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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**

Letter XLIX. To The Same.

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## L E T T E R XLIX.

T O T H E S A M E.

London, Aug. 16, O. S. 1750.

**Y**OU are so well acquainted, madam, with my sentiments, and with my readiness to do any thing that can oblige you, that you will easily judge how unhappy I am, not to have it in my power to execute the commands you lately honored me with. At first sight, I conceived it to be a difficult matter; but now I know it to be utterly impossible. I have sounded the people in power; and though I have no connection with the ministers, I mentioned it to one of them, who told me plainly that it could not be done. You know, said he, the spirit of rebellion that is rooted in those people; theirs and the Punic faith are the same; they are not to be won by lenity, nor bound by the oaths they take to government. You know too, that two thirds of them that were in the last rebellion, were people who had been in the former, and who only enjoyed their lives and fortunes by virtue of the late king's indulgence and pardon. Many even held employments, for which they had taken the oath of fidelity, which did not restrain them, so soon as the signal of rebellion was given. The very name of \* \* \*, added he, (for I was obliged to tell him the name) implies rebellion from father to son. You knew that as well as I, and the secret practices of those gentlemen, whilst you were in the ministry; I leave you to judge, therefore, whether it is consistent either with the safety or dignity of government to be duped by them a second time. I was forced, madam, to acquiesce in all he said, as he was fully convinced that I knew it to be strictly true. I can tell you, moreover, that all those rebels, who have fled to France and elsewhere, date only from the open rebellion, because they flatter themselves that government is ignorant of their cabals, and secret machinations ever since; whereas on the contrary, they are fully informed of them. They see two-thirds of their letters, they betray one another, and I have frequently had the very same man's letters in my hand at  
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