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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 XXXIX.

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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.

me *sans façon*, for I will not have you run in debt to any body else; and you and I can, I believe, trust each other.

By all I can hear now, and by all that I knew before, the republic is so far from being settled, that I do not consider it as a government or a nation. More money is wanted than is to be found, and even the methods of collecting what is there to be found, will not be easily fixed. The people will not have *pachters*. Collectors, without the powers of the *pachters*, will collect nothing; and with those powers they become *pachters* themselves, in the most odious and oppressive sense of that word. The prince of Orange has got more power than by the constitution he ought to have; and if he does not get all the rest, he will lose what he has got. *Il n'y a point de milieu*; (there is no medium;) power must either be constitutional or unlimited. Losing gamblers will not leave off, while they have any thing left, and will never be quiet till they have lost all. When Cæsar had once passed the Rubicon, he well knew that he must be Cæsar or nothing. And this is now the prince's case.

I now plainly see the prelude to the pyrrhick dance in the north, which I have long foretold; the return of comte Biron and the duke of Brunswick to Petersburg announces destruction to the Holstein family. The prince successor of Sweden will be the first instance of it, upon the death of that king, which I take to be very near. The next will be, setting aside the imperial prince of Russia, and declaring little czar Iwan the successor. In these transactions, the king of Prussia will necessarily be implicated, which has all along been *l'intention de l'auteur*; that is, of the court of Vienna, which absolutely governs that of Petersburg, *moyennant* some pecuniary assistance from *another quarter*. But be all this as it will, my *boudoir* and my library, which are my two objects, will be never the worse for it. And I maintain that both of them will be, in their different kinds, the compleatest things in England, as I hope you will soon have ocular proof of.

Baron Schmithburg was not arrived when I left London. My compliments to my baron, to whom I will write very soon. Adieu; *Je vous aime véritablement*.

C.

LET-