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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 LX. To The Same.

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Hague, fo cannot be very troublefome to you. But I possibly shall, if I lengthen this letter : fo, bon foir.

LETTER LX.

TO THE SAME.

London, June 19, O.S. 1750.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

Muft fay as moft fools do, W ho would have thought it? My fine Titian has turned out an execrable bad copy. By good luck, the condition of the obligation was fuch, that if certain good judges at Paris fhould declare it, either a copy, or effentially damaged, the chapter of Rheims was to take it back again, I paying the carriage. This has happened, and the beft painters in Paris pronounced it not only a copy, but a damned one. So that I am only in for the carriage back. The chapter muft have been more fools than knaves in the affair; for, had they known it to be a copy, they muft have known, at the fame time, that it would be returned them, by which they would get nothing but the difcrediting of their picture for ever.

I have received a letter from madame du Boccage, containing a panegyric of his majefty's refident at the Hague. Il est très aimable, très poli, il est au mieux avec tout ce quil y a de meilleur ici, et il fait très-bonne chère. (He is very amiable, very polite, extremely well received in the best company, and keeps an excellent table.) Faire bonne chère (to keep a good table) you know, always sums up a French panegyrick. She fays, that by your means she received a thousand civilities at the Hague. I do not know whether my friend abbé Guasco's judgment in virtù will be of any great service to us at comte Obdam's, and I would soner trutt to your own coup d'oeil, qui est mordieu vis et perçant.

TO HIS FRIENDS. BOOK II. LET. LX. LXI. 223

I am very much par voyes, et par chemins, between London and Blackheath, but much more at the latter, which is now in great beauty. The fhell of my gallery is finished, which, by three bow-windows, gives me three different, and the finess, prospects in the world. I have already two or three of your canteloupe melons, which are admirable; I have covered those, which are not yet ripe, with frames of oiled paper, which I am affured will do much better than glasses.

The prince of Wales's laft child was at laft chriftened the day before yefterday, after having been kept at leaft a fortnight longer than it fhould have been out of a ftate of falvation, by the jumble of the two fecretaries of ftate, whofe reciprocal difpatches carried, nor brought, nothing decifive. Adieu.

LETTER LXI.

TO THE SAME.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

Moft heartily wifh you and Mrs. Dayrolles joy, and I believe you have had it. May it continue long! I came to town this morning on purpole to make my compliments to you both, but you were gone to fhady groves. I hope you will take those of Greenwich in their turn; and the fooner the better.

La femme est comprise aussi (a)

Lady Chefterfield would have come, to have waited upon Mrs. Dayrolles, but was prevented by a great cold. Adieu.

Saturday, July 31, 1751.

(a) In this, the lady is likewife included.

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