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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 LI. To The Same.

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LETTER LI.

TO THE SAME.

Bath, Nov. 1, O. S. 1750.

I Expect, madam, you should give me credit for the silence I have kept so long, from mere strength of mind, in spite of the expostulations of my heart, which often murmured at it, and was continually wanting to say something to you. This is the case: towards the latter end of autumn, my head-aches, giddiness, and, in short, all the ills that can plague a head, conspired to demolish mine; and I am sure much less would have done it. In this state, that head, which well knows the respect it owes to yours, and which at best is very unfit to face it, wisely determined to conceal itself till better times. Those better times are come at last. I have brought that head to this place, it's constant refuge, and have mended it tolerably, by drinking; don't mistake me, I mean water-drinking. Here then it comes, and once more respectfully bows to yours; that is to say, I am much better, and able to repeat to you the assurances of my esteem and friendship, which are proof against all the ills in the world.

So you have found means, as I made no doubt but you would, to keep lady Hervey at Paris: you are in the right, and so is she. Her letters are so many encomiums upon France and the French, to such a degree as even to be injurious to us. She has the pleasure of seeing you often, that alone would be sufficient to make me say as much or more. I do not wish, however, to be so often the topic of your conversations; for, though you may both be ever so much prejudiced in my favour, you both know me too well not to introduce many *but*s into those conversations; whereas I had much rather have each separately speak of me to those who do not know me, and then each might safely, and I flatter myself would, stretch a little beyond truth to my advantage.

Your pupil is at present in France, roving about Languedoc, Provence, Dauphiny, &c. He will have the honour of paying his court to you before Christmas. He
goes