

THE



# A T L E R.

VOLUME THE FIRST.



*F. Hayman del.*

*C. Brignion sculp.*

L O N D O N :

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1789.



T. A. T. L. E. R.

TO THE THE PRESS







## GENERAL ADVERTISEMENT.

**T**HE Editor of the *TATLER*, *SPECTATOR*, and *GUARDIAN*, claims no other merit than that of introducing them to the publick in this complete series. Neither the plan, nor much of the execution of it, is his own.

It is now nearly thirty years since the outlines of the undertaking were sketched, in conjunction with the late Mr. TONSON, by a Writer of distinguished taste and talents; who was prevented from pursuing it by avocations of a more important nature. It has been considerably altered, and carried much farther than was at first intended; but all the information which was obtained by the active zeal, and well-directed enquiries, which that Gentleman made among men of the first eminence in the world of letters, though sometimes superseded on indubitable authorities, has been faithfully preserved, and is distinguished by the signature P in the accumulated collection which the reader has now before him.

Of the Original Papers it may be sufficient to say, in the emphatic words of JOHNSON, that "they  
"comprize precepts of criticism, sallies of invention,  
"descriptions of life, and lectures of morality; they  
"employ wit in the cause of truth, and make elegance subservient to piety; they have now for  
"more than half a century supplied the English nation, in a great measure, with principles of speculation, and rules of practice, and given their  
"authors a claim to be mentioned amongst the benefactors of mankind.

VOL. I.

a

"To



“ To teach the minuter decencies and inferior  
 “ duties, to regulate the practice of daily conver-  
 “ sation, to correct those depravities which are ra-  
 “ ther ridiculous than criminal, and remove those  
 “ grievances, which, if they produce no lasting ca-  
 “ lamities, impress hourly vexation, was first at-  
 “ tempted in Italy by CASA, in his ‘ Book of Man-  
 “ ners,’ and CASTIGLIONE in his ‘ Courtier,’ two  
 “ books yet celebrated in Italy for purity and ele-  
 “ gance.

“ This species of instruction was continued, and  
 “ perhaps advanced, by the French; among whom  
 “ LA BRUYERE’S ‘ Manners of the Age,’ though  
 “ written without connection, deserves great praise.  
 “ Before the TATLER and SPECTATOR, if the writers  
 “ for the Theatre are excepted, England had no  
 “ masters of common life. No writers had yet un-  
 “ dertaken to reform either the savageness of ne-  
 “ glect, or the impertinence of civility; to teach  
 “ when to speak, or to be silent; how to refuse, or  
 “ how to comply. We wanted not books to teach  
 “ us more important duties, and to settle opinions  
 “ in philosophy or politics; but an *arbiter elegan-*  
 “ *tiarum*, a judge of propriety, was yet wanting,  
 “ who should survey the track of daily conversation,  
 “ and free it from thorns and prickles, which tease  
 “ the passer, though they do not wound him. For  
 “ this purpose nothing is so proper as the frequent  
 “ publication of short papers, which we read not as  
 “ study but amusement. If the subject be slight,  
 “ the treatise likewise is short. The busy may find  
 “ time, and the idle may find patience.

“ It is said by ADDISON, in a subsequent work,  
 “ that they had a perceptible influence upon the con-  
 “ versation of that time, and taught the frolic and  
 “ gay to unite merriment with decency; an effect  
 “ which they can never wholly lose, while they con-  
 “ tinue



“ tinue to be among the first books by which both  
 “ sexes are initiated in the elegancies of knowledge.

“ The TATLER and SPECTATOR reduced, like  
 “ CASA, the unsettled practice of daily intercourse  
 “ to propriety and politeness; and, like LA BRU-  
 “ YERE, exhibited the ‘ Characters and Manners of  
 “ the Age.’

“ But to say that they united the plans of two or  
 “ three eminent writers, is to give them but a small  
 “ part of their due praise; they superadded litera-  
 “ ture and criticism, and sometimes towered far a-  
 “ bove their predecessors, and taught, with great  
 “ justness of argument and dignity of language, the  
 “ most important duties and sublime truths.

“ All these topics are happily varied with elegant  
 “ fictions and refined allegories, and illuminated  
 “ with different changes of style, and felicities of in-  
 “ vention\*.”

This edition of these valuable Papers is formed from an accurate collation of the original *folio*’s with STEELE’S *octavo*’s; not without attention to what was faulty either in orthography or punctuation. This may seem a trifling labour; but the neglect of it is the source of much of the obscurity and confusion which is found in bad editions of good authors.

Translations are annexed to all the mottoes, and some of them are translated anew; it having now and then been found necessary to adapt them more peculiarly to the subjects of the Papers to which they were prefixed, the whole application depending upon some nice turn of the original phrase, which does not hold even in the best of the received versions. On this head there is still room for improvement; and the ingenious are requested to amuse themselves in lending their assistance.

\* JOHNSON’S “ Life of ADDISON,” *passim*.



“ The Personages introduced in these Papers,  
 “ were not merely ideal; they were then known, and  
 “ conspicuous in various stations. Of the TATLER,  
 “ this is told by STEELE in his last Paper. Of these  
 “ portraits, which may be supposed to be sometimes  
 “ embellished, and sometimes aggravated, the ori-  
 “ ginals are partly known, and partly forgotten\*.”

Concerning them, there is much certain information, and there are many conjectures, not very improbable, in the course of this work. If in some instances of the most flagrant delinquents, their names, though pretty well known, have not yet been communicated to the publick; the reasons for concealment are easily conceivable, and sufficiently forcible to constrain, and to justify silence.

In all cases where the writers could be ascertained, their names are mentioned, and memoirs of them are now in preparation, which will be published in a separate work, with-held hitherto, in hopes of their being benefited, and enlarged, by expected communications from aged and literary people, who are requested to give notice of any thing instructive, or entertaining, relative to these writers, or writings, through the channel of the GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE, or rather by letters directed to J. NICHOLS, Red-Lion-passage, Fleet-street.

Considering that there are no signatures in the TATLER to ascertain the writers, and that their names were chiefly to be learnt from information, or a minute attention to little circumstances in the Papers themselves; the intelligence in this kind is rather more ample than there was any just reason to expect. Meanwhile, the line that divides conjecture from certainty has seldom, if ever, been transgressed; and in every doubtful case, the Paper is ascribed to STEELE, the only ostensible author.

\* JOHNSON, *ut supra*.

This



This rule has been observed even in instances where there is more than ground to suspect that STEELE was not the writer; but this may be easily rectified, as future information, or fortunate discovery, shall have made, what is but conjectural now, more certain hereafter.

There is a debt upon this work, far from inconsiderable, which shall be faithfully discharged, though kept at present an accompt current, till the permission of the creditors can be obtained to state it more particularly. It is hoped, however, and requested, that the intelligent will still send their communications, and benefactors continue their favours, till this matter comes to be finally adjusted with regular propriety. Even at this early period, it cannot be much amiss, to acknowledge with thankfulness, that the work is under great obligations to a late very learned and much respected Prelate, who was himself, latterly, no inferior writer, in the *SPECTATOR* and *GUARDIAN*. His very valuable communications, sufficiently distinguishable of themselves by superiority in point of importance, needed not to have been marked, as they all are, by suitable modes of expression in their introductions, that sufficiently appropriate them to their worthy author.

For similar reasons, the precaution, it may be, was greatly unnecessary, to point out, as has always been done, the favours of other contributors by particular signatures, which the Editor, with permission of parties, or when it is understood that it would not give offence, will with pleasure embrace, or contrive a convenient way of explaining to the publick.

After all the exceptions, that go, it may be, to the best, though not the greatest part of this work; setting aside too the notes which are mere quotations, rested on their own authorities, in which there



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is no more to answer for but their pertinence; there still remains a miscellaneous assemblage of information, more curious than important, for which the Annotator, and sometimes the Editor, are responsible. If, now and then, their pens have accidentally run riot, they trust that they have not yet been guilty of any sin, so deadly, or so un-venial, but that they may be forgiven. In the mean time, they claim much lenity on the score of intention, and think themselves entitled to considerable indulgence, from the novelty, the nature, and the name of their book.

Very many of the explanatory illustrations ought to be exempted from the rigorous examination of the *learned*, because they were solely written for the sake of the *unlearned*; one of the principal objects being to render the whole Work as intelligible, useful, and entertaining as possible, to the Youth of both sexes, under the idea of its being one of those very important books, by which they are “initiated in “the elegancies of knowledge.”

These admirable Essays, at their first publication, generally clear, might be in less need of comment; but, as they frequently allude to facts which are no longer known, and reprove follies which no longer exist, notes become now indispensably necessary. This part of the work has been the more difficult to execute, because the passages that most require explanation, contain allusions to popular fashions, modes, and follies, seldom recorded in common books, nor very minutely in such as are uncommon, being chiefly to be learnt from personal information. To obtain this, neither trouble nor expence has been spared; nor will they be with-held, or regretted, if this edition should be so fortunate as to meet with the approbation of the publick, and become the means

I

of



of enticing people to a better acquaintance with useful Papers, which for some time back, have been perhaps, more generally bought, than read.

The news, and periodical papers, in the course of the original publications, form the capital source of information, containing nearly the only intelligence that can now be obtained, of the topics of conversation at the time when these Papers were written, and of little incidents alluded to in them, which historians have thought it below their dignity to record. In the course of examining such of these Papers as could be procured, many things occurred, not immediately relative to the subjects of the *LUCUBRATIONS*, which had an evident tendency to illustrate the history of arts, manufactures, science, &c. in and about this period. The Annotator has filled up every blank space and corner that would otherwise have been left vacant, with such curious notices and advertisements; trusting for his apology, to the general entertainment and utility, which they appeared so likely to subserve. To the curious, these advertisements, it is thought, will not be the least acceptable parts of this work; however numerous, they have added nothing to the size of the book, being all so much pure gain to the reader; such of them as are deemed trifling, or superfluous, may easily be passed over; and then no harm is done.

These volumes are again given up, as at first, *to the mercy of the town, with all their imperfections on their heads*, and respectfully submitted to the candour of the publick, who, it is hoped, will judge favourably of an attempt attended with such peculiar difficulties. The Editor and Annotator cannot conclude without adding, that they shall be happy to receive hints and materials for future improve-



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ments and elucidations; and that they will cheerfully embrace some future opportunity of rectifying whatever may be requisite in the Notes and Remarks on the present volumes.

Having said thus much, they take leave of the courteous reader *for the present*, in the apposite words of HORACE:

— — — *Si quid novisti rectius istis,  
Candidus imperti: Si non, his utere mecum.*

STEELE's





[ ix ]

S T E E L E ' s  
P R E F A C E

To the Original OCTAVO EDITION, 1710.

I N the last TATLER I promised some explanation of passages and persons mentioned in this work, as well as some account of the assistances I have had in the performance. I shall do this in very few words; for when a man has no design but to speak plain truth, he may say a great deal in a very narrow compass. I have, in the dedication of the first volume, made my acknowledgments to Dr. SWIFT, whose pleasant writings, in the name of BICKERSTAFF, created an inclination in the town towards any thing that could appear in the same disguise. I must acknowledge also, that, at my first entering upon this work, a certain uncommon way of thinking, and a turn in conversation peculiar to that agreeable gentleman, rendered his company very advantageous to one whose imagination was to be continually employed upon obvious and common subjects, though at the same time obliged to treat of them in a new and unbeaten method. His verses on the *Shower in Town*\*, and the *Description of the Morning*†, are instances of the happiness of that genius, which could raise such pleasing ideas upon occasions so barren to an ordinary invention.

\* TATL. N<sup>o</sup> 238.

† TATL. N<sup>o</sup> 9.

When



When I am upon the *house of BICKERSTAFF*, I must not forget that genealogy of the family\* sent to me by the post, and written, *as I since understand*, by Mr. TWISDEN, who died at the battle of Mons, and has a monument in *Westminster Abbey*, suitable to the respect which is due to his wit and his valour. There are through the course of the work very many incidents which were written by unknown correspondents. Of this kind is the tale in the second TATLER, and the epistle from Mr. DOWNES the Prompter†, with others which were very well received by the publick. But I have only one gentleman, who will be nameless‡, to thank for any frequent assistance to me, which indeed it would have been barbarous in him to have denied to one with whom he has lived in an intimacy from childhood, considering the great ease with which he is able to dispatch the most entertaining pieces of this nature. This good office he performed with such force of genius, humour, wit, and learning, that I fared like a distressed Prince, who calls in a powerful neighbour to his aid; I was undone by my auxiliary; when I had once called him in, I could not subsist without dependance on him.

The same hand writ the distinguishing characters of men and women under the names of "*Musical Instruments* §," "*The Distress of the News-writers* ||," "*The Inventory of the Play-house* ¶," and

\* TATL. N° 11. ; No. 75. + TATL. N° 193.

† The veil of secrecy has long since been removed; it was suspected before the TATLER was re-published in volumes, but it then became certain, that this auxiliary was ADDISON. His name (as well as those of many hitherto unknown writers, of the BICKERSTAFF family,) will appear throughout this edition to all the papers which can with certainty be appropriated.

§ TATL. N° 153. || TATL. N° 18. ¶ TATL. N° 42.

"The



"*The Description of the Thermometer* \*," which I cannot but look upon as the greatest embellishments of this work.

Thus far I thought necessary to say relating to the great hands which have been concerned in these volumes, with relation to the spirit and genius of the work; and am far from pretending to modesty in making this acknowledgment. What a man obtains from the good opinion and friendship of worthy men, is a much greater honour than he can possibly reap from any accomplishments of his own. But all the credit of wit which was given me by the gentlemen above-mentioned, with whom I have now accounted, has not been able to atone for the exceptions made against me for some raillery in behalf of that learned advocate for the episcopacy of the church, and the liberty of the people, Mr. HOADLY †. I mentioned this only to defend myself against the imputation of being moved rather by party than opinion; and I think it is apparent, I have with the utmost frankness allowed merit wherever I found it, though joined in interests different from those for which I have declared myself. When my FAVONIUS ‡ is acknowledged to be Dr. SMALRIDGE, and the amiable character of the Dean in the sixty-sixth TATLER, drawn for Dr. ATTERBURY; I hope I need say no more as to my impartiality.

I really have acted in these cases with honesty, and am concerned it should be thought otherwise: For wit, if a man had it, unless it be directed to some useful end, is but a wanton frivolous quality; all that one should value himself upon in this kind is, that he had some honourable intention in it.

\* TATL. N<sup>o</sup> 220. † See TATL. N<sup>o</sup> 44; N<sup>o</sup> 50; N<sup>o</sup> 51; N<sup>o</sup> 115; N<sup>o</sup> 143; and notes. ‡ TATL. N<sup>o</sup> 72; N<sup>o</sup> 114.



As for this point, never hero in romance was carried away with a more furious ambition to conquer giants and tyrants, than I have been in extirpating gamesters and duellists. And indeed, like one of those knights too, though I was calm before, I am apt to fly out again, when the thing that first disturbed me is presented to my imagination. I shall therefore leave off when I am well, and fight with windmills no more: only shall be so arrogant as to say of myself, that, in spite of all the force of fashion and prejudice, in the face of all the world, I alone bewailed the condition of an English gentleman, whose fortune and life are at this day precarious; while his estate is liable to the demands of gamesters, through a false sense of justice; and to the demands of duellists, through a false sense of honour. As to the first of these orders of men, I have not one word more to say of them: as to the latter, I shall conclude all I have more to offer against them, with respect to their being prompted by the fear of shame, by applying to the duellist what I think Dr. South says somewhere of the liar, "He is a Coward to man, and a Bravo to God."

ORIGINAL



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ORIGINAL DEDICATION to TATLER,  
VOL. I.

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TO MR. MAYNWARING\*.

SIR,

THE state of conversation and business in this town having been long perplexed with Pretenders in both kinds; in order to open

\* ARTHUR MAYNWARING, Esq. "His works set the character of his genius above the reach of the criticism of others, and he was himself allowed universally to be the best Critic of his times." Biog. Brit. art. HUGHES. Remark L.

"His learning was without pedantry; his wit without affectation; his judgment without malice; his friendship without interest; his zeal without violence; in a word, he was the best subject, the best friend, the best relation, the best master, the best critic, and the best political writer in Great Britain." Memoirs of Mrs. Oldfield, ascribed to a Mr. Egerton.

He died in 1712, aged 44, and left his estate to be equally divided between his sister, his son, and his son's mother. It amounted to little more than 3000l. His "Life and Posthumous Works" were published by Mr. Oldmixon, 1715, 8vo. whence a full account of him has been lately inserted in the Biographical Dictionary.

A selection from his MEDLEYS accompanies the new edition of STEELE'S LOVER AND READER, 1789.



mens eyes against such abuses, it appeared no unprofitable undertaking to publish a Paper, which should observe upon the manners of the pleasurable, as well as the busy part of mankind. To make this generally read, it seemed the most proper method to form it by way of a Letter of Intelligence, consisting of such parts as might gratify the curiosity of persons of all conditions, and of each sex. But a work of this nature requiring time to grow into the notice of the world, it happened very luckily, that, a little before I had resolved upon this design, a Gentleman\* had written predictions, and two or three other pieces in my name, which rendered it famous through all parts of Europe; and by an inimitable spirit and humour, raised it to as high a pitch of reputation as it could possibly arrive at.

By this good fortune the name of ISAAC BICKERSTAFF† gained an audience of all who had any taste of wit; and the addition of the ordinary occurrences of common Journals of News brought in a multitude of other readers. I could not, I confess, long keep up the opinion of the Town, that these LUCUBRATIONS

\* DR. SWIFT. See SWIFT's "Works," Vol. III. p. 198. See also STEELE's Original Preface to the TATLER, printed above, p. ix.

† Although the TATLER joined an odd surname to no very common Christian one, there was a man found in this large town, who owned both the names. SWIFT's Letters, Vol. XV. p. 408.

were



were written by the same hand with the first works which were published under my name; but before I lost the participation of that author's fame, I had already found the advantage of his authority, to which I owe the sudden acceptance\* which my labours met with in the world.

The general purpose of this Paper is to expose the false arts of life, to pull off the disguises of cunning, vanity, and affectation, and to recommend a general simplicity in our dress, our discourse, and our behaviour. No man has a better judgment for the discovery, or a nobler spirit for the contempt of all imposture, than yourself; which qualities, render you the most proper patron for the Author of these Essays. In the general, the design, however executed, has met with so great success, that there is hardly a name now eminent among us for power, wit, beauty, valour, or wisdom, which is not subscribed for the encouragement of these volumes. This is, indeed, an honour, for which it is impossible to express a suitable gratitude; and there is nothing could be an addition to the pleasure I

\* "During the prevalence of parties and prejudices, he that would be believed by every body, should be known to nobody, lest, instead of listening to the good advice of the Censor, the censured should endeavour, by retorting on *his* frailties, to extenuate or justify *their own*."

take



take in it but the reflection, that it gives me  
the most conspicuous occasion I can ever have,  
of subscribing myself,

SIR,

Your most obliged, most obedient,

and most humble servant,

ISAAC BICKERSTAFF\*.

\* See more concerning the purposes of this Paper in  
N<sup>o</sup> 3. N<sup>o</sup> 5. N<sup>o</sup> 9. N<sup>o</sup> 51. N<sup>o</sup> 64. and N<sup>o</sup> 271. See also  
Dr. JOHNSON'S "Lives of English Poets;" Vol. II. p. 361,  
362, 363, 364, 365, and 366. Ed. 8vo. 1781.





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T H E  
T A T L E R\*.

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N<sup>o</sup> 1. Tuesday, April 12, 1709.

S T E E L E.

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*Quicquid agunt homines—*

*nostri est farrago libelli.*

Juv. Sat. i. 85, 86.

“Whate’er men do, or say, or think, or dream,  
“Our *medley* Paper seizes for it’s theme.” P.

“**T**HOUGH the other Papers, which are  
“published for the use of the good peo-  
“ple of England, have certainly very whole-  
“some effects, and are laudable in their parti-  
“cular

\* The title of this Paper, it is said here, was invented in honour of the Fair Sex; it is fit therefore that it should be left entirely to their jurisdiction. The well-imagined character of the Conductor of the Paper, was the creature of STEELE’s fine fancy for the equal benefit of both sexes; and conceived and supported throughout with curious felicity, in a manner highly conducive to the intellectual improvement and moral refinement of his countrymen. Having happily devised an original character and office, sufficiently

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B

ciently



“ cular kinds, they do not seem to come up to  
 “ the main design of such narrations, which,  
 “ I humbly presume, should be principally  
 “ intended

ciently dignified and interesting, STEELE assumed both the name and surname of a real person, said to have been about that time a resident in London. SWIFT had made free with them before, and whimsically adopted them, merely for a laughable purpose. From him it was that STEELE borrowed them for a more laudable purpose, as he handsomely acknowledges in his preface to the fourth volume of this work, where he has likewise pointed out *some* of SWIFT's least obnoxious contributions to the TATLER. Certainly there were *others* which SWIFT affected to conceal, and would not disclose to his most intimate companions, for valid reasons no doubt, which it is not very difficult to discover. Some of them, betrayed by little circumstances, father themselves sufficiently; and it will appear in the course of the notes, that though they did not much disgrace the TATLER in point of composition, they contributed little or nothing to it in point of usefulness, being among the most reprehensible and least pardonable parts of the Paper.

Considering what is said in STEELE's dedication of “ The Drummer” to Congreve, we may well admit in its greatest latitude the testimony of Mr. Thomas Tickell, who has left it on record, that STEELE began and concluded the TATLER without the concurrence of ADDISON. The great obligations of this work to that writer, are acknowledged with ample and generous justice, in the fine turned compliments paid to him by STEELE, in the preface above-mentioned. We know likewise, on STEELE's authority, that these Papers contain many of ADDISON's *pleasantries and oblique strokes*, which would never have come into day-light but under the shelter of Bickerstaff's name, or to speak more properly, if that prudent man could not have relied entirely on the inviolable friendship and secrecy of Bickerstaff's Creator, who suffered himself patiently to be *traduced and calumniated for them*. ADDISON was unquestionably an able, an useful, and the principal auxiliary; but this annotator thinks it needless to make any apology  
 for



“intended for the use of politic persons, who  
 “are so public-spirited as to neglect their own  
 “affairs to look into transactions of state.

for his having considered STEELE, throughout the whole course of these elegant writings, as the rightful CHIEF and HEAD of the STAFFS. It was STEELE who first enlisted ADDISON, and all the worthies of the STAFFIAN-family, in the entertainment and service of their country. It was HE, whose fruitful genius and unbounded philanthropy contrived to incorporate them into a most beneficial society, endowed them with advantages never thought of before, and directed and supported them with address and ability, in the promotion of knowledge and taste, of virtue and religion. *He* it certainly was, who by his own unremitted exertions, and at his *own expence and personal hazard*, for a course of years rendered them signally serviceable to their contemporaries, and special benefactors to their posterity, as they continue to be at this day; when their writings are still likely to be, while our language remains, “among  
 “the first books by which both sexes are initiated in the  
 “elegancies of knowledge.”

Even with regard to the many excellent performances in the course of these Papers, of which STEELE was not himself the author, as they would not have seen the light but by the means of his contrivance and publications; and his zeal and address in conducting them, the public was then and is now indebted to HIM for their benefits; and whatever STEELE might owe to ADDISON, and other writers, whom he probably *paid, and overpaid with his usual generosity*, certainly we owe to STEELE what was originally written by ADDISON and them. Dr. Johnson's pleasing observations on this work it would be improper to transcribe, and unpleasant to censure. The reader may consult the Doctor's instructive and entertaining account in his “Life of Addison.” A general reference to it is all that is necessary here; some few little mistakes and inaccuracies in it, which the peculiar nature of the annotator's employment led him to discover, so far as the illustration of these Papers renders it requisite, will be sufficiently obviated, as occasions serve, in the course of the following *Notes*.

B 2

“Now



“ Now these Gentlemen, for the most part,  
“ being persons of strong zeal, and weak intel-  
“ lects, it is both a charitable and necessary  
“ work to offer something, whereby such  
“ worthy and well-affected members of the  
“ commonwealth may be instructed after their  
“ reading, what to think; which shall be the  
“ end and purpose of this my Paper, wherein I  
“ shall, from time to time, report and consider  
“ all matters of what kind so ever that shall  
“ occur to me, and publish such my advices  
“ and reflections every Tuesday, Thursday, and  
“ Saturday, in the week, for the convenience  
“ of the Post. I resolve to have something  
“ which may be of entertainment to the Fair  
“ Sex, in honour of whom I have invented  
“ the title of this Paper. I therefore earnestly  
“ desire all persons, without distinction, to  
“ take it in for the present *gratis*, and hereafter  
“ at the price of one penny, forbidding all  
“ hawkers to take more for it at their peril.  
“ And I desire all persons to consider, that I am  
“ at a very great charge for proper materials  
“ for this Work, as well as that before I re-  
“ solved upon it, I had settled a correspondence  
“ in all parts of the known and knowing world.  
“ And forasmuch as this globe is not trodden  
“ upon by mere drudges of business only, but  
“ that men of spirit and genius are justly to be  
“ esteemed as considerable agents in it, we shall  
“ not, upon a dearth of news, present you  
“ with musty foreign edicts, or dull proclama-  
“ tions,



“ tions, but shall divide our relation of the  
 “ passages which occur in action or discourse  
 “ throughout this town, as well as elsewhere,  
 “ under such dates of places as may prepare  
 “ you for the matter you are to expect in the  
 “ following manner.

“ All accounts of Gallantry, Pleasure, and  
 “ Entertainment, shall be under the article of  
 “ WHITE’s Chocolate-house\* ; Poetry, under  
 “ that of WILL’s Coffee-house† ; Learning,  
 “ under the title of GRECIAN‡ ; Foreign and  
 “ Domestic News, you will have from St.  
 “ JAMES’s Coffee-house; and what else I have  
 “ to offer on any other subject shall be dated  
 “ from *my own* APARTMENT.

“ I once more desire my reader to consider,  
 “ that as I cannot keep an ingenious man to go  
 “ daily to Will’s under two-pence each day,  
 “ merely for his charges; to White’s under  
 “ six-pence; nor to the Grecian, without allow-  
 “ ing him some plain Spanish, to be as able as  
 “ others at the learned table; and that a good  
 “ observer cannot speak with even KIDNEY|| at  
 “ St. James’s without clean linen; I say, these  
 “ considerations will, I hope, make all persons

\* WHITE’s *Chocolate-house* was then lower down in St. James’s Street than it is at present, and on the other side.

† “ WILL’s *Coffee-house* was on the north side of Russell Street in Covent Garden.

‡ The GRECIAN was, and still is, in Devereux Court in the Strand.

|| KIDNEY was one of the waiters at St. JAMES’s *Coffee-house*. See N<sup>o</sup> 10. N<sup>o</sup> 26, &c.



“willing to comply with my humble request  
 “(when my *gratis* stock is exhausted) of a  
 “penny a-piece; especially since they are sure  
 “of some proper amusement, and that it is  
 “impossible for me to want means to entertain  
 “them, having, besides the force of my own  
 “parts, the power of DIVINATION, and that I  
 “can, by casting a figure, tell you all that  
 “will happen before it comes to pass.

“But this last faculty I shall use very spa-  
 “ringly, and speak but of few things until  
 “they are passed, for fear of divulging mat-  
 “ters which may offend our superiors.”

WHITE'S Chocolate-house, April 7.

THE deplorable condition of a very pretty  
 gentleman, who walks here at the hours when  
 men of quality first appear, is what is very  
 much lamented. His history is, That on the  
 ninth of September, 1705, being in his one  
 and twentieth year, he was washing his teeth  
 at a tavern window in Pall-Mall, when a fine  
 equipage passed by, and in it a young lady  
 who looked up at him; away goes the coach,  
 and the young gentleman pulled off his night-  
 cap, and instead of rubbing his gums, as he  
 ought to do, out of the window until about  
 four of the clock, sits him down and spoke  
 not a word until twelve at night; after which  
 he began to enquire if any body knew *the*  
*Lady?*—The company asked *what* LADY? but  
 he



he said no more, until they broke up at six in the morning. All the ensuing winter he went from church to church every Sunday, and from play-house to play-house every night in the week; but could never find the original of the picture which dwelt in his bosom. In a word, his attention to any thing but his passion was utterly gone. He has lost all the money he ever played for, and been confuted in every argument he has entered upon, since the moment he first saw her. He is of a noble family, has naturally a very good air, and is of a frank honest temper: but this passion has so extremely mauled him, that his features are set and uninformed, and his whole visage is deadened, by a long absence of thought. He never appears in any alacrity, but when raised by wine; at which time he is sure to come hither, and throw away a great deal of wit on fellows who have no sense farther than just to observe, that our poor LOVER has most understanding when he is drunk, and is least in his senses when he is sober\*.

The reader is desired to take notice of the article from this place from time to time, for I design to be very exact in the progress this unhappy gentleman makes, which may be of great

\* EDWARD Lord Viscount HINCHINBROKE, mentioned afterwards under the name of CYNTHIO. He died in the life-time of his father, Oct. 3, 1722. See N° 5. and N° 22. and LOVER, N° 38.



instruction to all who actually are, or who ever shall be, in LOVE.

WILL's Coffee-house, April 8.

On Thursday last was acted\*, for the benefit of Mr. BETTERTON, the celebrated comedy called LOVE FOR LOVE†. Those excellent players, Mrs. BARRY‡, Mrs. BRACEGIRDLE, and Mr. DOGGET, though not at present concerned in the house, acted on that occasion. There has not been known so great a concourse of persons of distinction as at that time; the stage itself was covered with gentlemen and ladies, and when the curtain was drawn, it discovered even there a very splendid audience.

\* C. CIBBER acknowledges, that Sir R. STEELE did the stage very considerable service, led the town to their plays, and filled their houses, by the force and influence of his TATLERS. STEELE had no share in the management of the play-house in Drury-Lane for several years after this time. His patent as *Governour* is dated Jan. 19, 1714-15, 1 Geo. I.

† By W. CONGREVE. Published in quarto, 1695. The Theatre and company in Lincoln's-Inn Fields opened with this play, which met with so much success, that BETTERTON and the other managers made an offer to the author which he accepted, of a whole share with them in their profits, on condition of his furnishing them with a new play every year. The character of *Forefight* in this play was then no uncommon one. DRYDEN calculated nativities; CROMWELL and KING WILLIAM had their lucky days; and SHAFTESBURY himself, though he had no religion, is said to have regarded *predictions*.

‡ Mrs. BARRY on this occasion spoke an epilogue, written by Mr. ROWE, and printed in his works.

This



This unusual encouragement, which was given to a play for the advantage of so great an actor, gives an undeniable instance, that the true relish for manly entertainments and rational pleasures is not wholly lost. All the parts were acted to perfection: the actors were careful of their carriage, and no one was guilty of the affectation to insert witticisms of his own; but a due respect was had to the audience, for encouraging this accomplished player. It is not now doubted but plays will revive, and take their usual place in the opinion of persons of wit and merit, notwithstanding their late apostasy in favour of dress and sound. This place is very much altered since Mr. DRYDEN frequented it; where you used to see Songs, Epigrams, and Satires, in the hands of every man you met, you have now only a pack of cards; and instead of the cavils about the turn of the expression, the elegance of the style, and the like, the learned now dispute only about the truth of the game. But however the company is altered, all have shewn a great respect for Mr. BETTERTON: and the very gaming part of this house have been so touched with a sense of the uncertainty of human affairs (which alter with themselves every moment) that in this gentleman they pitied MARK ANTONY of Rome, HAMLET of Denmark, MITHRIDATES of Pontus, THEODOSIUS of Greece, and HENRY the Eighth of England. It is well known, he has been in the condition of each of those illustrious



lustrious personages for several hours together, and behaved himself in those high stations, in all the changes of the scene, with suitable dignity. For these reasons, we intend to repeat this late favour to him on a proper occasion, lest he, who can instruct us so well in personating feigned sorrows, should be lost to us by suffering under real ones\*. The town is at present in very great expectation of seeing † a comedy now in rehearsal, which is the twenty-fifth production of my honoured friend Mr. THOMAS D'URFEY; who, besides his great abilities in the dramatic, has a peculiar talent in the lyric way of writing, and that with a manner wholly new and unknown to the ancient Greeks and Romans, wherein he is but faintly imitated in the translations of the modern Italian Operas.

\* THOMAS BETTERTON, justly esteemed the *Roscius* of his age, was born in 1635, came upon the stage in 1656, and continued on it with great reputation more than 50 years. He died April 28, 1710. There is a metzotinto by Williams, which, Cibber says, "resembled him extremely;" and a fine picture of him by POPE, in the possession of the Earl of Mansfield. Sir RICHARD STEELE, who attended his funeral, published a Paper to his memory in the TAT. See N<sup>o</sup> 167.

† "The Modern Prophets." C. quarto, 1709. See TAT. N<sup>o</sup> 11. and N<sup>o</sup> 43.

Mr. D'URFEY obtained his greatest reputation by a peculiarly happy talent for writing irregular Odes, witty Catches, Satires, and Songs of Humour, suited to the spirit of the times, which he sung in a lively and entertaining manner. See GUARD. N<sup>o</sup> 29. and N<sup>o</sup> 67.

St.



Nº 1.

## THE TATLER.

St. JAMES's Coffee-house, April 11.

Letters from the Hague of the sixteenth say, that Major General Cadogan was gone to Brussels, with orders to disperse proper instructions for assembling the whole force of the Allies in Flanders, in the beginning of the next month. The late offers concerning peace were made in the style of persons who think themselves upon equal terms: but the Allies have so just a sense of their present advantages, that they will not admit of a treaty, except France offers what is more suitable to her present condition. At the same time we make preparations, as if we were alarmed by a greater force than that which we are carrying into the field. Thus this point seems now to be argued sword in hand. This was what a great General \* alluded to, when being asked the names of those who were to be plenipotentiaries for the ensuing peace, he answered with a serious air, "There are about an hundred thousand of us." Mr. Kidney †, who has the ear of the greatest politicians that come hither, tells me, there is a mail come in to-day with letters, dated Hague, April the nineteenth, N. S. which say, a design of bringing part of our troops into the field, at the latter end of this month, is now altered to a resolution of marching towards the camp about the twentieth of the next. Prince Eugene was

\* The Duke of Marlborough.

† The waiter at St. JAMES's Coffee-house.

then



then returned thither from Amsterdam. He sets out from Bruffels on Tuesday: the greater number of the general officers at the Hague, have orders to go at the same time. The squadron at Dunkirk consists of seven vessels. There happened the other day, in the road of Scheveling, an engagement between a privateer of Zeeland and one of Dunkirk. The Dunkirker, carrying thirty-three pieces of cannon, was taken and brought into the Texel. It is said the courier of Monsieur Rouille is returned to him from the Court of France. Monsieur Vendosme, being re-instated in the favour of the Duchess of Burgundy, is to command in Flanders.

Mr. Kidney added, that there were letters of the seventeenth from Ghent, which give an account, that the enemy had formed a design to surprize two battalions of the Allies which lay at Aloft: but those battalions received advice of their march, and retired to Dendermond. Lieutenant General Wood appeared on this occasion at the head of five thousand foot and one thousand horse; upon which the enemy withdrew, without making any farther attempt.

From my own Apartment.

I am sorry I am obliged to trouble the Public with so much discourse upon a matter which I at the very first mentioned as a trifle, *viz.* the death



death of Mr. Partridge\*, under whose name there is an Almanack come out for the year 1709; in one page of which it is asserted by the said John Partridge, that he is still living, and not only so, but that he was also living some time before, and even at the instant when I writ of his death. I have in another place, and in a paper by itself, sufficiently convinced this man that he is dead, and, if he has any shame, I do not doubt but that by this time he owns it to all his acquaintance: for though the legs and arms and whole body of that man may still appear, and perform their animal functions; yet since, as I have elsewhere observed, his art is gone, the man is gone. I am, as I said, concerned, that this little matter should make so much noise; but since I am engaged, I take myself obliged in honour to go on in my *Lucubrations*, and by the help of these arts of which I am master, as well as my skill in astrological speculations, I shall, as I see occasion, proceed

\* Dr. SWIFT, in his "Predictions for 1708," foretold that *Partridge* the Almanack-maker would infallibly die on the 29th of March, about eleven at night, of a raging fever. The wits resolved to support this *Prediction*, and uniformly insisted that PARTRIDGE actually died at that time. See TATLER N<sup>o</sup> 7. N<sup>o</sup> 11. N<sup>o</sup> 35. N<sup>o</sup> 44. and Lord ORRERY's "Remarks on the Life and Writings of SWIFT," p. 62.

"The Inquisition in Portugal was pleased in their great wisdom to burn the 'Predictions of Isaac Bickerstaff, Esq. for the year 1708;' and to condemn the authors and readers of them, as Dr. Swift says he was told, by Sir Paul Methuen, then Ambassador to that Crown."

to



to confute other dead men, who pretend to be in being, although they are actually deceased. I therefore give all men fair warning to mend their manners; for I shall from time to time print bills of Mortality: and I beg the pardon of all such who shall be named therein, if they who are good for nothing shall find themselves in the number of the deceased.

*Advertisement.*

\* \* \* "A Vindication of ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Esq. against what is objected to him by Mr. *Partridge* in his Almanack for the present year 1709." By the said ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Esq. London, printed in the year 1709 \*.

\* Reprinted, with "Bickerstaff's Predictions," in the third volume of Swift's Works.

N. B. All that precedes the article in this Paper, dated from WHITE's Chocolate-house, p. 6. was re-printed *verbatim* at the beginnings of TAT. N<sup>o</sup> 2, and N<sup>o</sup> 3. The four first numbers of the TATLER were given *gratis*.

N<sup>o</sup> 2.