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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 XX. To The Same.

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Has Kreuningen paid his two *per cent.* and survived it?
Have you seen your old friend? *Bon soir.*

Yours,

C.

L E T T E R XX.

TO THE SAME.

London, Dec. 1, O. S. 1747.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I RECEIVED but last Sunday yours of the 1st N. S. and there are now two more posts due from Holland.

Though your correspondence cannot, in this season of inaction, be so informing as at other times, it is still the correspondence of a friend; and I value much more what the heart dictates, than what occurrences supply. So write on, when you have leisure, and depend upon your letters being equally welcome to me, however full of, or free from, news. Chetwynd * tells me that you have some doubts, whether you should regularly write your office-letters or not, as you have not great variety of materials for them at present. That is none of your fault. * * * But, however, I can tell you that the king reads your letters with great attention, and is very well pleased with them; therefore continue by all means, and insert every thing, that comes to your knowledge. His majesty loves to hear the little occurrences of every place. * * * *

Pray endeavour to get me an exact account of all the troops now in the service of the republic; distinguishing those that were there before the election of the stadthouder, and those which have been raised since; and likewise an account of the prisoners still in the possession of the French. This account, I know, you can hardly get

* Wm. Chetwynd, esq; under secretary of state in the Northern department.

get in any other shape but that of battallions and squadrons, but, however, I desire you will accompany it with the best-grounded conjecture that you can form of the real number of effective men, to which the whole establishment amounts.

As the world goes, I am not displeas'd with monsieur de Brenles's (a) account of the boy; and to tell you the truth, it is better than I expected. I agree with you, that Leipzig is not the place to give him that *bon ton*, which I know he wants; but then consider, that he can acquire that *bon ton*, no where but in mixed companies, and in the pleasures of people of fashion at courts, which if he were to taste of so young as he is now, there would be an end of all studies. And he still wants a foundation in several sciences, which he will lay better at Leipzig than any where else. He will there make himself master of the German language, the history and constitution of the empire, some Grotius, some civil law, and other things, which he must either learn now or never. It is true that in all this time he will contract a little German dirt; but that is easier rubb'd off, especially at his age, than English dirt. Turin will effectually do that; and Paris shall give, at last, the true varnish.

Harte writes me word, that the boy really works hard, and has barely time to eat, drink, and sleep. In all the vacations, he is to go to Dresden, which will do some good to his manners.

Adieu.

LETTER XXI.

TO THE SAME.

London, Dec. 14, O. S. 1747.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I Have received your letter of the 19th, N. S. Your account of the inefficiency of the government in Holland is, I am convinc'd, very true, and I have the same from various

(a) The gentleman at whose house young Stanhope was a boarder at Laufanne.