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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 XLVIII. To The Same.

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of it, it will be quite another thing. The figure of the virgin is the most graceful and beautiful that I ever saw, and not so Flemish-built as most of his women are. In short, the whole is excellent. The frame, though not a fashionable is a handsome one, and shall, with the addition that I will make to it, be a fine one. I do not dislike something a little *antique* in the frame of an old picture; provided it be rich, I think it more respectable. As soon as the supreme connoisseurs shall have sat upon it, I will let you know their verdict; not that for my own part I care two-pence about it, for I distrust the skill of most, and the truth of all, of them. They pronounce according to the pictures, that they either have or have nor, or that they want to buy or sell of the same hand. You are an excellent *commissionaire*, and my most dutiful thanks attend you for your care and trouble.

Pray, do not let your *maladie du país* hurry you into any *étourderie*. \* \* \* \*

Pray, tell my baron that I took particular care to send him the *Enquiry into the conduct and principles of the two brothers*; so that it must necessarily have been taken out of the packet. Possibly they have no mind that it should be dispersed abroad. I will send it him again the first opportunity.

Adieu. Yours faithfully,

CHESTERFIELD.

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L E T T E R XLVIII.

T O T H E S A M E.

London, March 9, O. S. 1749.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

\* \* \* \* U P O N my soul, I long to see you, for two reasons, which I have not for longing to see many people; they are, that I love you, and that I know you love me. I shall keep a little room for you at Blackheath, where I will refresh you with the best ananas and melons in England.

Pray,

Pray, tell monsieur Slingelandt that I have spoke to Rutter about the horse in question, and the better to know whether he was gentle enough for him, I asked him whether he was enough so for me; to which Rutter could not answer in the affirmative, so that I bid him not send him. I take it for granted that monsieur Slingelandt, who is a civil quiet gentleman as well as myself, chuses, as I do, a horse like Père Canaye's *qualem me decet esse mansuetum* (a); which serene kind of beast is still more necessary in Holland, in the midst of canals and windmills, than here. \* \*

*Bon soir, mon ami.*

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L E T T E R XLIX.

T O T H E S A M E.

London, March 31, O. S. 1749.

DEAR DAYROLLES.

Hôtel Chesterfield.

\* \* \* \* I C A N tell you nothing, with any degree of certainty, of the squabbles among our ministers. That there are some is undoubtedly true; but then, in the reports, they are either magnified or lessened, according to the wishes or the interests of the reporters. Their two graces are evidently very ill together; which I long ago knew, and said could not fail. \* \* \* \*

I am got into my new house, from whence I shall be a most unconcerned spectator. I have yet finished nothing but my *boudoir* and my library; the former is the gayest and most chearful room in England, the latter the best. My garden is now turfed, planted, and sown, and will, in two months more, make a scene of verdure and flowers, not common in London.

Anderson has restored the Rubens perfectly well, by taking off that damned varnish, with which it was loaded, and

(a) See S. Evremond's most ingenious piece intituled, *Conversation du maréchal d'Hoquincourt, & ec le Père Canaye.*