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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 XCV. To the Earl of Stair.

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L E T T E R XCV.

To the Earl of STAIR.

London, Sept. 3, 1739.

M Y L O R D,

BY the return of the messenger, by whom I received the favour of your letter, with the inclosed papers, I writ to lord Marchmont my poor sentiments upon the points in question. I thought it the same as writing to you; but chose to direct it rather to him, because the messenger told me, he should see him first. I shall say no more now, by the common post, upon that subject, than that I thought the first part of the plan extremely right; but the latter part rather ill-timed now, and would not have the effect proposed or hoped for. What do you say to the vigor of our administration? The sleeping lion is roused; and a hundred and twenty men of war now in commission, and forty thousand land forces in England, will shew our enemies abroad, that they have presumed too much and too long upon sir Robert's pacific temper. I say this on the supposition and hopes that these land forces are only raised against our common enemies abroad, and not against sir Robert's enemies at home; though I know which I believe. It is reported too, but I don't know with what grounds, that this parliament is this session to be continued seven years longer, upon pretence that, in this time of danger, the nation is not in a proper temper to meet and chuse new representatives. Violent as this step may seem, I cannot think it is totally improbable, when I combine several circumstances; but this I know, that, if it is taken, there is an end of us, I mean constitutionally. Your visit to Ireland is a sign of your good health and spirits, which I rejoice at, and wish you the long continuance of, as much as any man upon earth can do, being, I am sure, as much as any man upon earth can be,

My dear lord,

Your most faithful humble servant,

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T-