

Universitätsbibliothek Paderborn

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 XIX. To The Same.

urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-52184

338 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

But fuch is the uncertainty of human affairs, that it feems a conspiracy has broke out, to distress, and even to fubvert your government. I do not see what I can do at this distance to affist you, knowing no body at Bath but my brother and lord Ancram, who are both, as I am informed, much in your interest. There is a committee, you fay, formed against you; form a counter committee of your most considerable friends, not forgetting two or three of our tough countrymen, who are Manu quam Confilio promptiores. Among gentler, but perhaps not less effectual measures, you may call ridicule into your affiftance, and give their committee the name of The Committee of Safety, which was manifeftly formed to destroy the then established government, and (avert the omen) did fo. They begin with the reformation of your music, the Round-heads did so with the organs; but the latter meant more, and fo do the former. The profit is the real cause of discord, and therefore I am afraid that fome man of quality and fortune should avail himself of those civil diffentions, and come and swallow the oyster, and leave you and your antagonist only the shells. For my own part, I say, O king, live for ever. I am,

Your faithful, and loyal subject,

CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER XIX.

TO THE SAME.

London, March 17, 1767.

SIR,

DID I not tell you when first these little convulsions shook your throne, that they would tend to fix and establish it upon solid foundations. This hath happened, and

and I look upon your power to be, fince your restoration, more permanent and more extensive than ever. It was the cause of king Charles the second upon his restoration, when all his fubjects were in hafte to furrender into his hands, all their rights and privileges. You are now in possession of all those at Bath, in as full and as ample a manner, as the most absolute of your predecessors (Nash) ever enjoyed them. But I must recommend to you to use your unlimited power with moderation and lenity, and to reflect, that despotism is a state of violence, which human nature abhors. How could you think me fo bad a courtier, as not to be willing that my name should appear in the list of your flatterers? Make what use you please of it, but do not put me down in the lift of your ministers, for I do not like that profesfion. I cannot fay that I approve of your Poll Tax, as a fund for your Civil List, for I am convinced it will prove a deficient one. Your Balls were a much better. Your balls took in every Body, and many could not refuse taking a ticket from you Ore tenus, who will flip and shuffle out of the way of your subscription book.

I should be unworthy of my peerage, if now that you

are king indeed, I were not,

Your loyal subject,

and faithful fervant,

CHESTERFIELD.