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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 CIX. To The Same.

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288 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

that beats, you will have a good part of it; for I am most truly and affectionately yours,

C.

Pray return my compliments and thanks to the abbé Guasco for his books, which I have read with great pleasure and improvement.

LETTER CIX.

TO THE SAME.

Bath, Nov. 26, 1756.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

As a good Christian, I think one should tell one's enemies of one's phyfical ills, to give them pleasure; and as a good friend, conceal them from one's friends, not to give them pain. Upon this principle, I have delayed writing to you till now, well knowing the part you take in whatever good or ill happens to me. I had nothing good to tell you, but riens au contraire, and therefore I told you nothing. But now I can acquaint you, that I am something better, and that I have regained a little strength and flesh, of which I had neither when I came here a month ago: but I still want a great deal more of both, before I can either perfuade myself or others, of my existence. I really believe, that the undiffurbed quiet, which I have enjoyed here, and could not have at London or Blackheath, has done me almost as much good as the waters; for which reason, though I should not continue to drink them, I will continue here till the great hurly-burly at court, is in some degree over; for, as I am an impartial and very difinterested spectator, engaged in no cabal or party, all the contending powers infift upon telling me their own ftory, though never with strict truth, and then quote me with as little. I fay nothing to you of the late changes at court, which, to be fure, you know as well as I do, and perhaps comprehend as little. There must

must be some dessous des cartes, some invisible wheels within wheels, which, at this distance, I cannot guess at * * * * * * * *

In these strange bustles, I heartily pity the king, and the kingdom, who are both made the sport of private interest and ambition. I most frequently and heartily congratulate and applaud myself for having got out of that galère, which has since been so ridiculously tossed, so essentially damaged, and is now sinking. I now quietly behold the storm from the shore, and shall only be involved, but without particular blame, in the common ruin. That moment, you perceive, if you combine all circumstances, cannot be very remote. On the contrary, it is so near, that, were Machiavel at the head of our affairs, he could not retrieve them; and therefore it is very indifferent to me, what minister shall give us the last coup de grace.

I believe you will not grudge the additional fixpence for the inclosed letter from king P. to king G. It has fince been printed and cried about the streets. It is lord

Bath's. Adieu, my dear friend.

Yours,

C

LETTER CX.

TO THE SAME.

London, February 28, 1757.

DEAR DAYROLLES,

Have been too long in your debt: but the true reason has been, that I had no specie to pay you in; and what I give you even now, does not amount to a penny in the pound. Public matters have been long, and are still, too undecypherable for me to understand, consequently to relate. Fox, out of place, takes the lead in the house of commons; Pitt, secretary of state, declares that he is no minister, and has no ministerial influence. The duke of Vol. III.