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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 LXXXIX. To The Same.

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## LETTER LXXXIX.

TO THE SAME.

Bath, Nov. 21, 1768.

I BELIEVE, my dear general, that you are the first English traveller that could bring testimonials from Paris of having kept good company there. I know the reason of it; but I will not tell you, because I am sure you know it yourself as well as I do. Our friend seems to know it too, and, in justice to her, I send you here inclosed her letter which you brought. In seeing my old acquaintance, the marechal de Richelieu, you saw without exception the greatest, but at the same time the prettiest, coxcomb in Europe. To be sure, he did not say a word of Minorca, Genoa, or lower Saxony. Your late debate about Corsica was surely a very idle one. How can we hinder the French from taking Corsica, but by a war with France? And how can we make that war? Where can we find the money for it? Where can we find a minister to conduct it? And where an Eugene or Marlborough to command it? Do not put the *Gentle Shepherd* upon me for all these *wheres*. Besides, I fear there is a very fore place in this affair. What will you, gentlemen of the lower house, do with Wilkes the defender of our liberty? Do not wonder at my question, for I know that not a fortnight ago one minister asked another that very question, and was answered, *I do not know*. As they puzzled themselves into this difficulty, I confess I want to see how they will puzzle themselves out of it. \* \* \* \*

My old kinsman and cotemporary \* is at last dead, and for the first time quiet. He had the start of me at his birth by one year and two months, and I think we shall observe the same distance at our burial. I own I feel for his death, not because it will be my turn next, but be-

\* Thomas Holles, duke of Newcastle.

TO HIS FRIENDS. BOOK III. LET. LXXXIX. XC. 419  
cause I knew him to be very good-natured, and his hands to be extremely clean, and even too clean if that were possible; for, after all the great offices, which he had held for fifty years, he died three hundred thousand pounds poorer than he was when he first came into them. A very unministerial proceeding! It is a common observation, that blind people are apt to be talkative, and it is no less true (as you find to your cost) that deaf people are apt to be *writative*; but I am only so *quoad hunc*, and from a desire of expressing the true friendship and esteem with which I am

Your most faithful humble servant,

CHESTERFIELD.

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L E T T E R XC.

T O T H E S A M E.

Bath, Nov. 27, 1768.

S I R,

**H**OW can *un mylord Anglois* answer a letter *frappée au coin du bon ton de Paris*, (that bears the stamp of the Paris *bon ton*) where flattery passes only for common civility? I must content myself with telling you, in home-spun English, that I thank you heartily for your letter which I received yesterday; and though I know you flatter me, I am extremely pleased with your thinking me worth your flattery. *Tu m'aduli, ma tu mi piaci*, (you flatter me, but you please me) is a very true Italian saying, which self-love, if sincere, would confess.

Conway's motion was the only sensible one that could be made, now that the people called ministers (as the news papers call the Quakers) have bungled themselves into a situation of not being able to do any thing quite right. \* \* \* \* \*

I am much obliged to you, and through you to Madame de Choiseul, for communicating to me the verses, of the chevalier de Boufflers; they are exceedingly pretty

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and,