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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 XLV. To The Same.

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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.

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I am rejoiced to hear that I shall have another tome of the *histoire amoureuse*; for now that, thank God, I have no business, that kind of reading amuses me. The *histoire politique* of the United Provinces would at present be but a gloomy one. I see no government there at all; but I see power without authority, and expence without the possible means of supplies. The prince of Orange wants a Sully. The reduction of the troops will be a decisive point: if it is a considerable one, the prince of Orange is nobody; and if it is not, the republic is undone.

My house and garden employ both my thoughts and my time. I am at work about them all day, and shall take possession of them in about a month; there I shall be impatient to see you, and there I believe you will not be sorry to see,

Yours,

CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER XLVI.

TO THE SAME.

London, Feb. 3, O. S. 1749.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

I HAVE honoured your bill, as they call it; but properly speaking I have done better, for I have paid it. I think you have brought me off very cheaply, and so much so that I shall not own it, when I shew the picture, but intimate a much higher price; for you *virtuosos*, I know, often take the price into your consideration, in forming your judgments as to the value of a thing. I sincerely forgive you the three florins, which your curiosity costs me, and will never demand that sum of either you or your heirs, administrators, or assigns. Besides that I really think, that a gratification of three florins is by no means unreasonable for the trouble you have been at. I can tell you by the way, that when my pictures, bronzes, and marbles shall come to be properly placed, as they will be in
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