By Isaac Bickerstaff Esq;

Quicquid agunt Homines nostri Farrago Libelli.

Tuesday, April 12. 1709.

The other Papers which are published for the Use of the good People of England have certainly every wholesome Effect, and are laudable in their particular Kind, they do not seem to come up to the Perfection of such Narrations, which, I humbly presume, should be principally intended for the Use of Politick Persons, who are so publicly partial, as to neglect their own Affairs to look into Translations of State. I now, therefore, for the most Part, being Persons of strong Zeal and weak Intellelts, it is both a Charitable and Necessary Work to offer something, whereby such worthy and well-affected Members of the Common-wealth 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 soever that shall occur to Me, and publish such Advices and Reflections every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, in the Week, for the Consider-ation of the Publick. It is also resolved by me to have something which may be of Entertainment to the Fair Sex, in the Course of whom I have taken the Title of this Paper. I therefore earnestly desire all Persons, without Dilection, to join in for the present Gratis, and hereafter at the Price of one Penny, forbidding all Henkers to take more for their Profit. And I desire all Persons to consider, that I am at a very great Charge for proper Materials for that Work, as well as that before I resolved upon it, I had spent a Correspondence in all Parts of the Known and Fragmented World; and forasmuch as this Globe is not voided upon by mere Drudges of Business only, but that Men of Spirit and Genius are justly to be esteemed as Conferable Agents in it, we shall here upon a Decree of Next present you with many Foreign Edits, or dull Proclamations, but shall divide our Relation of the Passages which occur in Action or Dialogue throughout this Team, 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 Cattatory, Pleasure, and Entertainment, shall be under the Article of White's Chocolate-house; Poetry, under that of White's Coffee-house; Learning, under the Title of the Gaziant; Foreign and Domballow News, you will have from St. James's Coffee-house; and what else I shall on any other Subject offer, shall be dated from my own Apartment.

I once more desire my Reader to consider, that as I cannot keep an Injunction, Man to go daily to Will's, under Two- pence each Day merely for his Charges; to White's, under Fivepence; to the Gaziant, without allowing him some Plain Spanish; to be at as able as others at the Learned Table; and that a good Observer cannot speak with every Kidney my Humour. (when my Gratias since is exhausted) of a Penny a Piece; especially since they are sure of some Proper Amusement, and that it is impossible, for me to make Means to entertain 'em, having, besides the Helps of my own Purses, the Power of Divination, and that I can, by calling a Fugue, tell you all that will happen before it comes to pass.

But this Faculty I shall use sparingly, and not speak of any Thing 'till it is pass'd, for fear of divulging Matters which may offend our Superior.

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 9th of September, 1707, being in his One and twentieth Year, he was washing his Teeth at a Tavern Window in Pall-Mall, when a fine Equipage pass'd by, and in it a young Lady who look'd up at him, S乘 away goes the Coach, and the young Gentleman pull'd off his Night-Cap, and instead of rubbing his Guins, as he ought to do, out of the Window till about Four a Clock, he hits him down, and spoke not a Word till Twelve at Night; after which, he began to enquire, if any Body knew the Lady — The Company ask'd, What Lady? But he said no more, till 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 all 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 play'd for, and been confuted in every Argument he has enter'd upon since the Mo- ment he first saw her. He is of a Noble Family, has naturally a very good Air, is of a frank, honest Temper: But this Passion has so extremely made him, that his England are let and uninformed, and his whole Village is deaden by a long Absence of Thought. He never appears in any Alacrity, but when mas'd 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 further than just to observe, That our poor Lover has most Understan-