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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 XXXV. To The Same.

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for the time being, they are only the first slaves: the condition of the obligation is this, your excellency or your grace wants to carry on his majesty's business smoothly, and to have it to say when you go back, that you met with no difficulties, this we have sufficient strength in parliament to engage for, provided we appear to have the favour and countenance of the government, the money, be it what it will, shall be cheerfully voted; as for the public you shall do what you will, or nothing at all, for we care for that no more than we suppose your grace or excellency does, but we repeat it again, our recommendations to places, pensions, &c. must prevail, or we shall not be able to keep our people in order. These are always the expressed, or at least the implied, conditions of these treaties, which either the indolence or the insufficiency of the governors ratify: from that moment these undertakers bury the governor alive, but indeed pompously: different from the worshipful company of undertakers here, who seldom bury any body alive, or at least never without the consent and privity of the next heirs.

I am now settled here for the summer, perhaps for ever, in great tranquillity of mind, not equally of body; I make the most of it, I vegetate with the vegetables, and I crawl with the insects in my garden, and I am, such as I am, most faithfully and sincerely

Yours,

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T T E R XXXV.

T O T H E S A M E.

Blackheath, June 2, 1758.

M Y D E A R L O R D,

I AM now in possession of the goods you procured me, and they are both excellent in their kind; but how difficult, not to say impossible, it is to find an honest factor! You have not cheated me it is true, but you have most grossly

TO HIS FRIENDS. BOOK II. LET. XXXIV. XXXV. XXXVI. 355
grossly defrauded the bishop of Waterford, as appears by
your own account here inclosed, you set down two pieces
and fourteen yards of cloth £. 16. 7 s. 3 d. whereas I
have received seven pieces and fourteen yards, which must
certainly come to a great deal more. *Item*, you set down
but six dozen and six pints of Usquebaugh, whereas I have
received nine dozen and six, for which you put down only
£. 13. 5 s. and which makes it as cheap as porter's ale.
Pray retrieve your character, which is at stake, and clear
up this matter to the Bishop, and to

Your faithful servant,

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T T E R XXXVI.

T O T H E S A M E.

Blackheath, Aug. 29, 1758.

I Cannot return such an answer as we could either of us
wish, to your frequent and friendly inquiries after my
weakened and decaying body and mind. I am at least
unwell, often worse, and never quite well. My deafness,
which is considerably increased, deprives me of that con-
solation, which sickness commonly admits of, the conver-
sation of a few friends; and my illness deprives me of the
chief consolation under deafness, which is reading and
writing. My head will seldom let me read, and seldom
let me think, consequently still seldom let me write.
Shall I tell you that I bear this melancholy situation, with
that meritorious constancy and resignation which most
people boast of? No, for I really cannot help it; if I
could, I certainly would, and since I cannot, I have com-
mon sense and reason enough, not to make my situation
worse, by unavailing restlessness and regret.

I hope, for your sake and many other people's, that
your health is perfect, for I know that you will employ it
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