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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 XLIV. To The Same.

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L E T T E R XLIV.

T O T H E S A M E.

London, Dec. 27, O. S. 1748.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I Received this morning your letter of the 3 Jan. N. S. with the two parcels of melon seed, which, as I told you in my last, I might have saved you the trouble of sending me, if I had but remembered how plentifully you had supplied me before; but since I have so carelessly put you to that trouble, all I can now do, is to have it sowed the latest; so that you may be sure to taste the fruits of it, when you shall be here, which I do not expect will be till autumn. A new minister will not, before that time, be well settled at the Hague; and till then you will not, nor should I wish you to, leave it. * * * * *

As to my Rubens, for I now call it mine, you have acted with your usual prudence and œconomy. But if it turns out such as it is represented to you, I do not expect that you will get any considerable abatement of the first price. As to the method of getting it over safe here, I refer myself to your abilities; many officers baggage will be coming, Ligonier's especially, into which you may possibly thrust it. Draw upon me, in an amicable way I mean, how and when you please; for I do not take your finances to be in a situation to allow long and large advances.

Your Leipfig acquaintance is setting out for Berlin. He has applied himself extremely, and with great success, at Leipfig, having made himself perfect master, as I am assured by his master, of Greek, Latin, the laws of nations and of the empire, and of the German language to boot, which, by the way, he writes as well as any German I ever knew. I am therefore no longer in the least pain about the learning part, of which he has now got such a stock, that he will have a pleasure, instead of a toil, in improving it. All that he wants now, is *les Graces*, in pursuit of which he goes, as soon as the roads will permit, from Berlin to Turin, there to remain for at least a year;

I know

I know no court that sends out at least, *des gens plus déliés*. I do not know what those may be, whom they keep at home; but by the samples I judge well of them.

The prince of Wales will, I believe, buy Vandyke's fir Melchior and company. I have given him the drawing you sent me, and Mr. Laurenzy is wrote to by this post to speak to you about it.

Yours very sincerely,

CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER XLV.

TO THE SAME.

London, Jan. 20, O. S. 1749.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

LAST post brought me yours of the 24th, N. S. My old disorder in my head, which has of late plagued me, hindered me from acknowledging your two former letters. I am now much better, thanks to a good blister, which I clapped upon my head, on the part offending.

Since the Rubens is secured, I am in no haste to receive it, for I could not hang it up yet, its place not being ready. The way you mention of sending it by the sloop is, I think, the best; and pray let it be directed to Mr. Hotham, one of the commissioners of the customs, who will take care of it, and pay the duty for me. You will take care to have it so safely packed up, that it may receive no damage *en chemin faisant*. * * * * *

I am glad that I have prevailed with my baron to return to his old house; for the first warm weather must have suffocated him where he now is. If he escapes dying of the first fright, when he goes back, all the rest will go very well, and just as it used to do.

I am