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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 LXIV. To The Same.

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TO HIS FRIENDS. BOOK II. LET. LXIII. LXIV. 227

Creighton gave me your melon feed, for which I thank you, and which I rob you of with the less regret, as, by your own account, you feem not to want any of les quatre semences froides.

I have no news to fend you from hence; I have been too few hours in town to know any, and am moreover

too indifferent to ask for any.

By a little brochure, which my baron has fent me, and which I take to be written under, at leaft, the inspection of the king of Prussia, it appears to me that some changes are intended to be made in the form of government in Sweden. If so, that may produce some Northern squabbles, though I think they will be carried on rather by the pen than the sword. For I see very many good reasons, why both Russia and the king of Prussia should rather scold than sight. But if they should come to blows, I foretel that Russia will have the better on't.

Pray make my compliments to my baron, and tell him, that I will foon fend him a long and uninteresting letter: my waters, my journey, and my unsettled state, for these last two months, have hindered me from doing it sooner. This is already too long, so good night to you.

Yours.

C.

LETTER LXIV.

TO THE SAME.

London, Nov. 15, O. S. 1751.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

Have received yours of the 19th, N. S. for which this is only an acknowledgment, but no equivalent. All the news of yesterday, such as speech, addresses, &c. you will have authentically from the office; and I have nothing to add to it. * * * * *

Sans vanité, as people commonly say, when they say a vain thing, I am of my baron's opinion, and think it would

would not be the worse for la gouvernante, if she pursued the measures which I mentioned in my last. I would not give her just the advice which lord Clarendon was accused of having given King Charles II. at his restoration, not to mind his friends, but to gain his enemies. But I would advise her to think rather more of gaining over reasonable enemies, than of gratifying unreasonable friends. She should consult indiscriminately the ablest and the most respectable people of the several provinces, upon the fingle principle of the public good, and without adopting their provincial piques and prejudices. should take off all proscriptions, and mitigate all that military stuff of councils of war with unlimited powers, down to the mere necessary discipline of an army. Private and public economy should be her great objects; and if the would act firmly upon fuch principles, the would not want our advice, but I believe would do a great deal better without it. I would not defire a finer part to act than she has; and were I in her case, I would undertake to fix the prefent form of government, upon a more folid foundation, than it has been upon, fince the time of William I.

Lord Holdernesse's baggage is not yet arrived, consequently I have not received my baron's bill of fare; but by a little specimen of it, which he sent me lately in a specimen of a letter, I believe I shall not be able to surnish him with some of the rarities that he desires; for he composes these bills of fare upon the advertisements in the news papers, and the pastry cooks have been before hand with him, at this season of minced pies. He is now pastorally inclined, and has wrote to me for some particular pastorals, which to this hour I am very sure no gentlemen ever heard of or read.

My boy fet out this morning for Paris, improved a good deal, in my mind, du côté des manières, Lord Albemarle has promised to employ him in his bureau as much as if he were sécretaire de légation, and, if he does, it will be just as well as if he were, the salary excepted, which I do not much mind. In all events, he has time enough before him; and if Paris will not do, some other place, some time or other, will. Make my compliments

to madame Dayrolles. Adieu.

Yours.

LET-