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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 VI. To The Same.

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-52184](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-52184)

which contains a torrent of this potable eloquence. However, make my compliments to Dr. Lawson, and return him my thanks for the flattering mention he has made of me, in his excellent work; I wish I deserved it as well, as he did *something* which he has not got.

I am your faithful friend,

CHESTERFIELD.

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LETTER VI.

T O T H E S A M E.

London, February 7, 1760.

MY WORTHY FRIEND,

WHAT mean all these disturbances in Ireland? I fear you do not exert, for I cannot suppose that you have lost, that authority, which your impartiality, dignity, and gravity had so deservedly procured you. You know I always considered Virgil's *pietate gravem virum* as your prototype, and like him, you have allayed former popular commotions, and calmed civil disturbances. You will perhaps tell me that no dignity, no authority whatsoever can restrain or quiet the fury of a multitude drunk with whisky. But then if you cannot, who can? Will the multitude enraged with whisky, be checked and kept within bounds by their betters who are full as drunk as they are, only with claret? no. You are the only neutral power now in Ireland, equally untainted by the outrageous effects of whiskey, or the dull stupefaction of claret; and therefore I require from you, *Ne quid detrimenti capiat Respublica. Capesse Rempubli-*

Do you really mean to turn my head with the repeated doses of flattery which you have lately sent me? Consider

Consider that long illness has weakened it, and that it has now none of the ballast which yours has to keep it steady. It is so apt to turn of itself, that the least breeze of flattery may over-set it. But perhaps there may be some degree of self-love in your case, for in truth, I was the only lord lieutenant that you ever absolutely governed; but do not mention this, because I am said to have had no favourite.

Let me advise you as a friend not to engage too deep in the expence of a new, and pompous quarto edition of your friend Swift. I think you may chance to be, what perhaps you would not choose to be, a considerable loser by it. Whosoever in the three kingdoms has any books at all, has Swift, and unless you have some new pieces, and those too not trifling ones to add, people will not throw away their present handy and portable octavos, for expensive and unweildly quartos. How far indeed the name (you are so much superior to quibbles, that you can bear and sometimes even smile at them) of *quartos* may help them off in Ireland, I cannot pretend to say. After all this, I am very seriously,

Your faithful friend and servant,

CHESTERFIELD.

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LETTER VII.

TO THE SAME.

London, July 1, 1762.

MY WORTHY FRIEND,

**F**ROM my time down to the present, you have been in possession of governing the governors of Ireland, whenever you have thought fit to meddle with business; and if you had meddled more with some, it might perhaps