



Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son

Philip Dormer Stanhope

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son

Philip Dormer Stanhope

Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son Philip Dormer Stanhope
PREFATORY NOTE.

IT is a singular fate that has overtaken Lord Chesterfield. One of the more important figures in the political world of his time; one of the few Lord-Lieutenants of Ireland whose name was afterwards respected and admired; the first man to introduce Voltaire and Montesquieu to England; and the personal acquaintance of men like Addison and Swift, Pope and Bolingbroke; the ally of Pitt, and the enemy of three Georges ; though he married a king's daughter and took up the task of the world's greatest emperor: yet the record of his actions has passed away, and he is remembered now only by an accident.

Lord Chesterfield lives by that which he never intended for publication, while that which he published has already passed from the thoughts of men. It is one more example of the fact that our best work is that which is our heart's production. We have Lord Chesterfield's secret, and it bears witness to the strength of that part of him in which an intellectual anatomist has declared him to be deficient—a criticism which is but another proof of that which has been somewhere said of him, that he has had the fate to be generally misunderstood. Yet nothing is more certain than that Lord Chesterfield did not mean to be anything but inscrutable. "Dissimulation is a shield," he used to say, "as secrecy is armour." "A young fellow ought to be wiser than he should seem to be, and an old fellow ought to

seem wise whether he really be so or not." It is still worth while attempting to solve the problem which is offered to us by his inscrutability, not only on its own account, but because Lord Chesterfield is a representative spirit of the eighteenth century. *

Philip Dormer Stanhope did not experience in his youth either of those influences which are so important in the lives of most of us. His mother died before he could know her, and his father was one of those living nonentities whom his biographer sums up in saying that ' We know little more of him than that he was an Earl of Chesterfield.' Indeed, what influence there may have been was of a negative kind, for he had, if anything, an avowed dislike for his son. Naturally under these conditions he had to endure the slings and arrows of fortune alone and uncounselled. One domestic influence was allowed him in the mother of his mother, whose face still looks out at us from the pages of Dr. Maty, engraved by Bartolozzi from the original of Sir Peter Lely—a face sweet, intellectual, open—over the title of Gertrude Savile, Marchioness of Halifax. She it was who undertook, at any rate to some small degree, the rearing of her daughter's child Lord Chesterfield is rather a Savile than a Stanhope.

He heard French from a Normandy nurse in his cradle, and he received, when he grew a little older, "such a

* The greatest English writer of the present day thus sums up the eighteenth century :—" An age of which Hoadly was the bishop, and Walpole the minister, and Pope the poet, and Chesterfield the wit, and Tillotson the ruling doctor."—Newman, *Essays Critical and Historical*^ i. 388.

general idea of the sciences as it is a disgrace to a gentleman not to possess." But it is not till he gets to Cambridge at the age of eighteen that we hear anything definite. He writes to his tutor of former days, whom he seems to have made a real friend, from Trinity Hall:—

"I find the college where I am infinitely the best in the University; for it is the smallest, and filled with lawyers who have lived in the world, and know how to behave. Whatever may be said to the contrary, there is certainly very little debauchery in the university, especially amongst people of fashion, for a man must have the inclinations of a porter to endure it here."

Thirty-six years later he draws for his son this picture of his college-life:—

* As I make no difficulty of confessing my past errors, where I think the confession may be of use to you, I will own that, when I first went to the university, I drank and smoked, ..

 [Download Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son Philip Dormer Stanhope

From reader reviews:

Rodolfo Rodgers:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or details even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe can update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you is you don't know what type you should start with. This Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and want in this era.

Omar Carter:

Often the book Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son will bring someone to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to describe the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book you just read, this book very ideal to you. The book Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son is much recommended to you to study. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

Lettie Perez:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book mainly book entitled Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a guide then become one web form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get previous to. The Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son giving you an additional experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful info for your better life in this particular era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

Irene Hoyt:

Reserve is one of source of expertise. We can add our expertise from it. Not only for students but also native or citizen have to have book to know the revise information of year to year. As we know those publications have many advantages. Beside we add our knowledge, also can bring us to around the world. Through the book Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son we can have more advantage. Don't you to be creative people? For being creative person must love to read a book. Only choose the best book that suited with your aim. Don't always be doubt to change your life by this book Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son. You can more attractive than now.

Download and Read Online Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son Philip Dormer Stanhope #6D81HSW0CRG

Read Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope for online ebook

Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope books to read online.

Online Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope ebook PDF download

Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope Doc

Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope Mobipocket

Letters Written by Lord Chesterfield to His Son by Philip Dormer Stanhope EPub