

ces with, "have you seen the pipes?" as if horrid iron pipes staying your steps wherever you turn could escape the observation, of either the blind or absent—did you come by Charles Street? asks another of the proprietors, who knows the street is impassable to man or beast, from the deep ravines (as Miss Polly Ross would say) from half covered holes, and open spaces occasioned by the laying of these same pipes, have you seen our Cousin Tommy since his return from abroad? asks a third. Had the honor of being nearly run over by him this very moment.—Oh aye! he is very near sighted, ought to have taken up his glass. I shall tell him when I see him he is very much improved, tho', don't you think so? Very likely, he ought to be, certainly, so great a traveller. Oh dear yes! he has been all over the world, dined with all the nobility of England, at Sir John Powder Puff's, which has improved his *morals* no doubt, as well as manners, there was no room for that, Mr. Stuart, Cousin Tommy has had as good an education as the best of you, thanks to Uncle Toby, we need not go to England for either morals or manners. A smile of assent satisfied the speaker Uncle Toby's money could buy both as well here as abroad. Yes indeed, has he not shares in the washing tub society, gas lights and all our concerns? thanks to Uncle Toby, we can all travel and dash if we please. Thanks to the executor of Uncle Toby's will, thought I, who having a wheel, within a wheel, does his best for himself and you.—Stop! Mr Stuart, stop! allow me to introduce you to my Cousin Grandly (another proprietor, thought I, God help us) Mr. Grandly, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Grandly (both bow politely) happy to make your acquaintance, sir, (in rather a drawlish accent). Mr. Grandly deserved his name, a really fine looking man with a blue surtout, buff vest, and inexpressibles, and rather a juvenile tournure of hat; fine day, sir, but roads impassable, those gas pipes break up all our comforts either in walking or riding. My poor horse's leg nearly suffered from those many confounded little holes. I gave the whole company of gas pipes a blessing, I assure you. I smiled in all the harmony I could bring my features to, when I knew