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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 LII. To The Same.

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LETTER LII.

TO THE SAME.

London, May 4, O. S. 1749.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

* * * * * THE scramble for power in your court, and in your republic, puts me in mind of lord Rochester's image of contending ministers. He compares them to school-boys, who, at the hazard of their necks, climb for crabs, which, if they were upon the ground, solid pigs would disdain. How the pensionary could be ignorant of the favour * intended him, as it is reported that he was, when he received the message, is what I cannot conceive; for I knew it above a month ago. The manner, in which he took it, and spoke the next day in the assembly, was wise and skilful; but his accepting the pension †, for it is merely a pension, since he is excluded all the assemblies, is dirty, and vilifies him. If I had been he, I would sooner have lived all my life, as Van Beuningen did, by way of experiment, one year, upon six and thirty florins. Though his diet would have been but low, his character would have been high.

I have seen Laurenzi, who, I believe, must observe that diet too, unless he can get an increase of his appointments, which he is labouring for; but I much doubt of his success. He confirms the accounts I had had before from many, of *la délicatesse et le bon goût de votre table*. Marquis d'Havrincourt was worthy of it, excelling as he does, not only in the theory, but in the practical part, of the table. He dined with me once or twice, and I think I never saw a more vigorous performer. He is a very pretty man, and has, *l'extrêmement bon ton de la parfaitement bonne compagnie*, which is at present the short but comprehensive *éloge d'un honnête homme*.

I am

* His sudden dismissal from the post of grand pensionary.

† Of 8000 florins, about £. 730.

I am in debt, at least three, if not four, letters to my baron, who is a most excellent correspondent. I will pay him soon in much better coin than my own letters, for I shall send him, by the first opportunity, a good cargo of good books and pamphlets. Pray, make him my compliments, and tell him that I will write to him soon.

* * * * *

I hear nothing yet of lord Holderneffe's going to Holland.

Yours most faithfully,

C.

LETTER LIII.

TO THE SAME.

London, May 9, O. S. 1749.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

THE person, who will give you this letter, is the nephew of monsieur Boissier, a rich, and for all that a very honest, merchant of the city, from whom I have received many civilities. He is a Swiss, and probably you know him by name and reputation. This nephew is desirous to get into the service of the republic; and I wish that you could be useful to him in that view. I do not mean, nor does he, that you can procure him a commission; but we think that you may be able to point out to him *le moyen d'y parvenir*, (the way of succeeding) whatever that may be. If it be sollicitation, you will tell him where to address it; if a private tip, you will tell him where to apply it. In short, I am sure that, from the part I take in him upon his uncle's account, you will do him what service you can.

By the way, do not apprehend from this, that I shall plague you often with recommendations of this kind; for I have refused them to several people, and shall continue to do so to nine in ten. They desire impertinent, unreasonable, or impossible things, and then desire