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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 XXXVIII. To The Same.

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I am glad that my old friend Vanderduyn * has got a pension, but I am astonished at the size of it. A thousand pounds a year sounds like an English pension; *d'ailleurs*, he has a regiment of guards and a government. This is certain, that the money will not stagnate in my general's strong box, but circulate very quickly through the Hague. *A propos* of the quick circulation of species, it is fixed that lord Holderness is to be our ambassador to the republic. Adieu for this time; you shall hear from me more fully before it is long.

Yours faithfully,

CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER XXXVIII.

TO THE SAME.

London, Sept. 23, O. S. 1748.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I Thank you for your promise of a second tome of your *histoire amoureuse*, when an occasion shall present itself; for, upon my word, Petronius nor Buffy (a) could not write a better than your first. The winter, which will assemble every body at the Hague, will probably furnish you materials.

Your towns and provinces seem to be running a race to the goal of slavery; and they put me in mind of the nobles and commons in Denmark, who in the last century strove which should first get rid of their liberties. Your Stadthouder must have great self-denial, or

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O

great

* Lieutenant general Vanderduyn, brother to M. de Sgravemoer, one of the college of nobles in the province of Holland.

(a) That witty, vain, and most indiscreet count, wrote a satyrical account of the gallantries of the French court, in the time of Lewis XIV; in which having taken unbecoming liberties with regard to his master, he was banished at a distance from Paris, and remained there several years, notwithstanding his cringing and servile efforts, to recover the favour of the sovereign.

great timidity, if he is not very soon as absolute over the seven provinces, as Lewis XV. is in France. For my own part, not being a Dutchman, and having no thoughts of living in Holland, I have no objection to this new-erected despotism, which, for aught I know, may make the seven provinces a better barrier for us against France than they were before, as an absolute government is more military, and generally in a better state of defence, than a free one. Upon this principle, were I to cut and carve out Europe to my mind, I would add the other ten provinces to the present seven, and so revive the dutchy of Burgundy; which, I am sure, would make a better barrier against France, than ever those ten provinces, in the hands of the house of Austria, will prove. *A propos* of Austria, the conjectures which I have formed these four months, and which I lately hinted to you, begin, I think, to be verified. The Russians stay in Germany, which is the first point; they will certainly some how or other be juggled out of our pay and service, which is the second point; and then the third is pretty plain. *Ce n'est pas mon affaire.* (That is none of my business.) Let the northern bears worry each other as much as they please, the Gazettes will be but the more entertaining, and amuse me the more *dans mon petit boudoir*; which (by the way) will be the prettiest thing you ever saw. Nothing in the world so gay. *Il sera impossible d'y boudier; d'ailleurs, comme vous savez, je n'y suis pas naturellement trop porté.* (It will be impossible to pout in it; and besides, you know I am not much inclined to it.)

I have spoke to Mr. Pelham about your pay, which, I believe, will be ordered very soon.

The town is now so empty that I have no tittle-tattle to send you. The house of * * * comes here from Ireland next month; and then I presume that your friend, who by this time has got the full ascendant over her husband, will open her campaign with *éclat*; though these are very bad times for the female quality and gentry, it being the great fashion for our young fellows, not only to deal with, but to marry, common whores. So that the unmarried ladies can get no husbands, and the married ones none but their husbands.

Things

Things go to the full as well as I could wish, and much better than I expected at Leipfig: we * are absolute masters of Latin, Greek, French, and German, the last of which we write currently. We have *le droit public de l'empire*, (the public law of the empire,) history and geography, ready, so that in truth now we only want rubbing and cleaning. We begin for that purpose with Berlin at Christmas next, Vienna at Lady-day, and the academy at Turin at Midsummer for a whole year. Then to Paris. If at any of these places it should fall in your way, by letter or verbal recommendation, to help us, I am very sure that you will; for I never doubt of any marks of your friendship, to the most faithful of your friends,

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T T E R XXXIX.

Bath, Oct. 11, O. S. 1748.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I Received your letter of the 11th N. S. just as I was setting out for this place. I had been much out of order for above a month; languors and vertigos succeeded each other, the latter attended with sickness at my stomach. I underwent the discipline of the faculty to little purpose, who at last, pronouncing that the seat and source of my disorder was my stomach, sent me here. I have already received advantage from these waters, though I have drank them but four days, which convinces me that they will set me quite right.

I am persuaded that your first setting out at the Hague must have put you behind-hand, but I hope that you will take care to retrieve; for the credit of living a little better will not do you so much good, as contracting a considerable debt will do you harm. If you can get leave to come here for three or four months, when lord Holderness shall be settled at the Hague, which I should think would be no difficult matter, that suspension of your expence would, I suppose, go near to set you right. But in the mean time, should you want money, draw upon
 O 2 me

* This alludes to Mr. Philip Stanhope, who was then at Leipfig.