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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 XXXVIII. To The Same.

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L E T T E R XXXVIII.

T O T H E S A M E.

Blackheath, June 13, 1759.

M Y D E A R L O R D,

I AM extremely obliged to you for your kind letter of the 2d, and thank God, can return you a more satisfactory answer than, for some time past, I have been able to do. In the first place, I am alive, which neither I nor any body else, six months ago, thought that I should be. In the next place my old, crazy, and shattered carcase enjoys more negative health than it has done for a long time. I owe this unexpected amendment to milk, which, in this my second infancy, I live upon almost as entirely as I did in my first. Asses, cows, and even goats club to maintain me. I have in particular a white *amalthea*, that strays upon the heath all day, and selects the most salutary and odoriferous herbs, which she brings me night and morning filtrated into milk. Thus I rub on in a tolerable mediocrity; life is neither a burthen nor a pleasure to me, but a certain degree of *ennui* necessarily attends that neutral state, which makes me very willing to part with it, when he who placed me here thinks fit to call me away.

I suppose you felt some pangs at parting with your son, and your tender anxiety will make you feel still more in his absence. May he answer not only your expectation, but your fondest wishes! I am sure it is one of the warmest of mine.

I am

Your most faithful friend and servant,

CHESTERFIELD.