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Miscellaneous works Of The Late Philip Dormer Stanhope, Earl Of Chesterfield

Consisting Of Letters to his Friends, never before printed, And Various
Other Articles

**Chesterfield, Philip Dormer Stanhope of
Dublin, 1777**

Notes of the Introduction.

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NOTES of the INTRODUCTION.

[1] SEVERAL of the Roman writers have owned this. Livy, in particular, expresses himself in the following manner: "Vitiatam memoriam funebribus laudibus reor, falsisque imaginum titulis, dum familiæ ad se quæque famam rerum gestarum honorumque fallente mendacio trahunt. Inde certe et singulorum gesta, et publica monumenta rerum confusa." Liv. VIII. 40.

[2] In his life of Atticus, indeed, he holds a much superior rank, for he was his contemporary.

[3] In a conversation which I had with his lordship, soon after his election into the French academy of *inscriptions and belles lettres*, I mentioned, as it was not unlikely that I might be called upon to send to his new associates some account of his life, it were to be wished, that he would furnish me with materials for such a task. This he thought fit to decline, though not averse from the proposal. His lordship modestly added, that few or no lives could stand the test of minute examination. Yet I have reason to believe, that he had himself some intention of this kind, and was perhaps at that very time employed in the undertaking. The bishop of Waterford, his chaplain and friend, expresses his surprise that nothing should have been found among the late earl's papers concerning the history of his own times. "His lordship," he says, "repeated to him more than once, that he was writing it, as far as his memory (which was a good one) would furnish him with matter;" and lord S—, whose mother was first cousin to lord Chesterfield, assured the bishop as having it from Sir William Stanhope, that one day, upon his brother's shewing him his manuscripts, he had told him, that by his will he had left him the publication of them; and then added, *publish them as soon as you dare.*

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