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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 XXVIII. To The Same.

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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 scarce in the city, nor the stocks so low, 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 furthest, an entire stagnation of all credit, if not a bankruptcy, is universally expected.

Could you buy me two hogshheads of superlative good claret at Palairot's, or any where else, and send it me over by some English ship, as you know the act of navigation requires? I would have it of the first growth, and a strong body. I trust to your distinguishing palate for the quality of it. I am in no sort of haste for it, so that you may take your own time to taste, consult, and at last fix. Only do not send me any, unless you can be sure of sending me what is extremely good.

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

Yours affectionately,

C.

L E T T E R XXVIII.

TO THE SAME.

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

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 majesty at Rotterdam, a gentleman of uncommon merit, and generally beloved both by his own countrymen and the Dutch. He died a few years ago.

it done, as I inform her in the inclosed, which I desire that you will forward to her some way or other. The safest way, I believe, will be to give it to the marquis del Puerto's secretary. It may give you an opportunity, if you have a mind, to send her something tender from yourself, for I remember you was one of her lovers.

When the treasury meets after Easter, Mr. Pelham has promised me that you shall be paid every shilling that is due to you, so that then you will be out of debt. I hope you take care to live within your appointments, and to lay up all your own, that in case of any *revers* you may not be a loser by your commission. * * * * *

The deliberations about the christening (*a*), and the magnificence and profusion of it, were surely *déplacés* (improper) at this time; at least it is thought so here, unless it proceeded from a resolution of dying merrily. Your end seems to me to be near. Maestricht, I am persuaded, will be taken in a fortnight *de tranchée ouverte*; and after that there is not any one place that can hold out a week. Maréchal Lowendahl's leaving his former destination of Breda and Zealand, in order to join the grand army, convinces me, that something more is intended there than the taking of Maestricht; and I dread the next letters from Holland, bringing us an account of the duke's army being cut off in the whole, or in part. All my predictions are now verifying too fast. * * * * *

Our army, which was, according to their calculation, to consist of 192,000 men, is actually weaker than it was last year; and that peace, which the republic will in a few weeks be obliged to sign upon the drum head, will be such a one, as will prove how much those were in the right, who were for treating last year, upon the foot of maréchal de Saxe's proposals to Ligonier.

Here is a pamphlet come out entitled my *Apology* (*b*), which I will send to my baron, with a bundle of other pamphlets by the first opportunity, and he will shew it you. It makes a very great noise here, as you will easily conceive that it must, when you read it. Many people really

(*a*) Of the stadtholder's son, now his successor.

(*b*) An apology for a late resignation, in a letter from an English gentleman to his friend at the Hague. London, 1748. 8vo.

really believe, and many desire, that it should be believed, to have been written by my direction at least: but, upon my word and honor, so far am I from having any hand directly or indirectly in it, that I do not so much as guess at the author, though I have done all I could to fish him out. * * * * *

Pray do not buy me any claret, till you hear further from me, for I am lately informed, that there is great difficulty in importing it here, even in an English bottom. But in the mean time you may be tasting eventually if you please. * * * * *

It is time to finish this letter. Good night then, my dear Dayrolles.

Yours faithfully,
C.

L E T T E R XXIX.

T O T H E S A M E.

London, April 19, O. S. 1748.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I HAVE received yours of the 19th N. S. The situation of the republic is now exactly what six months ago I foresaw, and foretold, it would be; there was indeed no conjuration in that prediction, nothing having happened since, that was not the necessary effect of causes well known then. * * * * *

If you should by accident know or hear of a *Vander Pol*, pray let the person know, that I am very much obliged to him for his correspondence, which is very instructive, and that I beg he will continue it. I do not know who he is, and if you should, do not send me his name in a letter by the post; for I know that most letters from, and to, me are opened.

I am not yet able to guess who wrote my apology, which I am the more surprized at, as it must be somebody pretty well informed, all the facts being very near true. An answer to it is advertised, but not yet published. I am
impatient