgotten that M. Bonnard’s
 “ family applied to me this winter to ob-
 “ tain from the Duke de Chartres a pen-
 “ sion for his children; that I solicited
 “ the favour with earnestness, that I ob-
 “ tained it, and that I shewed the Abbé
 “ the Duke de Chartres’ letter, in which
 “ he says, that *from the lively interest I feel,*
 “ *and the urgency of my solicitation, he could*
 “ *not refuse the favour, &c.* Another indis-
 “ creet expression of the Abbé compels
 “ me to boast, and to remind him of
 “ things which must certainly be very
 “ unpleasant to him*. How can the Abbé

* And so perfectly true are they that he has not
 been able to deny them in this Journal, in which are
 all his answers, written with his own hand.

“ ask me what instances I have to allege
“ against him of want of politeness to my
“ mother and me, when I have related
“ all the circumstances in this Journal,
“ in a very long article, which I know
“ was read to him by M. Lebrun, agree-
“ ably to my request? The complaints
“ which I then made in answer to com-
“ plaints (for in what relates merely to
“ myself nothing but this shall provoke
“ me to complain) were not vague ex-
“ pressions, but positive facts, witnessed
“ by Madame Nanfouti, and all the chil-
“ dren, who made a jest of the Abbé’s
“ rudeness, and on whom I rigorously
“ imposed silence the moment I was ac-
“ quainted with the circumstance.—The
“ Abbé, incapable of advancing a single
“ fact that has any evidence to support
“ it, has recourse to recrimination, and
“ says, in his loose way, that I am *silent*.
“ Towards him I discharge ever duty of
“ politeness, though he has frequently

“ and publicly dispensed with them to-
“ wards me : when he comes I ask him
“ how he does ; at table I ask him to
“ partake of every dish ; if he relates a
“ story or an anecdote, I am the first to
“ appear interested in the relation * ; it
“ is at any rate impossible that I should
“ owe him more than this. As to M.
“ Lebrun, in whom I have ever found at
“ least strict civility and that amiable and
“ obliging politeness for which he is dis-
“ tinguished, who has neither ill-humour,
“ pedantry, nor caprice, it is impossible
“ for me to behave to him, before others,
“ with politeness only : private discon-
“ tent may influence our sentiments ; but
“ unaffected, gentle, amiable manners will
“ always protect us from the trivial mortifi-
“ cation that might otherwise arise from
“ the not being treated with partiality,
“ and the not inspiring in those with whom

* And certainly this requires no small share of politeness.

“ we have intercourse a desire to please
“ us. Beside I have said, and I repeat
“ it, that I shall never cease to interest
“ myself for M. Lebrun. All these rea-
“ sons ought to convince the Abbé that
“ the last reproaches he has made, re-
“ specting my behaviour to these gentle-
“ men, are totally unfounded, and that I
“ have paid them innumerable attentions
“ and a studied civility, with which a
“ thousand others in my situation would,
“ not unreasonably, have dispensed.”

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ IF I were a person fond of maintain-
“ ing the rights of my place, I should
“ here tell M. Lebrun, that he has no
“ business to make any observations, or
“ give any kind of reproof where I am,
“ respecting things that pass in my pre-
“ sence : but I have no desire of main-
“ taining my rights, unless when I deem
“ them

“ them to be advantageous to the educa-
“ tion in which we are engaged ; and I
“ therefore leave these gentlemen per-
“ fectly at liberty to reprove upon all
“ occasions. I will only observe, that,
“ as I let nothing pass without blame
“ which I perceive to be wrong in the
“ conduct of the children, if these gentle-
“ men resume the subject in private,
“ double lectures will be given for the
“ same fault ; which may appear to the
“ princes as tiresome rather than proper
“ and useful. It is possible however that
“ I may have a momentary forgetfulness
“ of a fault which I have seen, and then
“ the lecture of these gentlemen would
“ be well placed ; but this is very rare,
“ and was not the case in the instance to
“ which I refer, since M. Lebrun saw
“ and heard me reprove the Duke de
“ Valois. I did not after dinner revive
“ so trifling a subject ; a word at the time
“ was sufficient ; for indeed leaning on a
“ chair

“ chair does not merit a sermon several
 “ times repeated. In our *conversations of*
 “ *a serious nature* let us talk only of hu-
 “ manity, benevolence, gentleness, sin-
 “ cerity, firmness and dignity: by not
 “ laying stress on trifles, we acquire the
 “ power of persuading in things of im-
 “ portance.”

Tuesday, 26 April 1785.

Note of the Abbé Guyot.

WHEN the Abbé Guyot wrote his very long letter to justify himself and M. Lebrun from the blame thrown on them by the Countess in the Journal of education, he expected not the strange answers which he has received. He honestly supposed that he had to do with a superior who would be eager to accept their justification, and would be charmed to find herself obliged to bestow praise instead of blame.

of the Princes.

blame *. The Countess has convinced him how greatly he was mistaken. He will still however continue to form his conduct on that opinion, which alone is honourable to the Countess, and consolatory to her coadjutors. The Abbé is about to put an end to the observations which the preceding notes of the Countess rendered indispensable : her last stops his pen. He will only say, that the irritable temper of the Countess, astonishing as it is, will not prevent him from respectfully and civilly appealing against all the unfounded accusations she may make, and that he will never conceal the truth when honour and justice call upon him to speak it †.

* To have bestowed this praise, the Abbé must have convinced me that I was wrong to complain. His answer has been seen.

† That is to say, he will go on to declaim in his vague manner, without advancing one argument, without alleging a single positive testimony, and without giving any answer to facts the truth of which is demonstrated, and which he is unable to deny.

“ *Note*

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ TO positive facts, related in the mi-
 “ nuteft manner, the Abbé has nothing
 “ to reply, but that I write *strange answers*,
 “ and that *my temper is irritable*. If ever,
 “ when retired from the world, I should
 “ take it into my head to exhibit this
 “ Journal, or to publish it for the in-
 “ struction of the governors of princes,
 “ the public will be able to judge on
 “ whose fide truth and reason lie. As
 “ we frequently fee our own caufe in a
 “ partial light, I will wait, if I live long
 “ enough, for this judgment to deter-
 “ mine mine. I beg M. Lebrun to fhew
 “ this fhort paragraph to the Abbé.”

Wednesday, 25 May 1785.

WHEN I entered the apartment of
 the princes, a little before seven o'clock,

M. Paulin informed me that the Duke de Montpensier had had a restless night ; that when he awoke his tongue was very black, that he complained of a pain in his lower jaw and his ear ; that M. Alyon had been sent for, who found the prince to be a little feverish, and recommended that he should drink some weak syrup of vinegar ; and that a little cotton, dipped in oil of lilies, should be put into his ear. These directions were observed. As the prince had risen, he was left in an easy-chair, with M. Paulin or de Lille to attend him.

The same Day.

DURING this time the Viscount de Valence and his lady arrived, and announced that the Duke de Chartres would be here to dinner. From the desire shewn by the Duke de Montpensier to dine with his papa, and from what M. Alyon had
said

said (that the Countess was informed of it), I thought proper, that I might take nothing upon myself, to send to the Countess to ask her intentions on this head: though the Duke de Chartres was arrived, and, as he embraced his children, had said to the Duke de Montpensier that his dining with him would give him pleasure, I civilly requested M. Paulin to carry my message to the Countess. He appeared to go to her; but I was not a little surprised to see him return a minute after, seemingly out of humour, to tell me, that, upon reflection, he did not think it his business, and he would not go. Though I could not but be displeased with such behaviour, particularly before the princes, I merely replied that it was very well, intending to take some future opportunity of informing the Countess of this, as I was not willing to importune her with my complaints at a time when it would have disturbed

turbed the pleasure she was enjoying with the Viscount and Viscountess de Valence. When the Duke de Valois went with his brother to join their papa, who was supposed to be in the gallery, I saw M. Paulin coming out with the Countess, who said to me before every body, *that it was astonishing I had not considered that the Duke de Montpensier was very unfit to come down stairs ; that he should dine in his chamber ; that beside, if I had any thing to say to her, her door was always open to me, and I might come to her myself, without sending Paulin.*

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ **NOTHING** can be less accurate than
“ the preceding account as far as it re-
“ spects myself. M. Paulin informed me,
“ that it had been decided by the Duke
“ de Chartres and M. Lebrun that the
“ Duke de Montpensier should dine be-
“ low : I heard no more, as I was in haste
“ to

“ to go down stairs. In the gallery I
“ found M. Lebrun and the Duke de
“ Montpensier, and I told the latter that
“ he was not well enough to dine below ;
“ then, recollecting that M. Lebrun had
“ decided otherwise, I added, out of re-
“ spect to him, *and surely M. Lebrun thinks*
“ *as I do, that you are not fit to come below.*
“ M. Lebrun answered to this in such a
“ passion that he could scarcely express
“ himself: what he said was, that M.
“ Paulin had refused to come and speak
“ to me upon the subject ; and I replied,
“ that my door was always open, and I
“ was always ready to hear any thing he
“ had to say, particularly any occasional
“ questions relative to the business of
“ education. I had even the civility to
“ add, that *I was naturally inclined* to hear,
“ and to be persuaded by him in cases of
“ this sort : but my attention and civility
“ were both lost on M. Lebrun, who
“ was still in a passion when I left him ;
“ and, I may say, out of his reason.
“ However,

“ However, as he had just told me that
“ Paulin had refused to bring his mes-
“ sage, I took an opportunity after din-
“ ner of speaking to Paulin. I declared
“ to him in a very serious manner, that
“ such conduct was extremely wrong,
“ that it admitted of no excuse, and I
“ positively insisted that nothing of a
“ similar nature might ever happen
“ again .”

Thursday, 26 May 1785.

“ NOT having had time to look into
“ the Journal for these six days past, I
“ was ignorant that the Duke de Valois
“ had had disputes with the Abbé, and
“ had been guilty of the impertinence of
“ telling M. Lebrun that what he said
“ was *incredible*; in short, that he had
“ failed in politeness, respect and obe-
“ dience to these gentlemen. Such faults
“ shall not go unpunished. The first
“ time the Duke de Chartres comes here,
“ the

“ the Duke de Valois shall dine and sup
 “ alone in his chamber. I am, on other
 “ accounts, greatly dissatisfied with him
 “ since his late indisposition : he is ex-
 “ tremely indolent, and does nothing
 “ with activity ; but I punish him par-
 “ ticularly for his disrespect to these
 “ gentlemen ; and for the next com-
 “ plaint I hear of this kind, the punish-
 “ ment shall be more severe, and I will
 “ treat him as a child of six years old.
 “ I desire M. Lebrun to read this article
 “ to him.”

Friday, 27 May 1785.

“ **M. LEBRUN** says, that he wishes
 “ *to profit by the English and Italian lessons*
 “ *that the princes receive.* This has the
 “ air of a jest. Previous to his connec-
 “ tion with the princes, he had under-
 “ stood and spoken the English language
 “ for several years : he has since profited
 “ by their lessons for three years and a
 “ half,

“ half, and beside lives constantly in the
“ society of their master. He certainly
“ therefore knows as much English as it
“ is possible to learn. As to the Italian,
“ he has been present at their lessons for
“ more than a year; and he may also
“ be present every day at dinner, when
“ no other language is spoken. Under-
“ standing Latin, he cannot, with the
“ assistance he has received, but know
“ Italian, at least sufficiently to be able
“ to render himself perfect master of it
“ in a very little time, if he has any de-
“ sire. The lessons are given in my
“ chamber, because I wish to preside as
“ much as possible in studies of which
“ I conceive myself to be a competent
“ judge*.”

* All this arose from that incurable jealousy which
caused them to be displeased with my undertaking
so many things.

Same Day.

THE Duke de Montpenfier has returned me my Journal, and I have read with attention the Countess's three notes. To the first I answer, that I wrote what passed exactly as I saw and heard it. I do not disown that I was moved, but I am persuaded any other person would have been equally so in my place ; and, notwithstanding the government I endeavour to obtain over myself, I will not promise that I shall behave differently in similar circumstances. It is for this reason I have entreated the Countess always to speak to me in private, and not before all the world.

I shall read to the Duke de Valois the second note which concerns him.

On the subject of the third, I beg leave to assure the Countess that I never permit myself to jest on any thing relative to the business of education, and that, in the instance in question, my words were
meant

meant to express the zeal and good will
which always animate us.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

"I CANNOT promise that I shall not
" again occasion in M. Lebrun, when
" I think I have reason to complain of
" him, similar sensations to what he calls
" *being moved*, but what appeared to me
" to be passion. When I have any com-
" plaint to make I mention it to him only
" in private; but this was not the case
" here; I did not complain, I made no
" kind of reproach: M. Lebrun was in
" a passion with Paulin, and this passion
" very unjustly vented itself against me."

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Saturday, 28 May 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

"I HAD not time yesterday to write
" in this Journal a remark, to which I

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" request

“ request M. Lebrun to pay some atten-
 “ tion. Yesterday, at the chemical lec-
 “ tures, M. Lebrun gave the Duke de
 “ Valois his tea, which he received with-
 “ out rising from his seat, and contented
 “ himself with saying, *I thank you*. I said
 “ coldly to the Duke de Valois, as M.
 “ Lebrun heard, that it was inconceiv-
 “ able, when M. Lebrun had the civility
 “ to help him, that he should express his
 “ obligation no otherwise than he would
 “ to a valet de chambre. What I have
 “ to observe to M. Lebrun is, that he
 “ should never suffer such rudeness, even
 “ in a tête à tête. When I am alone with
 “ the children, I never permit them to
 “ drink, sitting by my side ; or to neglect
 “ the slightest token of the respect that
 “ is due to me. I have already a thou-
 “ sand times observed that M. Lebrun
 “ dispenses with all those marks of re-
 “ spect which a young man owes his tu-
 “ tors. Yesterday again, when he gave
 “ some drink to the Duke de Montpen-
 “ sier,

“ fier, he prevented him from rising : if
“ I had not wished to avoid a lesson con-
“ tradictory to a permission given by M.
“ Lebrun, I would have told the Duke to
“ rise from his seat and take what M. Le-
“ brun presented to him, and would have
“ made him go to the door and drink.
“ It is M. Lebrun’s mild and indulgent
“ disposition that leads him to permit
“ these trifling freedoms ; but they are
“ in my opinion every way dangerous,
“ and calculated to diminish the respect
“ which is due to these gentlemen from
“ the princes *

“ This evening I received a letter of
“ four pages from the Abbé Guyot, who
“ says, that he cannot conform to writing

* There is a pleasing familiarity which produces ease and friendship ; and there is a rude familiarity which begets contempt. We may however and ought to permit in a pupil of fourteen or fifteen years, what must not be tolerated while he is still an infant : these shades are delicate, and difficult to catch ; and in this respect I will venture to say that women in general have a discernment which is wanting in men.

“ in this Journal, as I have requested.
 “ He will at least permit me to take this
 “ mode of answering him *.

“ The Abbé complains in strong
 “ terms of my interfering in the reli-
 “ gious instruction of the princes. This
 “ complaint comes very late, as I have
 “ constantly attended to it ever since I
 “ had the charge of their education†.
 “ They have no extracts of sacred his-
 “ tory but what I have made for them :
 “ when I gave them such extracts two
 “ years and a half ago, the Abbé made no
 “ complaint ; when I told the Abbé and
 “ wrote several times in this Journal, that
 “ I was reading a course of sacred history
 “ with them, he made no complaint. I can
 “ prove by the Private Journal of my
 “ readings with the princes, that, since the
 “ period they were first entrusted to my
 “ care, I have read to them upwards of

* It surely required patience to bear this strange
 obstinacy.

† But ill humour increasing daily, cavils were
 multiplied.

“ twenty-

“ twenty-five volumes of sacred history
“ and religious books, and that of these
“ twenty-five volumes we are advanced as
“ far as the twelfth for the third time. Be-
“ side, I have made from all these works
“ particular extracts, not for them to learn
“ by heart, but which I read to them
“ very frequently. I can in the same
“ manner prove, that I have with almost
“ equal regularity given them lessons in
“ geography, though I gave my per-
“ mission to Prieur, who was already in
“ possession of the employment, to in-
“ struct them in this science, and for a
“ much better reason approved of the
“ exertions of the Abbé for the same pur-
“ pose. This did not prevent me from
“ reading to the princes what I con-
“ ceived to be the best geographical
“ works, and, in short, I think I have a
“ right to teach them every thing I know
“ and of which I am capable: a right
“ so natural that for three years and a

“ half the Abbé has never once thought
“ of disputing it. The first instruction
“ I gave them was a *religious instruction*,
“ which I made them learn by heart at
“ Saint Cloud. The Abbé did not then
“ complain; and he has seen me continue the same office without betraying
“ the least symptom of his regarding it
“ as an usurpation: on the contrary he has
“ a thousand times repeated, that he was
“ fully persuaded I had a right to take
“ upon myself every branch of tuition
“ when I thought proper; and it is now
“ the Abbé says for the first that no one
“ has any concern in the religious instruction of the princes but himself.
“ He adds that it is the duty of a preceptor. Doubtless it is, because no
“ governor is desirous of taking the trouble, and because a governor fond of
“ company and addicted to pleasure and
“ dissipation, would be very incapable of
“ giving such instruction. If the Abbé
“ is displeased that I meddle with the

“ religious instruction of the princes,
“ why is not M. Lebrun also displeased
“ that I have taken upon me to teach
“ them history? What governor hitherto
“ ever troubled himself about giving
“ lessons? I am not therefore to be
“ compared to a governor. I had no
“ interested or ambitious views in accept-
“ ing my place; it has occasioned no
“ change, absolutely no change in my
“ condition: I have desired nothing but
“ the sovereign disposal of the children
“ whom friendship confided to my care:
“ to devote to them all my attention
“ and the few talents I possess, is a satisfac-
“ tion sufficiently just, and purchased
“ by sacrifices sufficiently great, for it not
“ to be disputed. The Abbé says, that
“ he cannot give up the most important
“ of his functions, and the most essential
“ point of instruction, that which relates
“ to religion. And because it is the
“ essential point, ought I to renounce it,

“ or to be less attached to it? If I be-
 “ lieve myself to possess the talent of
 “ painting religion such as it is, consola-
 “ tory, indulgent, and necessary to hap-
 “ piness, can I have the complaisance
 “ which the Abbé requires of me? The
 “ Abbé insists, observing that it is *for*
 “ *the good of the education* in which we are
 “ engaged. I will reply, since he com-
 “ pels me to it, with as little modesty,
 “ that my works have proved that I
 “ know how to speak of religion so as to
 “ render it amiable. I understand it
 “ perfectly, I have already in the
 “ course of my life prepared two chil-
 “ dren (my own) for their first commu-
 “ nion. I have since had much experi-
 “ ence, and made many reflections. In
 “ fine I have written a work on the sub-
 “ ject of preparation for the first com-
 “ munion, which I shall certainly pub-
 “ lish, and which has been *read and ap-*
 “ *proved*

“ *proved* by a doctor of the Sorbonne.
“ Many reasons have induced me to de-
“ fer its publication; but I mean to
“ make use of it with the Duke de Va-
“ lois by following a plan of reading
“ suited to it*. It is not therefore for
“ trivial reasons that I have reserved to
“ myself the right of preparing him for
“ his first communion. I have reflected
“ on and studied the subject so much,
“ that I believe a person with talents su-
“ perior to mine would not discharge
“ the task so well. The Abbé says that
“ he shall lose all consideration with the
“ princes, if I take upon myself this of-
“ fice : but I again observe, that it will

* When I published this work I gave it a different title, viz. Religion considered as the only Basis of Happiness and true Philosophy ; and I believe the Abbé would not have written a better performance, since the first edition was sold in thirteen days, and in the course of four years three others have been published, beside a great number of spurious editions.

“ be nothing new to them; they have
“ always received from me *religious in-*
“ *structions*, infinitely longer and more
“ minute than what they have received
“ from the Abbé. They entertain a
“ very just idea of my situation (which I
“ explained to them myself at the com-
“ mencement of my connection with
“ them): this idea is, that I am not
“ confined to any particular object, that
“ I am at liberty to undertake whatever
“ I am capable of teaching without any
“ persons having a right to be displeased
“ at it; that it is not from distrust of the
“ abilities and talents of their tutors, that
“ I take upon myself so many things, but
“ solely for my own satisfaction, and be-
“ cause I derive a pleasure from dedicat-
“ ing to them all my time. Such is
“ their opinion: it is simple, it is just,
“ and it has nothing in it that can hurt
“ the feelings of the Abbé.”

Sunday, 10 July 1785.

AT noon the princes attended mass, and on their return, at half after twelve they wrote to their friend. On this occasion the Duke de Valois gave two proofs of economy, first in desiring M. Paulin to give his brother common paper only for his rough copy, not letter paper; and secondly in not choosing that his letter should be sealed lest his friend should be charged with double postage. I made some remarks to him on the first instance of economy, of which we see, with regret, frequent signs that we do not think becoming in a prince. I contrasted with this some of his fancies in which alone he ought to be an economist.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“THIS is giving them very false notions, and I beg that these common-

“ place remarks, which have been the
“ means of forming so many bad princes,
“ may not be repeated. Without the
“ observance of economy we cannot be
“ generous, and in infancy it is in trifles
“ alone that there is an opportunity of
“ being economical: let him therefore
“ be frugal of his paper, as he can at
“ present be so of nothing else. Nei-
“ ther is it judicious to tell him, that,
“ instead of being economical, he would
“ do better to abridge his fancies, as it
“ is impossible to convince him of this.
“ It is in reality much more reason-
“ able to be frugal of things that
“ afford us no pleasure, and are nei-
“ ther profitable nor pleasing to others,
“ than to deny ourselves a gratifica-
“ tion. False morals corrupt the mind
“ because they are founded solely on
“ prejudices. I request M. Lebrun,
“ when he gives lessons in future, to
“ consult only his own mind, which will
“ guide

“ guide him right, and never to repeat,
“ without reflection, the trivial and dan-
“ gerous maxims, which have become
“ proverbial in the houses of princes.”

Note of Madame de Gentis..

“ FOR this fault*, which is a very se-
“ rious one, a reprimand is not sufficient;
“ some punishment must be inflicted: I
“ have given complete power in this
“ respect to these gentlemen. A public
“ punishment however should not be in-
“ flicted, because at the age of the Duke-
“ de Valois it would injure his sense of
“ honour; but it should be some moral-
“ one that he is capable of feeling sensi-
“ bly, that of behaving extremely cold
“ to him for several days in private,
“ &c.”

Sunday, 7 August 1785.

“ I STRONGLY suspect that this

* An evasion to excuse a fault.

“ walking

“ walking in his sleep is all a trick*.
 “ *He arose, sat down, put on his guêtres,*
 “ &c. This is going a great way: Pau-
 “ lin must not be suffered to talk to him
 “ of these particulars, and to relate them
 “ as very extraordinary things. When
 “ the prince introduces the subject, he
 “ should be told that tales of this kind
 “ are very tiresome; that for a person to
 “ walk in his sleep is nothing wonder-
 “ ful; that it is a sad and troublesome
 “ thing; and that if it continues, the re-
 “ medy of which I spoke yesterday must
 “ be employed. This should be said
 “ carelessly, without appearing displeas-
 “ ed, or suspecting his sincerity, &c.†”

* And I was right. Among children it is a very
 common trick, of which the persons about them are
 generally the dupes. Hence all those wonderful
 histories of somnambulists, which are, for the most
 part, nothing but fables.

† This counsel was followed, and he was cured of
 walking in his sleep.

Saturday, 13 August 1785.

WITH respect to the note of yesterday, I must say to the Countess that I consider myself as very unfortunate in expressing my ideas so badly that I am not understood.

As to the phrase with which she concludes her note, I shall merely say, that I do not think I deserve it, inasmuch as I have not told the Countess in my Journal that she had blamed my conduct; I only employed with the princes the expression she mentions, that they might another time do instantly what I desired them, and to prevent their friend from blaming me for what they would do in spite of me*.

NOTE

* These gentlemen were sometimes disobeyed because they persisted in preaching, chiding and pouting, instead of punishing; and M. Lebrun, who thought, not without reason, that I ought before the princes never to appear dissatisfied with him, made them

Note of Madame de Genlis.

" IF M. Lebrun did not suppose me to
 " have blamed him, he ought not to
 " have said it to the Duke de Valois ;
 " first, because it was deviating from
 " truth ; secondly, because it was giving
 " the Duke de Valois a false idea, by lead-
 " ing him to construe as blame what was
 " not so ; which is calculated at the same
 " time to render him captious, a fault
 " insupportable in society* "

Another Note, Sunday, 14 August.

" I ENQUIRED yesterday of the
 " princes what prayers they were made
 " to say : I understood with surprise,

them believe a thing that was false, that I had blamed him: at the same time had I really blamed him, he would have taken it very much amiss in any one that should have told them so. All this is not very consistent.

* And of which my colleagues made me feel the inconvenience every day.

" that

“ that the Abbé Guyot, hitherto charged
“ solely with this office, had never
“ thought of giving even one additional
“ one to the Duke de Valois in the year
“ in which he is to communicate for the
“ first time. I acquaint the Abbé how-
“ ever, that for the future I shall take
“ upon myself the business of choos-
“ ing, augmenting, &c. their prayers.
“ I beg M. Lebrun to read this article
“ to him.”

Thursday, 18 August 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ TO answer four lines, the Abbé re-
“ quires four days of reflection, and fills
“ four pages of large paper. He writes
“ an endless dissertation to prove that
“ children should not be made to say
“ long prayers. To what purpose is this
“ declaration? Who disputes any such
“ point with him? Would not any one
“ suppose that I had enjoined the princes
“ a prayer

“ a prayer of at least half an hour ? In-
 “ stead of this I have given them
 “ a prayer of half a page, of three
 “ minutes length, and which possesses
 “ a merit that many people have not in
 “ writing letters, the merit of saying
 “ many things to the purpose in very
 “ few words ; for this excellent prayer
 “ is a complete recapitulation of all the
 “ duties of a Christian, and of an honest
 “ and social being. In fine, the princes
 “ said such prayers only as children of
 “ five years old are taught to say, with-
 “ out any thing having been added to
 “ them since, which ought to have been
 “ done at seven and eight, independent
 “ of the first communion. The notice
 “ given of this first communion did not
 “ induce the Abbé to make the Duke
 “ say a single additional word. I make
 “ him repeat a prayer three minutes long ;
 “ this the Abbé thinks too much : and
 “ I, for my part, think his dissertation
 “ on long prayers superfluous. The
 “ Abbé

“ Abbé then says over again the same
“ things he had before said to me, on
“ my wishing to prepare the Duke de
“ Valois for his first communion. All
“ these I had already answered in the
“ fullest manner. It is astonishing that
“ the Abbé, having offered no objection,
“ no contradiction, as in reality there
“ was none to advance, should two
“ months after send me a copy of his
“ former letter, without making the
“ least mention of the reasons I had as-
“ signed for my conduct, and this among
“ the rest : that I had deeply reflected
“ on the nature of preparation for the
“ first communion, that I had composed
“ a complete treatise upon the subject,
“ which had been approved by a doctor
“ of the Sorbonne, which I intended to
“ read to the Duke de Valois, and one
“ day to publish. To all this the Abbé
“ makes no reply. Though he has --
“ ver thought upon the subject, never
“ ever written a single line, never formed
“ any.

“ any plan respecting it, he imagines
 “ that I shall sacrifice my trouble, my
 “ labour, my right; for I have a right
 “ to take upon myself any instruction
 “ I please. He imagines that I shall
 “ make all these sacrifices; but he is
 “ mistaken*. I think that, having me-
 “ ditated and studied the subject more
 “ than he, having a plan and a work
 “ quite finished, being better acquainted
 “ with children and with the means of
 “ persuading and moving them, I shall
 “ be infinitely more able to pre-
 “ pare the Duke de Valois: thus my
 “ conscience alone is sufficient to deter-
 “ mine me. As all the other reasons I
 “ have assigned are contained in this

* It is true the Abbé is a priest. But what is a priest
 who never says mass, who performs none of the func-
 tions of his office, and who is a priest only in solicit-
 ing and accepting benefices? I could not regard
 such a man as an ecclesiastic; yet I left to him the
 care of making the princes say their prayers and of
 examining ^{the} consciences when they confessed,
 things in which I never

“ Journal, I must refer the Abbé to it,
“ and have nothing more to say to him,
“ except assuring him, that I am irre-
“ vocably determined to prepare the
“ princes for their first communion, as
“ well as to take upon myself every
“ branch of instruction, successively or at
“ once, whenever I please, and that I
“ will hear no more objections on this
“ head. I shall never take any branch
“ of tuition from these gentlemen to
“ give it to another ; but when it suits me
“ to take it upon myself, I will do it.
“ To this I have an indisputable right ;
“ first, from the nature of my situation,
“ and secondly because it is the pleasure
“ of the Duke and Dukes de Chartres.
“ Their children are certainly at their
“ disposal, and they have confided to
“ me all their authority till the educa-
“ tion shall be finished, and have made
“ me their representative. None of the
“ rights which they have condescended
“ to confer upon me will I give up. The

“ Abbé, as usual, talks a great deal to
 “ me in his letter of *my glory, my talents,*
 “ *and my greatness* : such language can
 “ neither seduce nor impose upon me ;
 “ I do my duty, and no human confi-
 “ deration can prevail on me not to
 “ discharge it in its fullest extent. If the
 “ Abbé is dissatisfied with this last an-
 “ swer, he may shew it to the Duke de
 “ Chartres, who will himself tell him
 “ that all I have said is perfectly con-
 “ formable to his will and pleasure ; and
 “ that, beside, he has blamed me, and
 “ done me the honour to say, when I
 “ gave him an account of this affair, that
 “ *I was wrong in assigning reasons for my*
 “ *conduct to the Abbé, that he had no right*
 “ *to ask it, and I ought not to have done*
 “ *this.* I beg M. Lebrun to read the
 “ article of to-day to the Abbé.”

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I HAVE just received a letter from the
 “ Abbé

“ Abbé in answer to my last note. The
“ Abbé begins with attributing to me a
“ thing which I have not said. He
“ pretends that I have written, that the
“ prayers of the princes should have
“ been *changed* at eight or nine years of
“ age; and upon this subject he adds,
“ that there is a propriety in changing
“ their extracts, &c. with their years,
“ but that prayers are of a different na-
“ ture, and suited to all ages. This
“ remark falls to the ground, as it is
“ founded on a false supposition. I have
“ not said that the prayers of the princes
“ ought to have been changed; I have
“ only said, that at the age of eight or
“ nine something ought to have been
“ *added* to them, because our duties in-
“ crease with our years, and with our
“ reason, which makes us sensible of
“ them. It is ridiculous that a child of
“ nine years, and still more so that a
“ child of nearly twelve, should say only
“ the prayers which he said at six. At
“ five

“ five or six we do not let a child go to
“ confession : it is then evident that we
“ think a child ought to have more piety
“ at eleven, and even at nine, than at
“ five or six. The prayers of the
“ princes were those of a child of the
“ latter age ; and I therefore said, and I
“ repeat it, that some addition should
“ have been made to them. The Abbé
“ has altered my meaning, by substitut-
“ ing the expression *changed*, which ren-
“ ders the sense quite different. Fortu-
“ nately the Journal contains what I
“ wrote upon the subject, so that it can-
“ not be denied *. I beg that the Abbé
“ will give himself the trouble to write,
“ and to relate facts with a little more
“ accuracy. The Abbé confesses, that,
“ in his last letter but one, he made no
“ mention of my note, which contained

* Which would otherwise certainly have been the case ; and the Journal was not so much detested without good reasons.

“ all

“ all the reasons of my conduct, and
 “ adds : *this is very natural, it was not*
 “ *your reasons that I wished to answer, I*
 “ *wished to change your will.* Surely no-
 “ thing can be more out of nature than
 “ this sentence. I should be glad to know
 “ how we are to *change the will* of a per-
 “ son who is not a fool, without *answer-*
 “ *ing his reasons.* To me this appears a
 “ curious secret ; but I cannot think
 “ that the Abbé has discovered it. Fi-
 “ nally, the Abbé says, since the Duke
 “ and Duchess de Chartres have given
 “ me the authority I claim, *he considers it*
 “ *among his first duties to acknowledge that*
 “ *they have the right of doing so, and to*
 “ *submit himself to it.* The authority
 “ they have condescended to confer upon
 “ me, has been declared by them to be
 “ without bounds. From the instant
 “ the princes were put under my care,
 “ I have a thousand times repeated, and
 “ the Abbé has acknowledged, that the
 “ most incontestable right of my office

“ was that of having it in my power to
“ take upon myself, whenever I pleased,
“ every branch of instruction without
“ exception. When therefore the Abbé
“ disputed my rights, he only disputed
“ that authority to which he at length
“ submits; for I neither act myself, nor
“ demand any thing of others, but in
“ compliance with the orders and powers
“ I have received; a circumstance, in-
“ deed, which the Abbé could not have
“ doubted of, if he had not been ex-
“ pressly informed of it. I believe the
“ Abbé capable of very honourable ac-
“ tions, but he wishes to persuade me
“ that it is an *honourable one* to inform me
“ that he intends to write a memorial to
“ the Duke de Chaitres, and that he
“ shall shew it to me before he presents
“ it. To this I frankly answer, that I
“ see nothing honourable or dishonour-
“ able in it. What can he say that I
“ should be afraid of? Beside, is he not
“ certain that the memorial will be com-
“ municated

“ municated to me before perhaps it is
 “ opened, and that, if I desire it, I shall
 “ have the first reading of it? As to what
 “ concerns myself, I have never troubled
 “ the Duke de Chartres with these bick-
 “ erings *. I merely told him that I had
 “ written a long treatise on the first
 “ communion for the Duke de Valois,
 “ and that I had assigned this reason to
 “ the Abbé, for interfering in the reli-
 “ gious instruction of the prince, who
 “ made no other reply but that I took
 “ from him a right which belonged to
 “ him alone. The Duke de Chartres
 “ answered, *that I was wrong in assigning*
 “ *any reason*, since the Abbé well knew

* In this and in every thing else I suffered all these contradictions without complaint. Beside, M. and Madame d'Orleans having given me absolute authority, it was in my power to have dismissed every person concerned in the education of the princes. Had I complained, M. d'Orleans would have answered, *You must insist upon their resigning*: but I wished not to deprive them of their places, and was therefore silent.

“ that I had a right to take upon myself
“ every branch of instruction, whenever
“ I pleased ; and he desired that I would
“ in future *give no reasons for things of*
“ *this sort.* This was all that was said.
“ I have presented no memorial ; but the
“ Abbé is at liberty to present as many as
“ he thinks proper : I only beg that he
“ will dispense with my reading them :
“ this discussion, which ought never to
“ have taken place, has already occupied
“ too much of my time. The Abbé
“ tells me also, that *he has trodden in the*
“ *steps of his predecessors, and that the same*
“ *path will probably be pursued by his suc-*
“ *cessors.* I know that his *predecessors*
“ have left behind them no great reputa-
“ tion for skill in the education of
“ princes ; and I know also, that all his
“ successors will not follow the beaten
“ track already proved to be erroneous,
“ if the honour be intended me (which I
“ hope will never take place) of giving
“ me an associate.”

Note

Saturday, 20 August 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I RECEIVE the Abbé’s answer to
“ my last note. He confesses that he
“ has given a very different meaning to
“ what I said on the subject of prayers,
“ and that every thing he has written is
“ useless. He might also have acknow-
“ ledged, that what he wrote the other
“ day upon long prayers was equally
“ foreign to the purpose. The Abbé
“ again repeats, that I never told him
“ that I was authorised to take upon my-
“ self every branch of instruction without
“ exception. I also repeat, that I told him
“ so from the beginning, and moreover
“ proved it from the beginning, even
“ with respect to religion, since on one
“ of the first days of our connection I
“ acquainted the Abbé that I should
“ give a lesson of an hour on the subject
“ every day, and that I should read to

“ the princes all the Old Testament and
“ the New : this plan I pursued, con-
“ fining the Abbé to a quarter, or a half
“ an hour’s instruction on Sundays.
“ The Abbé conceived all this to be
“ very natural, and during a period of
“ more than three years that it continued,
“ he did not once complain of my in-
“ croaching on his functions. These are
“ facts, but to facts the Abbé has the
“ constant habit of not answering. The
“ Abbé also says, that I deprive him of
“ all his functions : this is not true ; I
“ might, if I pleased, take them all upon
“ myself, but I do not. The Abbé
“ makes them say their prayers : an im-
“ portant function, for it is of impor-
“ tance that the princes should be taught
“ to say them with attention and feeling.
“ Meanwhile the Abbé, jealous of his
“ functions, when I would share them
“ with him, has left to M. Lebrun the
“ office of making the princes say their
“ prayers, as this Journal proves. Be-

“ side, the Abbé prepares the princes for
 “ confession, and gives them their Sun-
 “ day instruction: he has therefore
 “ *some functions* still remaining. These
 “ I will not promise to leave him; but I
 “ have not, as he asserts, taken them all
 “ away. Lastly, I have not promised
 “ the Abbé that I would *consult* him. It
 “ is not my duty; it is a point of civility
 “ which I shall only shew to those who
 “ are deserving of my friendship: and
 “ towards the Abbé I feel not this senti-
 “ ment. He now knows on what he has
 “ to depend. Let us live in peace; let
 “ him have the goodness to be more
 “ conformable to my intentions, to be-
 “ less disputatious, to entertain fewer
 “ unbecoming pretensions, to count more
 “ upon the natural mildness of my dis-
 “ position, and my extreme desire that
 “ every individual should be contented
 “ and happy. I conclude this my last
 “ explanation, with assuring the Abbé of
 “ my sincere personal esteem, and of the

“ pain it gives me to be forced to say
 “ things that are displeasing to him.”

Wednesday, 31 August 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I COULD wish M. Lebrun to praise
 “ the Duke de Valois for his conduct to-
 “ wards the *Bourgeois*, as it was a very
 “ virtuous action, and he was not in the
 “ least degree prompted to it by me. I
 “ perceive in the prince on this occasion
 “ a goodness of heart, and a steadiness of
 “ character, that are entitled to commen-
 “ dation; and commendations on such
 “ subjects, far from being attended with
 “ inconveniences, are the only ones that
 “ can be productive of none but excellent
 “ effects.”

Friday, 2 September 1785.

“ I KNOW not why the Abbé speaks
 “ to me again upon the subject of the
 “ first

“ first communion, and displays so much
 “ vexation, after the deference and sa-
 “ tisfaction he has expressed to the Duke
 “ de Chartres. The Abbé is inconsol-
 “ able, because his ideas, purely specu-
 “ lative, have not been preferred to a
 “ work already finished, approved by a
 “ doctor of the Sorbonne, and written
 “ by a person who is acquainted with
 “ children, and knows how to talk to
 “ them. The Abbé quotes a number of
 “ authors, from whom, he says, he has
 “ taken his ideas. But are these authors
 “ known to himself alone? and cannot
 “ I derive from them what is valuable
 “ as well as another? Having written a
 “ treatise on the subject, must I not have
 “ read with more care, and reflected on
 “ it with more attention, than the Abbé,
 “ who has merely *thought* and *meditated*,
 “ without writing a treatise, or even
 “ making an extract?—I will add, that
 “ if the Abbé has any *misunderstanding*
 “ with me, I have none with him.

“ though it be true that he persevered
“ in his strange behaviour during the
“ whole of last winter, and has added to
“ it since behaviour still more strange :
“ though it be true that he has refrained
“ this year from bringing the princes to
“ me every other day ; that he never
“ sets his foot within my door on any
“ pretence ; that when the princes sup
“ with me, though M. Lebrun always
“ comes, the Abbé never does : though
“ it be true that when I meet the Abbé
“ he never accosts me, or shews me the
“ least mark of civility ; that he behaves
“ not with more politeness to my mother :
“ my mother is frequently ill, and the
“ Abbé is not only the sole person in
“ the house who never goes to ask her
“ how she does, but he even never
“ makes any enquiries about her. How
“ little becoming is it in a person, who
“ gives children such examples of ill
“ humour and want of politeness, to say,
“ that nothing is more necessary than a
“ good

“ good understanding between tutors.

.

“ I beg M. Lebrun to read this article
“ to the Abbé without delay.”

Friday, 2 September, continued.

THE Abbé Guyot was forced during the winter to pursue a different conduct. He has been neither unpolite nor uncivil: no certainly, it would have been too repugnant to his principles, his character, his habits; but he has been cautious and circumspect, avoiding private visits which he had reason to believe would have been more irksome to the persons receiving them than to himself. Could he act differently after the many mortifications, and even insults, that were offered him? He will not mention particulars, lest he should be suspected of a relentment, which, most assuredly, he does not feel, and to spare the Coun-

ters recollections which cannot be agreeable to her.

He hastens to put an end to this article, which is already too long, by saying, that he is reduced to the unpleasant necessity of reasoning upon all his actions, and of regulating them by the standard of the strictest duty, under penalty of having their rectitude and purity called in question. It is incumbent on him to be civil to every person, and in this he has never failed: but sentiment he owes only to those who share, or appear to share it with him. To offer it to any one that appeared to disdain it, would be degrading to the noblest part of his soul. If the Countess knew how painful it was to the Abbé Guyot to be obliged to make these nice distinctions in his conduct, just, sensible and generous as she wishes to be to every one, she would no doubt feel much regret for having reduced to this irksome necessity a man of honour,

honour, who enjoys, among those who know him, the reputation of distinguished good qualities.

Unpleasant as this situation is, the Abbé Guyot will support it with courage, as long as there arises from it no inconvenience to the education of the princes, who, for their age, are admirable patterns of benevolence, prudence, and reason. He suffers, but without complaint, without a murmur in the presence of his charming pupils. It is difficult to conceal from them the unfortunate misunderstanding that exists between those who have the care of their education : but he will never have to accuse himself of making them acquainted with it, nor would they entertain the least suspicion of it, were every one as cautious and circumspect as himself *

* The horrible falsehood of this assertion will soon appear, as well as what kind of *circumspection* he observed with our pupils.

Saturday, 3 September 1785.

“ I CONSIDER the Abbé’s answer as
“ *false and injurious*. He has nothing to
“ reply now, as he had nothing to reply
“ in the winter, to accusations founded
“ on facts, of which all the world were
“ witnesses. I do not complain of his
“ having put a stop to his visits ; I only
“ enumerate facts : that he does not ob-
“ serve common politeness towards me,
“ or, which offends me more, towards
“ my mother ; that he never asks her
“ how she does, never bids her *good-*
“ *morning* (a civility which he equally
“ neglects towards me) ; that when she
“ is indisposed he is the only person
“ who neither goes nor sends to enquire
“ respecting her health, &c. I should
“ treat all this with silence and contempt
“ only, if the Abbé, incapable of deny-
“ ing it, did not answer, by way of re-
“ proof, that I make him suffer a thou-
“ sand

“ sand *mortifications and insults*. This is
 “ an egregious falsehood, and I defy the
 “ Abbé to cite a single fact in proof of
 “ so odious an accusation. If I have
 “ loaded the Abbé with insults, why
 “ has he had the meanness to bear them?
 “ Why has he not given in his resigna-
 “ tion?—On the contrary, I have sought
 “ and courted his favour; I began, at
 “ Saint Cloud, by admitting him into
 “ my private parties, by requesting his
 “ friendship, by promising him mine,
 “ which would have been equally warm
 “ and sincere, by asking him to dine with
 “ us as often as was agreeable to him;
 “ I have interested myself in every thing
 “ that concerned him, have entreated a
 “ thousand times the Duke and Duchéss
 “ de Chartres to speak in his behalf to
 “ the bishop of Autun, &c. The Abbé
 “ treated all this civility with disdain;
 “ never condescended to dine with us at
 “ Belle Chasse, and preserved his ill-
 “ humour, his anger, and his moroseness.

“ In

“ In short, he carried things last winter
“ to such an extreme of unpoliteness,
“ that all the children were struck with
“ his behaviour, and I was obliged to
“ impose silence on them. Such has
“ been the conduct of the Abbé, such
“ are the examples he has given; and
“ yet he can deal in accusations against
“ me, who have borne with extreme pa-
“ tience all his perverseness, who have
“ never said a word to the princes but
“ what was calculated to inspire them
“ with veneration and regard for him;
“ and I refer him on this head to the
“ paper of instructions I left, on my de-
“ parture for England: against me, who
“ have not only always adhered to those
“ principles of politeness, the observation
“ of which we owe to all the world, but
“ who have never ceased to shew the
“ Abbé all those attentions which I have
“ practised towards the persons who have
“ never insulted me: for example, when,
“ on my return from England, I made
“ some

“ some small present, by way of remem-
 “ brance, to all those persons with whom
 “ I was in intercourse of friendship, and
 “ gave an engraving to M. Lebrun, to
 “ the Abbé Mariottini and the Abbé
 “ Famin, I did not overlook in this dis-
 “ tribution the Abbé Guyot. Such have
 “ been my deportment and my conduct :
 “ and the Abbé describes me as having
 “ been hasty, uncivil, unreasonable, ab-
 “ surd and *insulting* for the period of three
 “ years and a half. If I did not know
 “ how to despise injustice and calumny, I
 “ should never forget this behaviour ; but
 “ to-morrow there will be no trace of
 “ it in my memory. Meanwhile I beg
 “ the Abbé to give me no more of
 “ these vague accusations : I allege
 “ facts, let him refute them, let him al-
 “ lege facts in his turn, or let him be-
 “ silent.”

Wednesday, 7 September 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“AS I passed to day in the gallery, I
“ heard the children making a noise in
“ the academy : when I came to the door
“ I stopped, and I heard the Duke de
“ Montpensier, Henrietta and Pamela,
“ conversing as loud and as freely, as if
“ they had been taking their recreation,
“ without M. Lebrun paying the least
“ attention to it, or saying a word to
“ prevent it. I was induced to enter ;
“ but, out of respect to M. Lebrun, I
“ addressed myself to M. Mirys, and
“ complained of the little attention that
“ was bestowed on the lessons, and how
“ inaccurately the orders I had so often
“ and so positively given were observed.
“ I did not say a word to M. Lebrun ;
“ but I will now tell him, that it is asto-
“ nishing, when he presides at the lessons,
“ that he should be so regardless of what
“ is

“ is passing, that he should not know
“ how to silence the children, which I
“ can always do, and that he should not
“ even attempt this, or say a word to
“ them upon the subject. This is not
“ the first time that I have observed upon
“ this point the same neglect; I have
“ complained of it three times within a
“ month, without including numberless
“ instances in which, without stopping, I
“ have heard the children, as I passed,
“ talking and laughing at the academy.—
“ That I preside in so many things, and
“ take so many branches of the educa-
“ tion upon myself, is a source of dis-
“ content; I can however declare that
“ my occupations are so numerous that
“ the time I am obliged to bestow upon
“ the children is frequently a true sacri-
“ fice; and I should be less disposed to
“ extend the rights of my situation, if I
“ could depend more on the strictness
“ and attention of the persons who ought
“ to assist me. To-morrow I shall begin
“ to

“ to preside at the academy : it would
“ be more convenient, while in the coun-
“ try, to be excused this ; but in future
“ I shall never dispense with my attend-
“ ance in the afternoon.

“ I think it incumbent on me to ob-
“ serve in this Journal, which is the re-
“ cord of my proceedings and conduct,
“ that the Abbé Guyot, who had accused
“ me of making him suffer within three
“ years and a half *innumerable insults*, who
“ has read my note in answer to this
“ article, in which I say that the assertion
“ is *false and injurious* (which I proved by
“ facts), and that I defy him, though I
“ can cite numberless instances of ill-be-
“ haviour on his part, to cite a single one
“ of *insult* on mine—I think it, I say,
“ incumbent on me to observe, that the
“ Abbé, unable to deny the positive
“ facts I have adduced, or to answer
“ them by other facts, has taken the part
“ of profound silence, and has replied
“ neither

“ neither in the Journal, nor by letter,
 “ nor in conversation, to the note, in
 “ which I accuse him of misconduct, and,
 “ what is more, of *calumniating me*, for
 “ such are my expressions, and has in
 “ like manner made no reply to the sim-
 “ ple question which I put to him in the
 “ same note, viz. *that if I had thus loaded*
 “ *him with insults, how was it possible for him*
 “ *not to have given in his resignation?* — I
 “ ought however to observe also, that since
 “ the moment of his reading this note, I
 “ have found him much more civil and
 “ polite; and that my mother expressed
 “ to me yesterday her extreme surprise
 “ at the Abbé’s asking her how she did.
 “ I require no reparation, no apology;
 “ I consider this alteration of conduct as
 “ sufficient. I am still of the same dis-
 “ position, ready to forget the past, and
 “ never more to mention it, unless com-
 “ pelled by false accusations; willing to
 “ excuse every thing, and even to love
 “ those

“ those that hate me, whenever they shall
“ do justice to the sincerity of my heart,
“ and the integrity of my views, my
“ conduct and my character ; in fine,
“ resolved to endure, without pain or
“ effort, every little secret censure, every
“ murmur, every breach of politeness,
“ every kind of personality, except a
“ *calumnious accusation* in this Journal.
“ Can any thing be more moderate ? I
“ ask of no person in this case particular
“ attention, or partiality, or that he should
“ speak well of me ; I leave him perfectly
“ at liberty to animadvert upon my con-
“ duct, to say that I am imperious, capri-
“ cious, vain, full of absurd pretensions,
“ that my systems are devoid of common
“ sense, that I am perfectly ignorant how
“ to educate children, &c. To all this
“ I am wholly indifferent ; and if I had
“ any pride, the little motives that occa-
“ sion such discourse would be calculated
“ to flatter it. But in talking of me in
“ this manner, let him have the good-
ness

“ nefs to execute punctually all my di-
“ rections relative to the business of edu-
“ cation, and he will find me at all times
“ polite and ready to oblige. If he be
“ desirous of living upon terms of inti-
“ macy with me, and of regaining my
“ friendship, nothing is in reality more
“ easy. All that is necessary is to open
“ his eyes, to return upon his steps, to
“ dismiss in good earnest ill-humour and
“ prejudice, and it will presently be seen
“ that I am prepared upon all occasions
“ to return and pass an act of oblivion.
“ Ignorant as he is of my character, he
“ has been little aware of the extreme
“ easiness of my disposition in every
“ thing that I do not believe inconsistent
“ with duty. In a word, such are the
“ terms of peace that I offer : I offer
“ them sincerely and with all my heart.

“ Let friendship join our hands, such is my bo-
“ som's wish *.

“ I confess this cannot take place to-

* Soyons amis, Cinna, c'est moi qui t'en convie.

“ morrow

“morrow, nor the next day ; but why
 “not in a few months ? The wisest mode
 “we can adopt is to laugh at our quar-
 “rels past, and to become frank, good
 “humoured, and unreserved towards
 “each other. God grant it.—I request
 “M. Lebrun to read the whole of this
 “article to the Abbé.”

Continuation of Wednesday, 7 September.

. . . . MADAME Pli brought
 me on Thursday morning, at the acade-
 my, the Journal containing the Coun-
 tesses' three notes. I read them immedi-
 ately, and sent the Journal to the Abbé,
 who returned it at eleven o'clock. I have
 the honour to inform the Countesses that
 I did not fail properly to apply yester-
 day the reproaches she addressed to M.
 Mirys, whom, on leaving the academy,
 I endeavoured to console. his feelings
 were very much hurt. I will only ob-
 serve to the Countesses, that I have faith-

fully related, in my Journal above, what passed at the academy; that I am sorry she did not hear the attempts I made to silence the children; but I trust she will have the goodness to believe that I did every thing in my power to fulfil her intentions. When I do not succeed I mention it in the Journal (for the sake of the princes), that the Countess may be informed of it, and may speak to them upon the subject. I should be sorry if she were to give herself the trouble of presiding at the academy, as I was charmed with being able to save both her and the Baroness this inconvenience.

*Copy of the Abbé Guyot's Answer to the
third Note.*

TO the reproach of having failed in attention to the Baroness, the Abbé answers, that he has had the honour of going to see her several times when she has been indisposed, and has made frequent en-

quiries respecting her health. He never approaches her without asking her how she does, unless it happens that some other person asks at the time the same question, and he is then silent to save the Baroness the trouble of repeating an answer which he has just heard. His conduct towards the Countess is the same; and it would be singular that a man who has never done an uncivil thing in his life, and never spoken an offensive word to any body in the world, should make choice in a house of those very persons to whom every motive of duty and interest would oblige him to be most attentive. To give probability to these accusations, it would be first necessary to prove that he is devoid of common sense. Those who are witnesses of his conduct, will adopt none of these opinions, and his friends will be astonished to learn that the Countess entertains them.

The Abbé Guyot acknowledges that,
since

since the commencement of the present year, he has been more reserved, more circumspect, less officious : this part, which he has been forced to act, is painful and mortifying, but it is very different from incivility, and he could not act any other without exposing himself to the contempt which the suspicion of insensibility superinduces, and which the witnesses of it, or the Countess herself, would not have failed to bestow upon him.

She asks, why, if he has been loaded with insults, he has had the meanness to continue in his office ? The history of the Abbé Guyot's thoughts and sentiments upon this subject would fill a volume*. He will only say that among the reasons which have determined him not to resign, he finds many that are perfectly honest, and with which the Countess ought to be pleased : but to

* What a strange volume must it have been ! and who would have been able to read it ?

confine himself merely to those which may shew that his soul is well born, he replies, that his situation and appointment do not allow him to pay attention to those natural delicacies which the most moderate self-love would suggest. An insult is not a sufficient apology to a man of honour for renouncing the good he has contracted to do. How pitiable would be the state of human society, if whenever such a man received an affront, it was of course to be deprived of his services? Were it not for intrepidity and perseverance, zeal would be a useless ornament. The Abbé Guyot is encouraged in his resolution by that admirable maxim of an ancient philosopher, it is a more miserable thing to inflict an insult than to receive it. As the Countess understands the language in which this philosopher has written, he adds the words of the passage itself: *Miser est qui audit, sed qui facit conviciū.*

The Countess pretends that, far from complaining,

complaining, the Abbé Guyot ought to be grateful for her attentions, and particularly for the generosity which led her to prevail on the Duke and Duchess de Chartres to speak in his behalf to the bishop of Autun. To this he answers, that, with the great personages in question, he believes no solicitation to be necessary respecting a man who has the honour of being tutor to their children, and who faithfully discharges all the duties of his office *; that, long before he had any immediate connection with the Countess, she took certain steps in his favour, which were the more flattering to him as they proved her satisfaction with his general character; that if the situation afterwards conferred on the Countess, gives her the happy privilege of dispos-

* As M. and Madame d'Orleans scarcely ever saw the Abbé, how could they know, but from me, whether he faithfully discharged the duties of his office or not?

ing of the lot of all the persons subordinate to her, all he asks for himself is justice. He should be proud to owe her an obligation; but he will never receive obligations but from the hands of esteem or of friendship, and as long as these sentiments have no existence, he entreats the Countess to suspend her impulse of generosity. He conceives that this noble delicacy *, which has ever been the rule of his conduct in the world, is sufficient to exculpate him from the suspicion of meanness which the Countess has thought proper to convey †. He adds, that he was ignorant of her kindness, but he is only the more grateful as it was voluntary on the part of the Countess, and perfectly unsolicited by the Abbé Guyot.

As to the other proofs of kindness she

* This *noble delicacy*, as the Abbé calls it, proved no injury to his interest, for the benefice of twelve thousand livres a year (500 l.) was obtained, and the Abbé put in possession.

† This is a falsehood, as will presently be seen.

has

has enumerated, he expressed at the time they were conferred a lively sense of them. His gratitude certainly merited its continuance, and in that case the education of the princes would have exhibited a spectacle of the most perfect unanimity between the persons concerned in it, and would have given hopes of the most brilliant success. But how light and transient have these demonstrations of kindness been ! What are they in comparison with the multiplied acts of a very different nature ? They are like a small number of flowers scattered over an immense field of thorns and briars. He will not enumerate particulars, this would be too repugnant to his feelings. He should never have mentioned the subject if the Countess had not been desirous of making him responsible for the misunderstanding that has taken place. But should he ever be obliged to justify himself against so improbable an accusation, the only method he would adopt would be to request

the Duke and Duchefs de Chartres, the princes, the public, and the Countefs herfelf, to read what ſhe has written with her own hand in this Journal from the commencement of the preſent year.

The firſt and moſt ſincere deſire of his heart is, that nothing more might be ſaid upon the unfortunate ſubject of theſe reproaches. He hopes that prejudices will diſperſe, that the imagination will be reduced to a calm, and that, as no real reproach can be alleged againſt him, the juſtice and generoſity of the Countefs will no longer ſee any obſtacle to the re-eſtabliſhment of concord and unanimity. So ſtrongly does this wiſh pervade the heart and mind of the Abbé Guyot, that, to realize it, there is no meaſure, no ſacrifice to which he will not conform, perſuaded that the ſucceſs of the education in which we are engaged depends on the event.

He has hesitated two days whether he ſhould answer the laſt note of the Counteſs;

tefs; the pen has feveral times fallen from his hand as he has formed the refolution; but the accusations were of too heinous a nature to be permitted to fubfift, and honour has at length obliged him to conquer his reluctance. If he is unsuccessful in changing the opinion of the Countefs, he fhall feel the deepeft sorrow; but in the efforts he has made to juftify himfelf, in the moderation he has obferved, and the honeft and noble fentiments he has difplayed, ſhe cannot fail to perceive that he has ſome claims to her eſteem.

Friday, 9 September 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ I FIND the laſt answer of the Abbé
 “ Guyot to be as full of *falsehoods* at least
 “ as his former ones, and this I under-
 “ take to prove. In the first place, the
 “ Abbé denies that he has ever failed
 “ in the most simple duties of politeness,
 “ or ever neglected the civility of enquir-

“ ing of my mother and me respecting
“ our health. This is not true. When
“ I related this fact last winter, citing at
“ the same time the witnesses, among
“ others Madame de Nansouti, the Abbé,
“ unable to deny it, always in his answers
“ passed it over in silence, and now only
“ replies to it, after the expiration of
“ eight months, because I have pressed
“ him so warmly that he can no longer in
“ decency resist.—The Abbé says, that
“ he should never have complained of
“ our misunderstanding, if I had not
“ been desirous of making him respon-
“ sible for it. *Second falsehood.* The
“ complaint did not originate with me,
“ as the Journal proves; it was the
“ Abbé who first began to complain that
“ the harmony, so much to be desired,
“ did not subsist between us; it was this
“ induced me to enter into the particulars
“ of the Abbé’s behaviour, and never
“ has the subject been revived by me
“ but when the Abbé has revived his

“ complaints relative to this want of har-
 “ mony. Such is the fact, which it is
 “ impossible to deny as the Journal in-
 “ contestably proves it.—The Abbé
 “ says, that he has hesitated only two
 “ days whether he should answer my last
 “ note. *Third falsehood.* I wrote this
 “ on Saturday the 3d instant, and the
 “ Abbé did not reply to it till Thursday
 “ the 8th, and then only because he could
 “ no longer excuse himself, from the
 “ manner in which he was urged to it.
 “ The Abbé has therefore hesitated more
 “ than *two days*.—The Abbé charges me
 “ with having said, *that he ought to be par-*
 “ *ticularly grateful for the generosity that*
 “ *led me to prevail on the Duke and Du-*
 “ *chefs de Chartres to speak in his behalf to*
 “ *the bishop of Autun.* *Fourth falsehood.*
 “ I have never made use of the words
 “ gratitude and generosity. If the Abbé
 “ can thus misrepresent what is written in
 “ this Journal, how are we to judge
 “ of his veracity respecting quotations

“ that have no Journal to contradict
 “ them? I wrote in the Journal *that I*
 “ *had interested myself in every thing that*
 “ *concerned the Abbé, that I had a thousand*
 “ *times solicited the Duke and Duchefs de*
 “ *Chartres to speak in his behalf to the bishop*
 “ *of Autun ; and this is a truth to which*
 “ the Duke and Duchefs de Chartres can
 “ bear testimony. I never intended by
 “ this to convey the idea that I had had
 “ the least influence in obtaining the fa-
 “ vour that was granted to the Abbé ; I
 “ simply said I had mentioned the sub-
 “ ject several times to the Duke and
 “ Duchefs de Chartres. They might
 “ have spoken to the bishop of Autun
 “ without this interference on my part :
 “ but my interesting myself in the busi-
 “ ness was certainly not calculated to
 “ injure him. The Abbé adds, *that he*
 “ *was ignorant of my kindness in this re-*
 “ *spect. Fifth falsehood, and a very sur-*
 “ *prising one. I have a thousand times*
 “ informed the Abbé of my having re-
 “ minded

“ minded Monseigneur of the business,
 “ that I would speak to him again, that
 “ I ardently wished him to succeed ; and
 “ this I have frequently said in the pre-
 “ sence of witnesses, among others M.
 “ Lebrun, Moncigni, &c.—The Abbé
 “ writes me a Latin line, insinuating
 “ that I have professed to understand
 “ this language ; his words are, *as the*
 “ *Countess understands this language.* This
 “ inference is as little consistent with ve-
 “ racity as his other assertions. I have
 “ said in the Journal that I intended to
 “ learn Latin, and I even added, *not with*
 “ *a view of instructing the children in it ;*
 “ *for of this I shall never be capable*.*—
 “ Thus I can perceive in the Abbé’s

* It was upon occasion of a dispute respecting
 the Latin language, which I have not inserted in this
 work, because it would at least have occupied the
 fourth part of a volume. I had unfortunately said,
 that I could wish the children to learn by heart,
 every day, a certain number of Latin words, which
 made the Abbé beside himself for a period of three
 weeks.

“ conduct

“conduct towards me, no kind of sincerity either in things of importance, or in trifles. When he accused me of having made him suffer *a thousand insults for three years and a half*, it was telling me that I shamefully abused the authority confided to me; it was telling me that I was impertinent, hasty, uncivil, and the more so as the Abbé protests that he has not been chargeable with the most trivial impropriety, that he has never failed in respect, that his conduct has been upon all occasions perfect, in things of importance and in the minutest trifles; and has added, that notwithstanding all this I have loaded him with insults: this, without exaggeration, and according to the strict meaning of words, is telling me that I am an idiot and a monster. To such a charge it became me to answer without caution or reserve, and to repel the odious and strange calumny by facts, proofs and reasonings, not to be
“called

“ called in question. It is painful to me
 “ to tell the Abbé that he is guilty of
 “ *calumny and falsehood*; but when he
 “ attacks my reason and my honour, I
 “ ought to sacrifice to truth the vain
 “ forms of politeness that would stand in
 “ the way of my justification; I ought
 “ to say, as I have said in my last note
 “ but one: *The Abbé calumniates me; for*
 “ *my part, I allege facts, let him refute them,*
 “ *let him allege facts in his turn, or let him*
 “ *be silent.* The Abbé adopts the latter;
 “ at last, after waiting five days, I write
 “ a new note which obliges him to answer
 “ me. But in what manner does he an-
 “ swer? By declamation, by vaunting
 “ his own merit, by vague complaints;
 “ without advancing a single fact, or as-
 “ signing one reason. To the question
 “ which I so strongly urge: *What insults*
 “ *have you experienced from me?* No an-
 “ swer. To another question: *If I loaded*
 “ *you with insults, why did you not resign?*
 “ this

“ this is the answer : *The history of my*
 “ *thoughts upon this subject would fill a*
 “ *volume an insult is*
 “ *not a sufficient apology to a man of*
 “ *honour for renouncing the good he has*
 “ *contracted to do. . . . How*
 “ *pitiable would be the state of human*
 “ *society, if, whenever such a man re-*
 “ *ceives an affront, it was of course to*
 “ *be deprived of his services ! As to*
 “ *the volume, I readily excuse the Abbé.*
 “ *An insult, he says, is not a sufficient*
 “ *apology, &c. But the question is not*
 “ *respecting a single insult, but insults*
 “ *without number ; and I conceive that*
 “ *in this case an honest man may, and*
 “ *ought to quit a situation, when, una-*
 “ *ble to accuse himself of the semblance*
 “ *of a fault, he has been loaded with*
 “ *mortifications and insults, for three*
 “ *years and a half, by the person who*
 “ *has all authority in her hands. What*
 “ *can be expected from this person,*
 “ *who*

“ who is so unreasonable and perverse as
“ to overwhelm with insults a man un-
“ deserving of the smallest reproach ?
“ What mighty good also can a man do,
“ had he all the talents in the world,
“ upon whom the plan of education
“ does not depend, and who is not
“ charged with the principal studies ?
“ Where would be the difficulty of
“ supplying his place, whose func-
“ tions are confined to teaching Latin
“ for three quarters of an hour a day,
“ and a religious instruction of a quarter
“ of an hour on Sundays ? If such a man
“ were *loaded with insults*, I again ask,
“ would it be possible for him not to re-
“ sign ? Ah ! Abbé, Abbé, cast off for
“ a moment prejudice and enmity, and
“ read this answer with the spirit of jus-
“ tice you would feel if it were addressed
“ to any other than yourself. You
“ would then say : “ This woman ap-
“ peals to reason, adduces facts ; she is
“ answered

“ answered by evasion and subterfuge,
“ not one plausible circumstance has
“ been advanced in reply to her ; it
“ was t’ erefore injurious to say to her :
“ *You have loaded me with insults.* This
“ accusation was degrading in the man
“ who employed it, and at the same
“ time calumnious to the person against
“ whom it was directed.” What is the
“ remedy ? Frankness and integrity may
“ still repair every thing. I have hi-
“ therto merely opposed your unjust
“ pretensions, but you have blackened
“ my character and my conduct.
“ Meanwhile, incapable myself of ha-
“ tred, I can still be reconciled, and can
“ taste the felicity of converting your
“ hatred into benevolence. You tell
“ me again and again that you have
“ never done an uncivil thing to any
“ one : be it so, I believe your character
“ to be very estimable, but you have
“ been unjust in your behaviour to me,
“ In

“ In a word, condescend at least to ac-
“ knowledge that you spoke without
“ reflection, when you accused me of
“ having loaded you with insults, and at
“ the same time intended to keep your
“ place. Condescend to acknowledge,
“ with a noble frankness, that you did
“ not sufficiently consider the meaning
“ of this cruel expression ; go one step
“ further, and add, that you disavow it.
“ There is nothing degrading in this ; it
“ will do honour to the rectitude of
“ your soul, and it will re-kindle in mine
“ all the desire I have felt of obtaining
“ your friendship. Our relative situa-
“ tions might be expected to give you
“ some distaste for me, they have no
“ such effect upon me. By my under-
“ taking the education of the princes,
“ you experienced the mortification of
“ being separated from a friend (M.
“ Bonnard) whose society was dear to
“ you ; you passed at Saint Cloud a very
“ agreeable

“ agreeable life, you could receive and
“ entertain your friends ; but it became
“ necessary to renounce all this, to sub-
“ mit to the orders of a woman, and to
“ pursue a totally different plan. These
“ changes excited ill humour, and al-
“ tered the natural justice of your mind.
“ Have the goodness to take all this into
“ your consideration, and to reflect seri-
“ ously on the disavowal I demand of
“ you ; it only regards the accusation of
“ *insults* ; but I cannot dispense with it,
“ and continue to live with you. I en-
“ treat you not to give your answer to-
“ day, but to consult, previously, religion
“ and your heart. The disavowal must
“ be in the Journal, and written with
“ your own hand, which ought to be a
“ point of no consequence to you, and
“ will save M. Lebrun a useless trou-
“ ble *”

* From his aversion to the Journal, the Abbé generally wrote his articles on loose pieces of paper, and made M. Lebrun transcribe them into the Journal.

The

The Abbé Guyot's Answer.

THE facts which the Countess cites against the Abbé Guyot, and which she regards as indisputable, he can consider in no other light than as chimeras of the imagination. The majority of those which he could adduce in proof of the insults he has experienced, are contained in the Journal in the Countess's own hand-writing. They have in no respect diminished his courage, made him less zealous in the discharge of his duties, or less anxious to live upon terms of harmony and good understanding, which he considers as indispensable to the success of the education. This is the answer of his conscience, and the Countess is sufficiently acquainted with the Abbé Guyot not to expect from him any other.

Note

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ SINCE the Abbé considers harmony
“ between us as indispensable to the
“ success of the education, I am per-
“ fectly tranquil. I have said and
“ proved that he has calumniated me; I
“ submit to the judgment of any person
“ who will read the Journal with impartial-
“ lity. I repeat it, I have said and proved,
“ that the Abbé has calumniated my
“ character and conduct; I demand the
“ disavowal of a false imputation: if the
“ Abbé refuse, he must suppose that it
“ is absolutely impossible for the shadow
“ of harmony to subsist between us.
“ He complains that I have overwhelmed
“ him with *mortifications and insults*; I
“ prove that he calumniates me: if he
“ persists in his accusation, how can we
“ live upon terms of good understand-
“ ing, or even observe the common
“ forms

“ forms of politeness towards each other?
“ The Abbé, therefore, to be consistent
“ with himself, ought either to give in
“ his resignation, since he acknowledges
“ that harmony is necessary to the success
“ of the education; or, if he wishes not
“ to resign, to do the only thing that can
“ unite us: in either case, harmony will
“ again be restored. I cannot suppose
“ that the Abbé will adopt a third
“ course, that of remaining with me,
“ upon the terms that exist between us
“ at present, and of keeping his place,
“ since by his own confession this would
“ be to act contrary to the good of the
“ education: and what motive could in
“ that case induce him to stay?—If this,
“ however, should be his intention, it
“ would be easy for me to make him alter
“ it, by submitting to the inspection of
“ the Duke de Chartres the last sheet of
“ this Journal, and requesting him to
“ examine other parts of the book, in
“ order

“ order to judge whether it be true that
“ I have loaded the Abbé with insults.
“ But this step I shall not take : if the
“ Abbé refuses to do me justice, and is
“ at the same time desirous of keep-
“ ing his place, I shall be satisfied with
“ stating so extraordinary a proceeding
“ in this Journal. The inconveniences
“ of our misunderstanding I shall pre-
“ vent, by devoting still more time to
“ the princes, and by consecrating to
“ them every moment of my life :
“ meanwhile it is necessary, as the edu-
“ cation is under my control, that I
“ should know what I have to trust to ;
“ and I therefore request the Abbé to
“ give me a direct and immediate an-
“ swer, in his own hand, to the following
“ questions : Is the Abbé unalterably
“ determined not to give me the satis-
“ faction I have demanded ? and if so,
“ is he also determined not to give in his
“ resignation ? He may answer the last

“ question the more readily, as he may
“ be assured *I shall take no steps what-
“ ever towards depriving him of his of-
“ fice.*”

Note of the Abbé Guyot.

IT is impossible for the Abbé to disavow a thing, of the truth of which he is convinced. The Countess infers from hence, that harmony can no longer exist between them, and that, as no good can be done without harmony, he ought to give in the resignation of his office. The Countess has herself suggested a better mode of settling the dispute, and a mode more respectful to the Duke de Chartres, that of laying before him all that has passed within four years, and particularly since the last winter. The Abbé means to draw up a sketch of this. If the Duke should judge, not that the Abbé was guilty of calumny, in saying

that he had experienced insults, this is impossible, but that he misunderstood the intention of the Countess, the Abbé will readily do every thing that can give her satisfaction, so sincerely desirous is he of removing every obstacle to the success of the education.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“THE Duke de Chartres shall not
“ judge from the Abbé’s *sketch*, but from
“ the Journal, in which are contained,
“ the Abbé says, *the insults* he has re-
“ ceived from me; from the Journal,
“ which is testimony not to be disputed.
“ The Duke de Chartres will there see
“ how far I have extended my patience,
“ forbearance and lenity, in not having
“ before informed him of the Abbé’s
“ uncivil behaviour to my mother and
“ me. He will there see how much the
“ Abbé, from hatred and other motives
“ easily

“ easily perceived, has been mortified at
“ my having the control of the education
“ of the princes. The Duke de Chartres
“ is at present in the country, and will not
“ return till Wednesday. Till then, I
“ beg the Abbé not to come into my
“ presence, and not to dine to-day with
“ the princes, because I shall dine with
“ them myself, and because I am not yet
“ enough of a hypocrite to bestow my
“ attentions and civilities upon a man
“ who wounds me in the nearest points,
“ and wantonly *insults me.*”

Note of the Abbé Guyot.

THE Abbé Guyot, convinced of the impossibility of re-establishing harmony between the Countess and himself, has come to the resolution of writing, whenever she shall think proper, to the Duke de Chartres, to request leave to resign

his connection with the princes, as his services can be no longer useful.

As to the insults he professes to have received, a word with which the Countess appears extremely displeased, he has nothing more to say, but that, considering the circumstances, he regarded as such his being individually excluded from the dinners at Belle Chasse, and other incidents which were the sequel of that exclusion, especially the refusal to admit him with the other preceptors of the princes, when he particularly desired it : he regarded as such the prohibition, on his account, to give any dinners at the Palais Royal, when the preceptors were indisposed, unless they kept their beds, and it was directed by the physician : he regarded as such the Countess's answer to the letter he had the honour to write to her this winter, in which she censured the education of the princes, at a time that it was almost entirely under his

his care, and taxed him personally with unpoliteness, pedantry, and other faults; the answers she returned in a similar spirit at Saint Leu, when he reclaimed those functions which he thought essential to his duty as preceptor; but most of all the accusation of having occasioned the unfortunate misunderstanding between himself and the Countess, to which he is the victim.

He has hitherto constantly avoided stating these particulars, that he might not give offence to the Countess; but he is at length obliged to yield to the sad necessity to which she has reduced him, either of doing this, or of being considered as a calumniator. If such treatment deserves not the name of insults, he retracts the word, he leaves the Countess at liberty to call it by what name she pleases, he shall prefer the name that will give her least offence, and he could wish, if it were possible, to find one that

would not at all displease her ; for he hesitates not to own, that it is mortifying and painful to him to be obliged to quit, on account of a word, a situation to which he is attached by so many ties of respect and gratitude to the Duke and Duchess de Chartres, and the strongest affection for their children. He will only observe, that he was hurt at the time by all the particulars he has mentioned, and that the impression they made on his mind was all that he meant to express.

He concludes with assuring the Countess that he has never entertained either enmity or prejudice against her ; that it has been his constant desire to please her, and to obtain her confidence in every thing relative to the business of education ; that he has been ready upon all occasions to do justice to her zeal, her talents and her merit ; and that he is firmly persuaded, that if she had been
disposed

disposed to converse with him, and to reflect upon his character, she would have seen in him sentiments and virtues not unworthy of her esteem. Such is the true picture of his mind, and from these sentiments he will never depart, though he too plainly foresees that he shall long have occasion to lament the injustice she has done him.

The Abbé Guyot will not draw up the sketch he proposed for the Duke d'Orleans, as the Countess has undertaken to prevail on the Duke to read this Journal, and as what he has now written may not inadequately supply the place of that sketch. He appeals to the justice of the Countess, and asks her, whether he deserves to be the victim of this word which has so highly offended her. If he had the honour of conversing with her for a moment, he flatters himself he could convince her that this would be punishing very severely an error occasioned by

the misfortune of being forced always to write his sentiments, and never to speak them. But for this practice, every cloud that arose would have been instantly dissipated*.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ IN the first place I feel myself bound
 “ to answer the accusation of *insults*. The
 “ Abbé told me, in so many words, that
 “ I had loaded him with outrages and
 “ insults for three years and a half. I
 “ said in reply, that to accuse me of
 “ such conduct was saying, that I am a
 “ monster and an idiot. The Abbé per-
 “ sisted: I only demanded that he should
 “ confess to me that he had used the
 “ word without reflection, and had not
 “ considered how much was compre-
 “ hended in this cruel expression; I

* He would have preferred speaking to me, because it was less painful to him to acknowledge his error in conversation, than to write it with his own hand in the Journal.

“ added,

“ added, that after this satisfaction I
 “ would bury every thing in oblivion;
 “ and that so noble an instance of frank-
 “ ness would revive in my heart the de-
 “ fire I had felt of obtaining the friend-
 “ ship of the Abbé. His reply to all
 “ this was a very positive refusal. At
 “ length he appears sensible of the im-
 “ propriety of employing so disgusting a
 “ phrase, particularly when it has been
 “ so often repeated. He is now come to
 “ his reason, and specifies the outrages
 “ and insults he has received. He has
 “ found it impossible to give them so
 “ early a date as the time that he first
 “ announced them, and he can go no
 “ farther back than the last winter. These
 “ are the insults. 1. *His being excluded*
 “ *from the dinners at Belle Chasse.* This is
 “ all the Abbé says upon the subject;
 “ but what says the Journal? *As the*
 “ *Abbé’s want of politeness to my mother and*
 “ *me is arrived at such a pitch as to suffer*
 “ *no restraint before strangers, particularly*

“ *Madame de Nansouti, who was struck*
“ *with it, as well as the children, who ob-*
“ *serve and jest upon it, in spite of any thing*
“ *I can do to silence them* (facts which this
“ *Journal proves, and which the Abbé*
“ *could not at the time deny), I imagine*
“ *that the Abbé will gladly be excused from*
“ *dining at Belle Chasse, and will be pleased*
“ *with having two days in the week to be-*
“ *stow on his family and friends.* I add-
“ *ed, that had he hitherto given me reason*
“ *to flatter myself that my company was*
“ *agreeable to him, I should have considered*
“ *it as a duty and a pleasure to invite him*
“ *every day.* Such were my expressions,
“ *and such the motives I assigned in the*
“ *Journal.* No one assuredly will call
“ *this an insult.* The Abbé has also
“ *omitted in this recapitulation the fact*
“ *of his afterwards having written to me*
“ *to tell me he would be glad to dine at*
“ *Belle Chasse every day that the princes*
“ *were there, and that I immediately*
“ *consented to his request.* There was
“ *then*

“ then only a single day remaining when
 “ the princes did not dine with me.
 “ The Abbé wrote to me once again,
 “ observing, that, as it was Lent, he
 “ wished to dine that day also at Belle
 “ Chasse, for the stricter adherence to
 “ the rites of religion, an adherence that
 “ he could not commodiously practise
 “ at his brother’s. In compliance with
 “ this letter, though the princes were
 “ not that day at Belle Chasse, and
 “ though my health had obliged me to
 “ give up the observance of Lent, I con-
 “ sented to receive the Abbé, and to pro-
 “ vide fast-dishes for his accommodation.
 “ These facts are all of them recorded
 “ in the Journal, which I have this day
 “ had the satisfaction to re-peruse.—2.
 “ *The prohibition to serve any dinners to the*
 “ *preceptors at the Palais Royal, and which*
 “ *was issued on my account, says the Abbé.*
 “ It was not on his account, it was by
 “ the express order of the Duke de
 “ Chartres; nor can the fact be unknown,

“ since it is so written, in so many words,
“ in the Journal. If therefore in all this
“ there was any insult, the Abbé did not
“ receive it from me. I will add, that
“ these gentlemen have so much the less
“ right to complain in this case, since it
“ was according to a very ancient etiquette
“ that the preceptors were not to be
“ boarded by his Royal Highness. No
“ complaint therefore can be more mis-
“ applied, particularly as they have al-
“ ways dined when they pleased at Belle
“ Chasse and Saint Leu.—3. Because
“ I have said that the princes, when com-
“ mitted to my care, had the vices of
“ *grossness and lying*. This is a simple
“ fact, and the Abbé Guyot may put
“ the question to the Duke de Chartres
“ himself, whom he has been desirous
“ to take as a judge in his cause. The
“ Duke will tell him, that nothing is
“ more true, and, that he recounted to
“ me several falsehoods told to him by
“ the Duke de Valois before he was com-
“ mitted

“ mitted to my care. I was compelled
 “ to tell this truth to the Abbé, because
 “ he thought proper to applaud what
 “ they had been, as if they had lost some-
 “ thing since they were under my direc-
 “ tion. Nor is there any thing of out-
 “ rage or insult in this remark, since a
 “ man, with all the merit in the world,
 “ may know nothing upon the subject
 “ of education, or may have recourse to
 “ a wrong method in the outset; beside
 “ that it is in fact the sub-governor,
 “ when there is no governor, who is
 “ singly responsible for the education.—
 “ 4. The Abbé says that I accused him
 “ of *pedantry*. If I had said, *Sir, you are*
 “ *a pedant, indeed you are very pedantic,*
 “ I should have committed a breach of
 “ politeness; but I should not have com-
 “ mitted an *insult*; it would have been
 “ an attack neither upon the Abbé’s re-
 “ putation nor his probity: but this I
 “ have not done; I merely amused myself
 “ with a few fallies against pedantry in
 “ general

“ general terms ; but named nobody.—
“ The Abbé says, that I have accused
“ him of being the cause of the misun-
“ derstanding between us. Such is the
“ precise truth : I said it, because I think
“ it, because I have proved it, and be-
“ cause this Journal incontestably proves
“ it. Whoever shall read this article
“ with impartiality ; above all, whoever
“ shall run over the whole Journal,
“ as I have to-day, will be convinced
“ that I have never insulted the Abbé,
“ and that it is with great injustice that
“ he has imputed to me that I have.
“ The Abbé indeed appears to be a little
“ sorry for having made this charge : I
“ do not upon account of it reflect either
“ upon his probity or the goodness of his
“ heart, I only repeat what I have already
“ said : Sir, be so good as to write in this
“ Journal that the expression in question
“ was adopted by you without con-
“ sideration, that you did not *feel its mag-*
“ *nitude*

“ *nitude and force*, that you had not sufficiently *weighed it*, in short, tell me that you *retract* it ; write only this one word with your own hand in the Journal, and I am satisfied. I give you my word that I will forget every thing, that I will never say another syllable upon the subject ; and that I will seek, with my natural frankness and sincerity, your friendship and good-will. Put yourself in my place, and see whether it is possible to offer more equitable terms. If therefore you decline this satisfaction, there is none of any other sort with which I can or with which I ought to be contented.”

Note of the Abbé Guyot.

THE Abbé Guyot conceives that his last note contains all which the Countess desires. She does not regard as insults the particulars he has mentioned : he retracts then, from his very soul, this unfortunate

fortunate word by which he only meant to express the impression which they wrought on him. Errors will not be the occasion of strife and division between persons of real honour. The Abbé Guyot, conscious of his error in the present instance, thinks it his duty to criminate himself, and is very sorry for the pain and uneasiness which the misunderstanding has caused; he has had his share of them. If the Countess will grant him the favour of a moment's interview, he shall be consoled for all his sufferings by the pleasure of seeing that every thing is forgotten.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“AND I also forget every thing, and
“ that without restriction: I will only
“ beg leave of the Abbé to say, that he
“ ought to have been convinced from
“ the first moment that I had no inten-
“ tion to insult him, since I expressly
“ denied

“ denied it, and said that I must have
“ been a monster and an idiot to have
“ acted thus. But let us never give
“ the subject another word, nor even a
“ thought.—I will now tell the Abbé
“ that I should have been very sorry had
“ he retired, for two reasons, that of
“ losing for ever the hope of regaining
“ in time the good-will of a man justly
“ deserving of esteem, and that of see-
“ ing him quit a place of which he has
“ been longer in possession than myself:
“ I greatly respect this seniority, which,
“ in my opinion, gives him a claim to
“ the affection and gratitude of the
“ princes that I am not entitled to. I
“ respect also in the Abbé, beside his
“ personal qualities, his profession, for
“ which I shall ever feel a kind of re-
“ verence when it is supported, as in the
“ Abbé, with so much dignity, regu-
“ larity and decorum. But for these
“ considerations, I should never have
“ waited

“ waited so long for the noble and
“ frank avowal which he has just made ;
“ and, the Abbé excepted, there is no
“ one concerned in the education to-
“ wards whom I would have shewn the
“ same complaisance. The Abbé has
“ done me justice ; and I now consider
“ it as a duty on my part, to request that
“ he will accept my apology for every
“ thing in my answers and justification
“ that may have displeased him. I flat-
“ ter myself that he is sufficiently ac-
“ quainted with my character to know,
“ that when I express the sentiment of
“ reconciliation, it is from the fulness of
“ my heart ; and I have nothing to de-
“ fire but that he may have the same
“ feeling in equal force. May he see
“ me as I am, and be convinced of this
“ truth, that I have desired nothing more
“ ardently than to contribute every thing
“ in my power to the happiness and satis-
“ faction of my colleagues in this educa-
“ tion.

“ tion. I am now at my toilet, and in
“ haste, as I want to go out at twelve;
“ but as soon as I have finished dressing,
“ I will receive the Abbé with the greatest
“ pleasure; and if he is desirous of a par-
“ ticular conversation with me, I will
“ see him to-morrow, and we will talk
“ as long as he pleases.”

Tuesday, 14 September 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ SINCE the event that has afforded
“ me such extreme satisfaction, I have
“ had no time to write in this Journal;
“ I owe therefore an account of my sen-
“ timents, and in this explanation, the
“ last I shall make, I would lay open
“ to these gentlemen my heart and my
“ determinations. The noble, frank,
“ and pathetic manner in which the
“ Abbé Guyot spoke to me, Monday
“ morning, has given him a claim to
“ my tenderest friendship, and during
“ my

“ my whole life *. He has great sensi-
“ bility. Whatever happens, he will ever
“ be my friend. If any little clouds
“ should rise between us, I will call to
“ mind the venerable and melting air
“ with which he addressed me ; I will
“ call to mind the sweet satisfaction with
“ which we embraced, and I am sure that
“ the recollection will at all times preserve
“ me from asperity and every similar
“ feeling. These therefore are the reso-
“ lutions I have formed. I cannot re-
“ nounce the privilege that has been
“ given me by those to whom belongs
“ the disposal of the children under our
“ care, the privilege of teaching them
“ myself every thing which I may think
“ myself capable of teaching them : but
“ I protest, and I flatter myself these gen-
“ tlemen will not doubt my sincerity,

* He wept ; he spoke with so much feeling that my tears also flowed. With rectitude and goodness of heart how apt are we to be credulous !

“ that

“ that I have never for a moment exer-
“ cised this privilege from a spirit of op-
“ position, or any petty motive of vanity;
“ I am equally incapable of either mean-
“ ness. I have reflected so much upon
“ children, have written so many things
“ for, and lived so long with them, that,
“ without possessing greater talents than
“ many others, I am persuaded that I
“ have a way of instructing them that
“ is particularly attractive. I love them
“ passionately ; all my life has been de-
“ voted to them, and it is not perhaps
“ absurd to suppose that nature has given
“ me some peculiar charm to allure them,
“ and that I am formed for them alone.
“ Thus there are many things which I
“ have been desirous of teaching to the
“ children confided to our care, because
“ I believed, and indeed saw, that I had
“ greater influence over them, and that
“ they heard me with more attention.
“ With respect to the first communion,

“ I had formed a plan and written a
“ work upon the subject, and as both
“ appeared to me suitable to the occasion,
“ I could not consent to sacrifice them.
“ But I can readily consent not to give
“ the name of *a preparing the Duke de*
“ *Valeis for his first communion*, to the
“ mere circumstance of lectures of piety,
“ which might be read at any other time,
“ and the perusing with him a work upon
“ the subject. The Abbé Guyot cannot but be aware, that if the princes
“ had a governor of the male sex, of a
“ religious cast of mind, and habituated to the writing of books, he could
“ not take it ill of this governor to read
“ with his pupils lectures of piety, and
“ to go over with them a work of his
“ writing upon the subject of their first
“ communion. There are other functions that belong exclusively to the
“ preceptor, and which I have never invaded, such as the hearing them say
“ their

“ their prayers, a function in my opinion
“ of more importance than is commonly
“ thought, of teaching them their cate-
“ chism, instructing them in the nature
“ of the seven sacraments, and examin-
“ ing into the state of their consciences.
“ A general confession previous to the
“ first communion is indispensably neces-
“ sary, and this ought to be accompanied
“ with a minute detail and a great va-
“ riety of questions, dictated by mature
“ reflection, and made on purpose for
“ persons of their rank, as well as suited
“ to their characters and defects. This
“ is a business that falls directly upon
“ the Abbé, and forms the true pre-
“ paration of which I am speaking. This
“ species of lecture must be repeated at
“ least three times, and I shall take care
“ to give the Abbé every opportunity,
“ and all the time necessary for that pur-
“ pose. It will beside belong to the
“ Abbé to expound the catechism in re-
“ lation

“ lation to the communion, and to cause
“ the prince to perform the penances
“ that shall be prescribed him at con-
“ fession, which has indeed always been
“ the Abbé’s affair, and in which I have
“ never meddled. It will be incumbent
“ on him to speak to the Abbé Moreau,
“ for the purpose of suggesting to him
“ the faults he ought to reprimand, the
“ subjects upon which he ought to dilate,
“ and the penances it were most to be
“ wished he should prescribe. In this
“ I will never interfere. To conclude, in
“ addition to all these articles I will give
“ the Abbé every day a lecture of reli-
“ gion to read, independent of these
“ questions of conscience; and to him
“ it will belong to lead the Duke to the
“ holy table, to spend with him the
“ greater part of the preceding day, as
“ well as of the day of this solemn trans-
“ action. From this enumeration I
“ think I may venture to say, that it
“ will

“ will be the Abbé who has prepared
“ the Duke de Valois for his first com-
“ munion, and I shall say it with the
“ greatest pleasure. The Abbé Guyot
“ may depend upon it, that, as long as I
“ shall have reason to think him my
“ friend, I shall be more jealous than
“ himself of his reputation and dignity.
“ I have no pride, of which these gentle-
“ men will one day be convinced ; but
“ I have sufficient dignity of mind to
“ feel, that the most flattering thing for
“ me, as being at the head of the educa-
“ tion, is to have for my associates men
“ of understanding and merit, and to give
“ them all the weight and influence that
“ is possible : beside, this will create in
“ favour of our pupils a very desirable
“ and advantageous prepossession : for
“ if it appears that all the persons con-
“ cerned in their education have talents
“ and merit, that they mutually esteem
“ each other, and have but one sys-
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“tem and one manner of thinking, an
“infinitely better opinion will be enter-
“tained of the children, and this opinion
“will render their first appearance in the
“world more brilliant and more pleasing.
“I have frequently said in the Journal,
“that when the Duke de Valois should
“arrive at the age of thirteen, he should
“devote more time to Latin; the Abbé
“therefore, if he pleases, may begin the
“winter after next to give him an hour
“and a half a day. I conclude this ar-
“ticle by entreating the Abbé to speak
“to me upon all occasions with confi-
“dence, to be assured of my frankness,
“my sincere love of peace, and my
“extreme desire to contribute to the
“happiness of the persons with whom I
“live, particularly when they discover
“such virtues and merit as himself.
“With regard to M. Lebrun, I will
“tell him also, that I forget, with all my
“heart, every thing that has passed;
“but

“ but I will not conceal that this oblivion
“ was more difficult respecting him than
“ the Abbé. The Abbé scarcely knew
“ me; the loss of the society of his friend
“ was calculated to displease and mortify
“ him : if he displayed coldness, ill hu-
“ mour, and even injustice towards me,
“ it was not at all unnatural : I took it
“ not amiss that M. Lebrun became
“ immediately attached to him, though
“ he plainly perceived that the Abbé
“ did not, and indeed could not, for a
“ long time, love me. M. Lebrun was
“ to live with him, and he did right to
“ live with him upon good terms : but
“ the Abbé’s discontent led him to com-
“ plain of me (he pretends not to deny
“ it) : he murmured, and M. Lebrun
“ listened to his murmurs and com-
“ plaints ! In this final explanation I
“ will take the liberty to say, that M.
“ Lebrun owed me sufficient gratitude
“ and friendship to prevent his receiving

“ such complaints for an instant ; even
“ had there been wrongs to allege
“ against me, he ought not to have lis-
“ tened to them, he ought not to have
“ countenanced the least complaint.
“ Had he acted with this firmness, he
“ would have acquired a superior claim
“ to the Abbé’s esteem, would have dis-
“ charged a duty he owed to me, and
“ our domestic tranquillity would have
“ been a thousand times less disturbed.
“ I ascribe M. Lebrun’s conduct to a
“ slight degree of weakness, and want of
“ reflection only, and not to his heart.
“ Mine will retain no degree of resent-
“ ment, and of this he may be assured,
“ as I am incapable of disguising the
“ truth, and upon the present occasion
“ can have no temptation to disguise it.
“ M. Lebrun has never been able, or
“ attempted to allege the shadow of a
“ wrong against me ; and it is for that
“ reason that, in the present declaration
“ of

“ of my sentiments, I make this re-
“ proach. I would have avoided it,
“ had I perceived in him a moment’s
“ consciousness that he is not entirely
“ undeserving of it. For the rest, I re-
“ peat it, I bury every thing in oblivion,
“ and will never again speak of the
“ subject. If M. Lebrun is capable of
“ the sentiment of friendship, I shall
“ certainly revive it in his heart, and the
“ moment any of its genuine symptoms
“ become visible, I am ready to restore
“ to him all I have ever felt for him.—I
“ have still one word to say respecting
“ the reprimand I yesterday gave the
“ Duke de Valois: M. Lebrun does
“ not mention it in his Journal. It was
“ thus I addressed him in the presence of
“ that gentleman: ‘ I have repeated a
“ thousand times to your Highness, that
“ whenever you fail in respect, obedience
“ and affection towards the Abbé Guyot
“ and M. Lebrun, I shall consider your
O 3 “ respect,

“ respect, obedience and affection to me
“ as of no value ; and that I shall no
“ longer believe in your attachment and
“ gratitude to me, than while I perceive
“ in you the same sentiments towards
“ these gentlemen. I said this to you
“ when you were first confided to my
“ care, and I have since reminded you
“ of it again and again : had I for a
“ single moment of my life held a dif-
“ ferent language, I should have been
“ worthy only of your contempt.’ The
“ Duke de Valois answered in tears, that
“ it was true I had ever spoken to him
“ thus, that he sincerely repented his
“ behaviour, &c. He then tenderly
“ embraced M. Lebrun, and apologized
“ for his conduct in a manner that
“ evinced great sensibility. Such has
“ constantly been my language and con-
“ duct, at a time too when I had reason
“ to believe that there was no great de-
“ sire of inspiring the princes with a fa-
“ vourable

“ vourable opinion of my sentiments
“ upon education, or of making them
“ feel the tender gratitude they owed
“ me. But this is of little concern to
“ me ; I wish to educate them in the
“ best manner I am able, and this is the
“ only end I have in view. These gen-
“ tlemen may enjoy the fruit of our
“ common labours, and the just grati-
“ tude of our pupils ; they will continue
“ to reside at the Palais Royal ; they
“ will see them, and will have an oppor-
“ tunity of cultivating their affection :
“ for myself, sincerely and unalterably
“ determined, from the moment I first
“ entered Belle Chasse, to quit the world
“ for ever as soon as the education shall
“ be finished, I shall consequently live
“ neither in Paris nor its vicinity.
“ Though I leave those to believe, whom
“ such a separation will afflict, that the
“ distance between us will not be great,
“ my resolution is not the less irrevocably

“ cably fixed. Then it will be seen that
“ no kind of ambition, not even that of
“ being treated with more consideration
“ in the world, has ever influenced my
“ actions, and that all my labours and
“ sacrifices have been dictated solely by
“ friendship, and a desire to be useful.
“ After making this avowal, I entreat
“ these gentlemen to reflect, whether it
“ be possible for me to be influenced by
“ motives of childish vanity, and to sa-
“ crifice the good of the education to
“ unmeaning pretensions and frivolous
“ claims. I have but one object, that
“ of executing faithfully the various im-
“ portant duties of my task, and of being
“ able to carry with me into retirement
“ the consolation that must flow from
“ the recollection. I conclude with
“ telling M. Lebrun, that I do not ask
“ him to give any answer to what I have
“ now said, that I thought it might be
“ useful to open my heart to him without
“ reserve,

“ reserve, but that henceforth I shall not
“ again speak of these things. I conjure
“ him to reflect on all that is contained in
“ this explanation, and to believe that,
“ when I have had least reason to be
“ satisfied with his conduct, I have not
“ ceased to feel an interest in his favour,
“ and have alleged for him to myself,
“ better perhaps than he could have
“ done, all that could be pleaded in
“ extenuation of his fault. If he places
“ any value in my friendship, it depends
“ solely on himself to regain it entirely.
“ I beg him to read this note to the Abbé
“ Guyot.”

Thursday, 15 September 1785.

Note of M. Lebrun.

SINCE the Countess thinks my conduct to have been blameable, it must certainly have been so, and the desire she shews of burying in oblivion the

wrongs I have done her, does not make it less incumbent on me frankly to acknowledge them, and to express to her the regret which I feel. She will have the goodness to believe, that the heart had no concern in them, and that they are to be imputed solely to the unfortunate misunderstanding that has hitherto prevailed. I will venture to assert, that I never had, and never shall have, any ambition but that of discharging with the most scrupulous exactness, and the most ardent zeal, whatever she has required, or shall require of me, for the purpose of promoting the plan of education she has conceived; nor a wish for any other reward than that of tranquillity and satisfaction. These I cannot enjoy, but through the friendship of the Countess; but peace is now re-established, and she has promised me that friendship. I am therefore about to commence a new era of felicity; I shall owe it to her, and it will

will be the dearer to me on that account. If any clouds should rise, let them not be suffered to gather; let her send for me, let her tell me of what she has to complain: I will either exculpate myself, or with perfect readiness avow my fault, that she may be induced to forget it, and may be convinced that I have nothing more at heart than to please her, and to contribute every thing in my power to make her happy, as she deserves to be. I thank her for having added to the Journal of yesterday the circumstance I had omitted; in talking to the Abbé upon the subject this morning, I discovered the omission, and should with pleasure have supplied it.

Friday, 16 September 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

" I HAVE read M. Lebrun's note,
" and I thank him for it; it made a

“ lively impresson upon me. It is pre-
 “ bable that, from extreme delicacy and
 “ feeling, I may have been too irrita-
 “ ble ; let us all have the goodness and
 “ greatness of soul to forget our mutual
 “ wrongs, and never to recall the re-
 “ membrance of them, unless it be the
 “ better to feel the value of the peace
 “ and happiness which are restored to us,
 “ and to esteem and love one another
 “ the more by thinking of the frank-
 “ ness and sensibility with which, with-
 “ out the mediation or intervention of
 “ any person whatever, we have opened
 “ our eyes, acknowledged our errors,
 “ done mutual and complete justice to
 “ each other’s characters, and effected a
 “ reconciliation equally sincere and last-
 “ ing *.”

Note

* Sincere as was this reconciliation on my part,
 it continued but for a short period ; and what ought
 to have strengthened our intimacy proved the means
 of destroying it. Our pupils, during winter, dined-
 only

Saturday, 15 October 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ ABOUT twice a week I shall take
 “ the princes to see some manufactures
 “ and cabinets. If the Abbé Guyot and
 “ M. Lebrun have any desire to be
 “ of these parties, I will so arrange mat-
 “ ters that they shall visit those which
 “ are most agreeable. On these days
 “ the Count de Beaujollois will take an
 “ airing with the Abbé Mariottini*, at-
 “ tended by Stephano. Nothing should

only three times a week at Belle Chasse: they had a table at the Palais Royal; this table I suppressed and added it to ours, which was a more economical plan, and afforded me greater intercourse with the children, as well as with the preceptors, who were continually complaining that they did not see me often enough. This arrangement however involved me in a new quarrel with the two Abbés and M. Lebrun.

* The other Abbé, and an Italian, preceptor to M. de Beaujollois, of whom, I believe, I have already spoken.

“ be

“ be given to the poor who may fall in
“ the way of the princes, without first
“ asking the princes if they wish to give
“ any thing, and how much, in order to
“ accustom them to think of such things
“ themselves, and learn to proportion
“ their charity to the necessities of the
“ object who implores it. Any false
“ ideas which they may entertain upon
“ this subject should be corrected, and
“ we should endeavour to cultivate in
“ them a compassion that is tender, and
“ at the same time judicious and rational.
“ I rely upon the humanity and discern-
“ ment of these gentlemen: I flatter
“ myself they will feel that, to consult
“ children upon the little opportunities
“ that daily occur of giving alms, to let
“ the merit of such acts be in appearance
“ their own, artfully to excite their pity,
“ to praise them for every instance of
“ sensibility they shall evince, and to
“ season all this with some apt and short
“ reflections,

“ reflections, cannot but be productive of
“ happy effects. . . .
“
“
“ Such are the arrange-
“ ments * I have made, and these are
“ my reasons, which I shall assign to the
“ gentlemen, not because I am bound
“ so to do, but because I consider them
“ as my friends, otherwise I should not
“ assign them. . The Duke and Duchess
“ de Chartres expressed a desire that a
“ stricter intercourse might subsist be-
“ tween their children and me : this
“ alone would have determined me to
“ make the arrangement ; but I also
“ find it to be a very economical mea-
“ sure, and extremely beneficial to the
“ education. The gentlemen themselves
“ have frequently said that I am the
“ person best loved and most feared by
“ the children, which is natural, as I

* Relative to the economy of uniting the house-
hold of Mademoiselle to that of the princes.

“ possess

“ possess the greatest authority, and as
“ they see me honoured with the con-
“ fidence of their father and mother :
“ this is not ascribable to my talents, it
“ is simply the result of my situation.
“ Hence it is obvious to perceive how
“ desirable it is that they should pass as
“ much time as possible with the person
“ whom they principally respect, and
“ who has most influence over them.
“ Hence it appears that the lessons they
“ take in my presence must gain the
“ greatest attention, and those which they
“ take from me personally be the most use-
“ ful. I am for this reason willing to teach
“ them many things, which these gen-
“ tlemen are as capable of teaching them
“ as I : there are others, of little com-
“ parative importance, in which these
“ gentlemen could not become my sub-
“ stitute. Such are, for example, the
“ care of diversifying their recreations,
“ and managing them in a manner which
“ may be best calculated to lead to cer-
“ tain

“tain agreeable acquisitions. I intend to
“make them play Proverbs all this win-
“ter : for this purpose it is necessary to
“be able to compose them extempore ;
“to give them an instructive and moral
“cast, and to play them with propriety*.
“I shall also for the future hear them re-
“peat their memoriter verses ; because
“their pronounciation, particularly that
“of the younger, is very vicious ; be-
“cause I have paid considerable atten-
“tion to the rules of pronounciation and
“declamation ; and because I wish them
“to declaim well. In fine, they are
“naturally rough, unpolished, and
“awkward ; and in passing the day at
“Belle Chasse they will have the advan-
“tage of seeing my family and friends,
“and will spontaneously assume, under

* This amusement is equally agreeable and instructive when it assumes a moral complexion ; it teaches to speak with collectedness and propriety, and gives a considerable command of language and style.

“my

“ my observation, liberal manners, and
“ the tone I wish them to possess. Such
“ are the advantages of this new arrange-
“ ment, and it is impossible to discover
“ one inconvenience that will result from
“ it. Accordingly, when, in the letters
“ I have preserved, any remonstrances
“ have been directed against it, not one
“ inconvenience to the princes has been
“ alleged, because in reality not one
“ exists ; it has only been remarked that
“ it would be inconvenient for the gen-
“ tlemen concerned in their education.
“ To that I have a short answer : Do
“ they think that it will be very conveni-
“ ent to me ? Do they think that, lov-
“ ing ardently as I do to write, to com-
“ pose, to read ; that, having so many
“ agreeable occupations to which I have
“ long been attached, it will be very con-
“ venient to have children in my cham-
“ ber the whole day long ; to hear two
“ lessons in languages with which I am
“ acquainted.

“ acquainted *, afterwards to make one
 “ in their game, and to hear them repeat
 “ things which already I know by rote ?
 “ This is certainly very *inconvenient* ;
 “ but the children are dear to me, and
 “ the pleasure of being useful to them
 “ renders every thing agreeable and
 “ easy. Whatever can be advantageous
 “ to them will never seem burthenfome
 “ to me. Such ought to be the feeling
 “ of us all, and I am very sure that a
 “ moment’s reflection will reconcile these
 “ thoughts to these gentlemen. Pecuniary
 “ saving is not the principle of this
 “ change, and yet much pecuniary saving
 “ will rise out of it.

“ To conclude, the union of these different
 “ tables is fraught with innumerable
 “ advantages to the education itself,

* English and Italian. The only books they read were books that I have read many times over. During these lessons given in my apartment, I wrote or read ; but it will readily be supposed with little pleasure, and perpetual distraction.

“ as

“ as well as great pecuniary saving; and
“ every thing may then, according to
“ my mode of accompts, be put down
“ in a single book with improved sim-
“ plicity and perspicuous order. It is
“ impossible therefore that the measure
“ I have adopted can be other than
“ right. I know that it is not pleasing
“ to these gentlemen, and I am sorry for
“ it. I am desirous of their friendship;
“ their company has become agreeable
“ and pleasant to me, and I had hoped
“ that a change, attended with no other
“ new imposition than that of coming to
“ dine and sup at Belle Chasse, when
“ they were not otherwise engaged, could
“ not be unpleasant to them. I find
“ myself mistaken: they say that this
“ arrangement is very disagreeable to
“ them, and that it is a grievous burthen
“ to have their *eating parlour* at such a
“ distance from their habitation. This
“ remonstrance has introduced some
“ change

“ change into my plan : I had intend-
“ ed to stay at home to dinner at Belle
“ Chasse the days on which the princes
“ dine with their mother, solely for the
“ pleasure of receiving these gentlemen ;
“ but I felt that it would be ridiculous
“ to impose this law upon myself in re-
“ lation to persons who did not come
“ there but with repugnance ; and I
“ have determined to give these two
“ days to my family. I will add farther,
“ that however agreeable it may be to
“ me to live with these gentlemen, and
“ to see them frequently, I shall never
“ take it ill of them not to dine with
“ me so often as the pleasure of their
“ company might make me wish ; and I
“ request them never to put themselves
“ under constraint for that purpose.
“ This I should have thought it unne-
“ cessary to say if the Abbé Guyot had
“ not had the politeness to desire me to
“ excuse them on Monday next, &c.
“ Once for all I beg these gentlemen to
“ be

“ be persuaded that they will always be
“ received at Belle Chasse with extreme
“ pleasure, and that it is totally unneces-
“ sary that mere politeness should at any
“ time bring them. What I have now
“ written I shall lay before Monseigneur,
“ together with the last letter of the Abbé
“ Guyot, and entreat him to read them
“ through ; he will then be competent
“ to decide between us. This step I
“ shall take, because in the present case
“ it is indispensable. If there arose any
“ discussions between these gentlemen
“ and me upon other subjects, I certainly
“ should not trouble Monseigneur with
“ them ; he has deigned to confide the
“ whole education to me, and upon me
“ it is incumbent to make a right use
“ of this authority. I however owe to
“ him, and most of all to myself, the
“ submitting to his inspection a clear
“ and precise account of the functions
“ with which he has entrusted me.”

Monday, 23 October 1785.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ **THE** Duke d’Orleans has read this
“ article, and authorises me to express
“ to M. Lebrun his thanks for that
“ gentleman’s superintendance of the
“ expence of the Palais Royal *, which
“ appears to him to have been very
“ reasonably conducted. He adds, that,
“ judging from the accounts I have always
“ given him, in every respect, of the
“ conduct of M. Lebrun, and from his
“ own observation, he entertains the best
“ opinion of his character, and the ut-
“ most confidence in his integrity. The
“ Duke has also read the letter of the
“ Abbé Guyot, remonstrating against the
“ new arrangement. He authorises me
“ to signify to these gentlemen that he

* The private table which the princes had hitherto had at the Palais Royal, and which was now suppressed in favour of that of Belle Chasse.

“ has

“ has witnessed with particular surprise
“ complaints that have no shadow of
“ foundation. He never told them that
“ he meant to establish at the Palais
“ Royal a table *for them* ; but that, not-
“ withstanding the usual practice, he
“ consented they should eat at the same
“ table with his children, both in town
“ and in the country * ; they have never
“ had

* Before my time, the children at the Palais Royal, and in all the households of the princes of the blood, had a table which was entirely exclusive ; not only the sub-governors and preceptors did not eat at it ; but no advance whatever was made for their subsistence, and even in the country they kept a table at their own expence. I obtained for M. Bonnard a regular establishment for his table at Saint Leu, and he was still at Paris at his own expence. For my own associates in the education I obtained the right, which was very natural, of eating with the pupils both in town and country. I had already been blamed for choosing a sub-governor not of noble descent, and the blame was still louder when they saw him sit at the same table with the princesses ; for etiquette was at that time more rigorous upon this article :

“ had a table of their own, only the
 “ table of the princes. That table exists
 “ no longer at the Palais Royal ; but it
 “ is not the table of these gentlemen,
 “ it is the table of the princes that has
 “ changed situation. To give them a
 “ right to complain it would be necessary
 “ to have promised them that the princes
 “ should never change their *eating par-*
 “ *lour*. At present they dine at Belle Chasse,
 “ and their instructors are invited : when
 “ the princes dine again at the Palais
 “ Royal, these gentlemen shall dine with
 “ them. I make no change in the for-
 “ mer arrangement for the country ; of
 “ consequence the permission granted
 “ them there still continues as extensive
 “ as ever.

“ Before I return the Journal, I wish

article : but I regarded censure with defiance, and
 desired nothing but to gain the kindness of my as-
 sessors : it is now seen what their gratitude was.

“ to speak of some complaints I have to
“ make that concern the Abbé Mariot-
“ tini only. In the first place, I had ex-
“ pressly desired him to make a Journal
“ of his observations respecting the cha-
“ racter of the Count de Beaujollois, the
“ manner in which he employed his
“ mornings, &c. Of this Journal I have
“ been able to obtain no more than a few
“ sheets; for upwards of eight months
“ the Abbé has discontinued it, and it
“ was never made with the least care
“ or regularity. I had also expressly
“ desired the Abbé to preside, when the
“ princes made their analyses from Me-
“ tastasio, and to correct every analysis
“ as soon as it was finished: this, I was
“ told, was done. Upon our arrival at
“ Paris I asked to see these analyses,
“ when I was informed that the Abbé
“ had not yet finished his corrections,
“ but that I should have them in a few
“ days. At length a single copy-book
“ was

“ was brought me containing five analy-
“ ses, the first of which had been written
“ so long ago as the 22d of last April ;
“ time enough in conscience for it to
“ have received the Abbé’s corrections.
“ How great was my surprise at not be-
“ ing able to find a single alteration, or
“ even one mark of his pen ! I then sup-
“ posed that the Abbé had superintended
“ while M. Lebrun wrote these analyses
“ from the dictation of the Duke de Va-
“ lois, and had taken that opportunity
“ of correcting any mistakes the princes
“ might make. I therefore read these
“ analyses ; but I was soon convinced of
“ my error, by the absurd misconstruc-
“ tions with which every line abounded.
“ I compared them with the original,
“ and I found that from beginning to
“ end they were perfectly devoid of
“ common sense. The names were con-
“ founded, the incidents misunderstood,
“ and the events perplexed and rendered

“unintelligible. The Abbé has thus
“been less punctual in this instance,
“than respecting the Journal I desired
“him to write, or rather, he has been
“wholly regardless of my express direc-
“tions. I have done in four days what
“he has not been able to do in six
“months : with Metastasio in my hand,
“I have corrected all the analyses, or
“rather have re-written almost all of
“them from beginning to end. During
“a great part of the summer I was pre-
“sent at the lessons given by the Abbé
“to the princes ; and I can say with per-
“fect truth, that I saw a thousand in-
“stances in which he ought to have
“awakened their attention, to have ob-
“served that they were listless and indo-
“lent ; that he who was not reading, and
“who was to follow the lesson, did not
“even look at the book, &c. the Abbé
“did not once reprove them for these
“things, but pursued his lecture with-
“out

“ out caring whether he was heard or
“ not. This is not the mode of teach-
“ ing we ought to practise with children,
“ nor is it the mode which zeal and a
“ love of our duty would prescribe. The
“ Abbé will perhaps say, that I was pre-
“ sent, and it was therefore my business
“ to reprove them. Certainly not, when
“ I do not myself give the lesson, and
“ particularly when I am writing, or
“ otherwise employed at the time. Fre-
“ quently, however, so striking was their
“ inattention, that I did reprove them,
“ perceiving that the Abbé passed it
“ over, or rather was wholly indifferent
“ about it ; which astonished me the
“ more as, these lessons excepted, he
“ had nothing to do. I give the Abbé
“ to understand that I am extremely
“ dissatisfied with this negligence on his
“ part, and cannot tolerate his total dis-
“ regard of the directions I have so posi-
“ tively

“tively given. Wishing to avoid all
 “explanation upon the subject either in
 “person or by writing, I record the
 “circumstance in this Journal. Had
 “the Abbé continued his Journal, I
 “should there have stated these just
 “causes of complaint.—I beg M. Le-
 “brun to read to the Abbé Guyot and
 “the Abbé Mariottini all that I have
 “written in the Journal since the 15th
 “instant *.”

Tuesday, 3 January 1786.

THE Duke de Chartres, to his great satisfaction, has at length met the poor paralytic, to whom he gave his twelve livres, desiring him at the same time to send him his papers giving an account

* The Abbé Mariottini wrote me upon this occasion such impertinent letters, and his preceding conduct had been so very absurd, that I was forced to request him to give in his resignation.

of

of his former situation and his misfortunes. I told the poor man that he might bring them to-morrow, conceiving that he came every day to the Tuileries; but he answered in tears, that he never came from the *Barnier des Carmes*, where he lived, unless *when he wanted bread*. This made an impression on the three princes, and was the principal subject of conversation during our promenade.

Saturday, 14 January 1786.

THE Duke de Chartres returned the poor paralytic his papers, accompanied with a louis, adding, with an air of kindness and sensibility, that he would give him fifty crowns a year, payable monthly if he pleased. The poor man desired it might be quarterly; because what his Highness had already given him was sufficient, he said, to maintain him for

three months, and to enable him to buy wood. The Duke told him to send his address, and he would take care that he should be supplied with wood. The poor man knew not what to reply to so many marks of goodness, and could only shew his gratitude by his tears, which wrought powerfully on the feelings of his Highness. His persevering benevolence towards this unfortunate being was the subject of conversation during the rest of our promenade, which pleased me on every account. The two younger princes participated in the satisfaction of their brother.

Thursday, 19 January 1786.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

" I SHALL speak to the Duke de
 " Chartres respecting the ill-humour he
 " displaystowards these gentlemen, which
 " afflicts me the more as he must be a
 " great

“ greathypocrite; for in the ten hours a day
“ that he spends with me, I can perceive
“ no trace of any such disposition.—I beg
“ M. Lèbrun to be careful that the
“ princes, particularly the Duke de
“ Chartres, run, jump, and walk in a
“ better manner : I have seen him per-
“ form these exercises in the garden,
“ and he appears to have made no pro-
“ ficiency. He runs with his head al-
“ most upon the ground, his body jolts
“ as he walks, and he cannot jump so
“ well as he could. Great attention
“ should be paid to these things during
“ his recreations ; and whenever he is
“ indolent and remiss in such exercises,
“ it ought to be mentioned in the Jour-
“ nal.”

Monday, 30 January 1786.

THE Duke de Chartres was displeased
with an observation I made upon the ap-

parent difference of his behaviour when his friend said any thing to him, or when he was spoken to by us.—He expressed to the paralytic his regret that the wood had not been sent, which he ought to have received to-day. The poor man was penetrated with this mark of goodness.—The Duke has done many other charitable actions to-day, among others to a poor man burnt out of his house, who threw himself upon his knees by the side of the carriage as his Highness was sitting in it. This gesture displeased me, and I expressed to the Duke, who, as well as his brothers, appeared surprised at it, what were my thoughts upon the subject.

Tuesday, 14 February 1786.

IN the rue de Bourbon we saw an unfortunate object who had just fainted away. We stopped for a moment; he
4 recovered

recovered from the swoon, but was still very much indisposed. The princes commiserated his situation, and we left Desfroziels to take care of him. The Duke de Chartres said, that if he were a poor man some money should be given him. Subject of conversation till we arrived at Belle Chasse.

Friday, 10 March 1786.

EVERY thing would have been unexceptionable to-day, had it not been for a discussion between the Duke de Chartres and the Abbé, which I have entreated this last to relate to the Countess in presence of the Duke, that she might point out to him his mistake. The affair was as follows: The Duke, after his Latin, went to warm himself: a few minutes after the Abbé desired him to sit down; he desired it again and again; but the

Duke, instead of complying, went to look at his birds. The Abbé persisted in his intreaty; the Duke at length complied, but muttered to himself, *What obstinacy in the Abbé!* Abbé Guyot expostulated, but without success, and therefore ceased for the present, that he might not too much intrench upon the lessons. Afterwards he related the incident to me, and we endeavoured to make his Highness feel the injustice of what he had uttered. He agreed that it was wrong in him to say it, that he was sorry for it; but that he was still convinced that the Abbé had been obstinate, and that *we were both at present upon our high horse* *. I then determined to give up the
the

* From the age of seventeen I have been constantly surrounded with children; for I was no sooner married than I took a little peasant girl under my care, whom I kept for many years. From that time to the present I have successively had under my direction sixteen children, and among this
number

the attempt, and to state the whole in a reference to the Countess.

Wednesday, 29 March 1786.

JUST as we were setting off for Belle Chasse the Duke de Chartres perceived in the vestibule the old invalid whose petition he had put into the hands of the Countess. He said to me in a whisper, that till an opportunity offered of speaking to his papa this poor officer would suffer, and that he wished to give him twelve livres. I supplied him with the sum, and he gave it with an air of sensibility and kindness. I praised him for his conduct in this instance, and promised

number I have never found one who has ever made me an impertinent answer: When we have a true affection for children, when we understand their characters, when we practise towards them neither dryness nor pedantry, but display in our behaviour justice, firmness and regard, we always find in them docility, respect and gratitude.

to relate it to the Countess, which I did after dinner.

Thursday, 24 August 1786.

Note of Madame de Genlis.

“ THE Duke d’Orleans was with me
 “ this morning ; the Count de Beaujol-
 “ lois told him that his brother had had
 “ a fall, and that a surgeon had put a
 “ bandage round his’ head. Monseign-
 “ neur sent for the Duke de Montpen-
 “ sier, who related the circumstance, and
 “ said that there was no appearance of
 “ any swelling, and Monseigneur scolded
 “ him for suffering his head to be
 “ bound up for so mere a trifle : Mon-
 “ seigneur added that we ought never to
 “ submit to such things but in case of a
 “ dangerous blow ; and that for a man
 “ to permit himself to be dressed by a
 “ surgeon when he had no real wound,
 “ was a very absurd piece of delicacy.
 “ The

“ The Duke farther authorised me to tell
“ M. Lebrun that for the future he must
“ not suffer these petty attentions on the
“ part of the surgeon, as they were cal-
“ culated to make his children contemp-
“ tibly effeminate and tender *.”

I HAVE

* Of all the vices observable in the education of modern princes, there is none more striking than the softness and delicacy to which they are habituated, and the pusillanimous and degrading cares that are lavished on them. When the children of M. d'Orleans were put into my hands, they had been accustomed in winter to wear under waistcoats, two pair of stockings, gloves, muffs, &c. : they slept on beds of down, and the curtains were drawn perfectly close every night. The eldest, who was eight years of age, never came down stairs without being supported by the arm of one or two persons ; the whole faculty of the Palais Royal was called in if he happened to scratch his finger ; the servants of these children bestowed upon them the meanest services, dressed, and undressed them, &c. ; and for a cold, or the slightest indisposition, sat up with them for many nights together. What souls, what courage and fortitude can children have who are
thus

Friday, 25 August 1786.

I HAVE read the two notes of the Marchioness *. I thank her for them. By the first I perceive that she is satisfied with the manner in which we employ our mornings ; by the second she has set my mind at ease by prohibiting the frivolous cares of the surgeons, which are as little pleasing to us as to her, and which I would not have suffered yesterday, if I could have had my will. The princes well know this, and I have more than once expressed my thoughts upon the subject. If the Marchioness would always favour me with her observations

thus educated ! It was still worse with the children of the royal family, and particularly the Dauphin, who never took an airing out of Paris without being accompanied by a physician.

* I had just taken the name of Sillery.

upon

upon the accounts I give her, I would thankfully receive them ; and by strictly conforming to them, which is my constant wish, I should be sure never to err.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ I HAVE at no time neglected to
“ make such observations as I conceived
“ to be necessary, which the Journal
“ proves. M. Lebrun ought also to
“ consult me upon every thing which he
“ disapproves ; ~~if~~ he had told me, for
“ example, that he disliked the frivolous
“ cares and interference of the surgeons,
“ I would have *set his mind at ease* upon
“ the subject much sooner.”

Note of Madame de Sillery.

"I HAVE asked the Duke de Chartres
 "if M. Lebrun had not assisted him in
 "some of his analyses". He answered
 "me four times in the negative. I put
 "the same question to the Duke de

* Analyses of theatrical pieces, written after having seen them represented. It was not usual in the education of princes to take them to the play, except at the time of the Carnival, when they were taken to the exhibitions at the fair or to the *Comédie Française*, to see *Don Japhet*, or the *King of Cocagne*. I was much blamed by persons of austere manners for conducting them every ten or twelve days to the exhibition of the chefs d'oeuvres of dramatic composition: they have seen represented in succession all the best pieces that are to be found in the stock list of the *Comédie Française*. I required that the next morning they should dictate by turns to M. Lebrun an analysis of the pieces they had seen the night before, and I agreed with M. Lebrun that in these sketches, which were to be brought to me and undergo my revision, he should not assist them.

"Mont-

“ Montpensier, who immediately con-
 “ fessed that *M. Lebrun had assisted him in*
 “ *the analysis of Virginia.* A moment af-
 “ ter the Duke de Chartres came, of his
 “ own accord, in tears to tell me that he
 “ had not spoken the truth, and that M.
 “ Lebrun had assisted him also. I wanted
 “ not this confession to be sure of it.
 “ They have made indeed accurate
 “ analyses from plays that have been
 “ read to them, because I took care
 “ that they listened attentively; but in
 “ the representation there are a thousand
 “ things that necessarily distract the
 “ mind, and they will not for some
 “ time be able of themselves to make
 “ analyses of this kind with any ac-
 “ curacy. I had once before, as the
 “ Journal proves, expressly desired M.
 “ Lebrun never to assist the princes *with*
 “ *a single word*: he promised, and, as
 “ the Journal also proves, broke his pro-
 “ mise

“ mise: he gave his word a second
“ time, and a second time has he failed
“ to keep it. The result of this is that
“ the princes are taught by his example
“ a total disregard of my express orders,
“ and are also exposed to prevarication
“ and falsehood, which actually hap-
“ pened. I shall make no reflections
“ upon this subject; it is unnecessary.
“ I will only say that I am resolved in
“ future never to tolerate a proceeding
“ of this kind; and that should any
“ thing similar to it occur again, I shall
“ take the most effectual means of for
“ ever putting an end to it.”

Tuesday, 29 August 1786.

IT is impossible to feel more pain than I have felt at reading the note of the Marchioness, particularly as I have given cause for the accusation it contains. I shall

I shall certainly never act so as to deserve a similar reproach. I have frankly confessed to the princes how much I was to blame, which is perhaps the way to repair my fault *

* There is little to admire in the *frank* acknowledgment of a fault so positively proved; this frankness never discovered itself in cases of a different nature.

END OF VOL. II.

