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Letters Written During a Short Residence in Sweden, Norway and Denmark (Regency Library)

Mary Wollstonecraft

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which experience rather increases than (damps; by giying the indulgence of feeling the san?n P FJrpn.. /LETTER XI.:
" "".. '-Jj. I ' "" I""L"T Portoer, the little haven I mentioned, I soon after I finished my last letter. The fe? was rough; and I perceived that our pilot was right not to venture farther during a hazy night. We had agreed to pay sous dollars for a boat from Helgeraac. I mention the sum, because the would demartcf twice as much from a Granger; I wa\$ obliged to pay fifteen for the otte i hired a? Stromstad. When we were ready td set OuT,! our boatman offered to return a dollar, ahi3 let us go in one of the boats ofthe place, the pilot who lived there being better acquainted with the coast. He only demanded a dollar and half, which wa6 reasonable, I found him a civil and rather intelligent man: he was in the american service several years during the revolution, I soon perceived that an experienced mariner was necessary to guide us; for we were continually obliged to tack about, to' avoid the rocks, which, scarcely reaching to the surface of the water, could only be discoK 2 vered vered by the breaking of the waves over them. The view of this wild coast, as we failed along it, afforded me a continual subject for meditation. I anticipated the future improvement of the world, and observed how much man had still to do, to obtain of the' earth all it could yield. I even carried my speculations so far as to advance a million or two of years to the moment when the earth would perhaps be so perfectly cultivated, and so completely peopled, as to render it necessary to inhabit every foot; yes; these bleak shores. Imagination went still; farther, and pictured the.state of man...

This collection brings to life a radical writer. * Katie Toms, The Observer *About the AuthorMary Wollstonecraft was a British author, philosopher, and advocate of women s rights. Raised by an abusive and neglectful father, Wollstonecraft was determined to have her own livelihood, and worked as a teacher and governess before becoming a translator and advisor for Joseph Johnson, a publisher of radical texts, in 1788. It was during this time that she wrote her most famous work, A Vindication of the Rights of Woman, in which she argued against the idea that women are helpless and inferior to men, which was followed by Maria, or the Wrongs of Woman, which asserted that women had strong sexual desires. Wollstonecraft passed away tragically in 1797, ten days after the birth of her second daughter, Mary, who would go on to write the literary classic Frankenstein. The life and death of Mary Wollstonecraft has been the subject of many biographies, including one written by her husband, Memoirs of the Author of a Vindication of the Rights of Woman, published in 1798.