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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 XCIX. From Count Wassenaer de Twickel, minister plenipotentiary
from the states general at the congress of Breda, to the earl of
Chesterfield*.

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an end to this dissertation on humour, which is already too long, and in which, perhaps, I am as wide of the mark as your author, and those whom he criticises. Besides, when I have the honor to write to such a one as yourself, it may seem a very great singularity in me to fill three whole pages upon no other topic than the ridicule of characters. Subjects of a more agreeable nature might justly claim the preference, and your epistolary criticism might here find sufficient occasion to display itself.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem,
 Your most obedient,
 and most humble servant,
 CHESTERFIELD,

L E T T E R X C I X .

From Count WASSENAER de Twickel, minister plenipotentiary from the states general at the congress of Breda, to the earl of CHESTERFIELD*.

MY LORD,

THE earl of Sandwich has just now called upon me, to bring me a piece of intelligence, which would, at all times, have given me infinite pleasure, but more particularly so at this present juncture. I have seen, my lord, with the most agreeable surprize, at the bottom of his dispatches, the name of the man in the world I most admire, esteem, and you must give me leave to say, love, the name of Chesterfield. I was some moments before I could recover myself, and clear up the confusion of ideas, which this event raised in my mind. Whichever way I consider it, I see in it a source of joy and satisfaction for every good patriot, both English and Dutch. You are in possession, my lord, of the esteem and confidence of both; what

* On his being appointed secretary of state. This interesting letter, which shews in so lively a manner the sentiments of the republic with regard to our earl, was, together with the following, given me by Lady Chesterfield.

advantages

l'honneur d'écrire à une personne comme vous, il sembleroit assez singulier que trois pages entières ne roulassent uniquement que sur le ridicule des caractères. Des matières plus agréables demanderoient une juste préférence, et votre critique épistolaire y trouveroit bien de quoi critiquer.

J'ai l'honneur d'être avec les sentimens de la plus parfaite considération,

Votre très-humble

et très-obéissant serviteur,

CHESTERFIELD,

L E T T R E XCIX.

Du comte de WASSENAER de Twickel, ministre plénipotentiaire au congrès de Bréda, au comte de CHESTERFIELD*.

MYLORD,

DANS le moment le comte de Sandwich fort de chez moi, où il a eu la bonté de venir m'apprendre une nouvelle, qui en tout tems, mais surtout dans la circonstance présente, ne peut que me causer une joye inexprimable. J'ai vu, mylord, avec la plus agréable surprise, au bas de ses dépêches, le nom de l'homme du monde, que je respecte, que j'admire, que j'estime, et permettez-moi de trancher le mot, que j'aime le plus, le nom de Chesterfield. Il m'a fallu quelques momens pour me reconnoître, et debrouiller la confusion des idées, que cet événement a réveillées dans mon esprit. De quelque côté je l'envisage, je n'y trouve que des sujets de joye et de satisfaction pour tout bon patriote Anglois et Hollandois. Vous possédez, mylord, l'estime et la confiance des uns et des autres.

Que