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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 XXVI. To The Same.

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either in or out of court succeeded, and continued till now. And it is now time to think of the only real comforts in the latter end of life, quiet, liberty, and health. Do not think, by the way, that by quiet and retirement, I mean solitude and misanthropy; far from it: my philosophy, as you know, is of a chearful and social nature. My horse, my books, and my friends, will divide my time pretty equally; I shall not keep less company, but only better, for I shall chuse it. Therefore do not fear finding me, whenever you take a little turn here, morose and cynical: on the contrary, you will find me as gentle as a dove, but alas! not so amorous. At least, whatever else you find me, you will always find me with the truest affection,

Yours, &c.

CHESTERFIELD.

*P. S.* Pray make my compliments to my baron, and thank him both for his books and his letters: I will do it myself very soon.

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LETTER XXVI.

TO THE SAME.

Bath, Feb. 23, O. S. 1748.

*ME voici mon cher enfant* (here I am, my dear boy), enjoying liberty and idleness, but attended with a great cold, which I got upon the road, in the coldest weather, and the deepest snow that I ever remember. This has hindered me from drinking the waters hitherto; but that is no great matter, as I came here more for the sake of quiet, and absence from London, while I was the only subject of conversation there, than for any great occasion that I had for the waters.

Without affectation, I feel most sensibly the comforts  
of



of my present free and quiet situation; and if I had much vanity in my composition, of which I really think that I have less than most people, even that vanity would be fully gratified, by the voice of the public upon this occasion. But, upon my word, all the busy tumultuous passions have subsided in me, and that not so much from philosophy, as from a little reflection upon a great deal of experience. I have been behind the scenes, both of pleasure and business. I have seen all the coarse pullies and dirty ropes, which exhibit and move all the gaudy machines; and I have seen and smelt the tallow candles, which illuminate the whole decoration, to the astonishment and admiration of the ignorant audience.

Since my resignation, my brother, as you will have seen in the news-papers, is appointed commissioner of the admiralty, which he never would have been as long as I had continued in, the resolution being taken to exclude all those, who might otherwise have been supposed to have come in upon my interest. As I retire without quarrelling, and without the least intention to oppose, I saw no reason why my brother should decline this post, and I advised him to accept of it, and the rather as it was the king's own doing.

George Stanhope\* too, I am told, is now to have the rank of colonel given him, which I could never procure him, so that it seems, I have a much better interest out of place than I had in.

All goes well at Leipzig; the boy applies and improves more than I expected. Count and countess Fleming, who saw him there, and who carried him to the dutchess of Courlande's, gave me a very good account of him, and assured me that he was by no means the awkward English oaf, but *passablement décrotté* (tolerably polished). He shall stay there a year longer, and then go to Turin. If you should accidentally hear, or can procure, any memoirs of his private character, pray let me know them.

Remember the cautions, which I gave you in one of my former letters. When lord Sandwich goes to the congress, you will have a great deal to do, and play a considerable part, at the Hague; which I know you are able to acquit yourself of very well. This I think will put you, *en train d'être*

N 2

*d'être*

\* Brother to earl Stanhope.



*d'être monsieur l'envoyé*, upon lord Sandwich's return to his post here, which will be before it is very long; for however little peace is at present intended, necessity will soon make it, by the means of the *marcéaux de Saxe et Lowendahl*; and then, being upon the place, I think you may reasonably ask, and probably obtain, the character and appointments of envoy. \* \* \* \* \*

May you have all you wish!

Adieu, yours,

C.

## L E T T E R XXVII.

TO THE SAME.

London, March, 22, O. S. 1748.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I AM now returned from the Bath in a state of health, which I have not known of some years, and which is owing to quiet of mind and exercise of body. I am now master of my own time, and of my own motions. I do whatever I please, whenever I please, and am mightily pleased with it. \* \* \* \* \*

I lay no great stress upon \* \* \* remaining at the Hague, which I do not think is with any other design, but only to be the channel of a certain correspondence. *A propos* of that correspondence, \* \* \* has confessed the impotence of the republic; has owned that they are disappointed in their levies, and has desired to borrow twelve hundred thousand pounds, or at least a million sterling, without which he says that the republic must be inevitably ruined. When the king heard the purport of his commission, he said, *Chesterfield told me six months ago that it would be so*. As to his loan of a million at least, he has been told, that, if he can get it *à la bonne heure* (so much the better), but that it is not very likely that he should, when our own loan is at five *per cent.* discount, and when it is very doubtful whether the further payments will be made at all. At last he came down to beg, for God's sake, that we would at least take the whole expence of the Russians upon ourselves, for that