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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 LXXX. To The Same.

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## L E T T E R LXXX.

T O T H E S A M E .

London, March 13, 1753.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

\* \* \* \* \* I THINK it is very lucky for you inferior ministers, that those *de la première volée* \* have taken the work off your hands ; for the blame, which always exceeds the honor in those affairs, will be theirs too. A good tariff, if we can get one, would be a good thing ; but for the *barrière*, I could wish that there were no treaty at all, and that the Dutch would, as they easily might, make their own interior *barrière* impenetrable, and leave the care of Flanders entirely to the house of Austria, who would, in that case, take care of it, notwithstanding all they give out concerning it, as that it is an expence to them, and only of use to the maritime powers. They know the contrary, and they know that it is the single point of union between them and the maritime powers, a connection which they would be very sorry to lose. That haughty house ought to be made sensible, that the money and the fleets of the maritime powers are more necessary to them, than their land forces are to the maritime powers. The late Duke of Marlborough, for his own private interest, laid the foundation of our subserviency to the court of Vienna. Upon the same principle, the late king carried it on, till, upon private *pique* in the year 1725, he ran into the other extreme, and, by the treaty of Hanover, more absurdly threw himself into the arms, and consequently into a dependency, of the house of Bourbon. England ought to be the friend, but neither the slave nor the bubble, of the house of Austria ; we have nothing to fear but from the house of Bourbon.

Hanover is frightened by the King of Prussia's ordering an encampment at Magdebourg, which he does only to

\* Count, now prince Kaunitz, and Count Bentinck, who repaired to Brussels upon this occasion, but to as little purpose as the commissaries.

frighten

frighten them, for he dares not touch them, even should we take one of his Embden ships, which I dare say we shall not. He is a great deal too wise to attack Hanover, without being previously very sure of some things, which I am sure that he cannot be sure of. He must be sure, that in consequence of such a measure, the two empresses will not fall upon both ends of his dominions, and he must be as sure, that France will effectually assist him. He is sure of no one of these things: he is certainly an able man, and therefore I am sure that he will be quiet.

But what have I to do, my dear Dayrolles, either to talk or think of these matters, which I long ago renounced by choice, and am now unfit for from necessity? And what is public life to me, who am cut off from all the comforts even of social? This political excursion, which is *un reste de l'homme d'affaires*, (the remains of the man of business) puts me in mind of Harlequin's making several passes against the wall, *par un reste de bravoure*, (from a remainder of bravery.)

By your account, madame de Mirepoix has had one fine night on't: could I have such a one for my ears, as she has had for her whole head, I should prefer it to the best night I ever passed in my life; but sleep is now the only business, and the only hope, of my nights. It is my greatest comfort, for it banishes the thoughts of my deafness, and my deafness in return renders my sleep less liable to interruption.

Your little friend will come here from Paris in about a month. \* \* \* \* \*

My compliments to madame Dayrolles; and lay by a stock of them for my godson, to deliver to him, when he shall be willing or able to receive them.

Yours most affectionately,

C.

LET-