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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 X. To The Same.

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before ; yours, I hope, will have the former of these effects, and encourage you rather to visit your friends in England.

I have been a country gentleman a great while, for me, that is, I have now been a fortnight together at Blackheath, and stay three or four days longer. The *furor hortensis* (garden-madness) has seized me, and my acre of ground here affords me more pleasure than kingdoms do to kings ; for my object is not to extend, but to enrich it. My gardener calls me, and I must obey. Be as well and as chearful as you can, and believe me most faithfully and truly

Yours,

CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER X.

TO THE SAME.

Bath, March 1, 1748.

MY DEAR LORD,

I THANK you for your kind letter, by which I am glad to find that you approve of my resignation, and of my resolution to enjoy the comforts of a private life : indeed I had enough both of the pageantry and hurry of public life, to see their futility, and I withdraw from them, *uti conviva satur* (as a satisfied guest.) This conviction from experience secured me from regret : those who have only seen the gaudy outside of great stations, languish for their hidden charms, which in my mind soon satiate after possession*.

I am very glad to hear that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you and your family here this summer ; I know that I cannot see a truer nor a warmer friend, which, I assure you, you may say too when you see me. I suppose that

* When I had the honor to see lord Chesterfield, some time after his resignation, one reason he told me why he was glad he had resigned, was because it was very difficult, in the public station he was in, to be intirely free from doing things that were not quite right.

Bishop of Waterford.

you will stop in your way in Nottinghamshire to see your son, whom as you return you will probably take with you to Ireland.

I have been here now a fortnight, and have found good by the waters; not that I had any great occasion for them, but, to say the truth, I came here chiefly to be out of the way of being talked to, and talked of, while my resignation was the only object of conversation in town.

Adieu, my dear lord: I cannot tell you how sincerely and affectionately I am

Yours,

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T T E R XI.

TO THE SAME.

London, Dec. 28, 1749.

MY DEAR LORD,

THIS is to most people, and in most places, the season of lies, dignified and distinguished by the name of compliments; with me it is a season of truth, when I assure you that I wish you, and all who belong to you, whatever you wish for yourselves or for each other, more particularly health, with which nobody need be unhappy.

Though you would not tell me how soon, and how generously, you provided for Dr. Young's son*, he did, and with all the professions of gratitude which he owed you. I am as much obliged to you as he can be; I am glad that the young man has a good character, which you know I made a *conditio sine qua non* of my request; and I hope that

* I must observe here, that lord Chesterfield never recommended any one to the ecclesiastical preferments in my gift but Mr. Young. When he did, it was in the handsomest manner, by telling me twice in his letter, "Remember that I do not recommend, but if you approve of his character, you will do a good-natured action."

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