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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 XXVII. To The Same.

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d'être monfieur 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 prefent intended, necessity will soon make it, by the means of the mariéhaux de Saxe et Lowendabl; 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 wifh !

No. ANT

Adieu, yours,

С.

LETTER XXVII.

TO THE SAME.

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

DEAR DAYROLLES,

A M now returned from the Bath in a ftate of health, which I have not known of fome years, and which is owing to quiet of mind and exercise of body. I am now mafter 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 grea. ftrefs upon * * * remaining at the Hague, which I do not think is with any other defign, 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 difappointed in their levies, and has defired to borrow twelve hundred thouland pounds, or at least a million sterling, without which he fays that the republic must be inevitably ruined. When the king heard the purport of his commission, he faid, Chefterfield told me fix months ago that it would be fo. 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 fhould, when our own loan is at five per cent. difcount, and when it is very doubtful whether the further payments will be made at all. At laft he came down to beg, for God's fake, that we would at least take the whole expence of the Ruffians upon ourfelves, for that

TO HIS FRIENDS. BOOK II. LET. XXVII XXVIII. 181

that the republic cannot possibly pay the share that they had stipulated. What answer he has received to that request I do not yet know. Money was never so fcarce in the city, nor the stocks follow, even during the rebellion, as now; which you, as a monied man, certainly know. Twelve *per cent*. is offered for money, and even that will not do. And if there is not a certainty of peace in three or four months at furthess, an entire stagnation of all credit, if not a bankruptcy, is universally expected.

Could you buy me two hog heads of fuperlative good claret at Palairet's, or any where elfe, and fend it me over by fome English thip, as you know the act of navigation requires? I would have it of the first growth, and a ftrong body. I truft to your diftinguishing palate for the quality of it. I am in no fort of hafte for it, fo that you may take your own time to tafte, confult, and at last fix. Only do not fend me any, unless you can be fure of fending me what is extremely good.

Make my compliments to our friend when you fee him. I am heartily glad of Wolters' new employment (a).

Yours affectionately,

LETTER XXVIII.

TO THE SAME.

London, April, 8, O. S. 1748.

C.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

SINCE my last to you, I have received your two letters with their inclosures, which were a letter and a duplicate from madame de St. Gille at Madrid. She wants to have a certain Spanish prisoner exchanged, and, thinking me still in office, applies to me for it. I have, however, got it

(a) Agent to his Britannic majefty at Rotterdam, a gentleman of uncommon merit, and generally beloved both by his own countrymen and the Dutch. He died a few years ago.