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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 XVIII. To The Same.

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LETTER XVIII.

TO THE SAME

London, February 7, 1757.

MY DEAR LORD,

I WOULD not suffer your friendship for me to be alarmed by an account of my illness, for which I must have employed another hand, and therefore stayed till I could give you at the same time an account of my recovery under my own. This I can now do; and it is all that I can do, for I am not yet got out of my room, to which I have been confined these three weeks, and with great pain by a flying rheumatic gout. My pain is almost gone, but my strength and spirits are by no means restored. At my age, and with my shattered constitution, freedom from pain is the best that I can expect, and as far as my care will procure me that negative happiness, I will exert it; where it will not, I will patiently bear my share of ills.

I suppose your ill humours in Ireland are still in strong fermentation; but I hope that between the end of this session and the beginning of the next, an interval of near two years, they will subside; I mean with regard to those national points, which have been unfortunately stirred this winter; for I do not care two pence for your personal quarrels and animosities, if they were but kept clear of national points, the discussion of which can never turn out to the advantage of Ireland.

The remaining pain in my right hand hinders me from troubling you with a longer letter, but is suspended while I have the pleasure of assuring you that I am,

My dear lord,

Your most faithful humble servant,

CHESTERFIELD.

LET-