

ground, beside the usual friendly and fashionable intercourse : here too—a matter of no small moment during summer—it would be almost impossible to lack a refreshing breeze, wafted either from the hay and corn fields of the north west, or from the watery expanse to the southward and south-east. I would rail off the public roads which intersect or which bound the common ; and would excavate a course for a serpentine rivulet through the marsh which extends its length. The banks of this canal should be leveled as promenades, planted thinly with young poplars, and crossed by numerous rustic bridges. This would drain the neighbouring ground, which properly broken up and cultivated, would yield ten thousand fold more than it does at present, and would become luxuriantly beautiful and useful, instead of being unsightly and unwholesome as now. The sweeping away of the urchin spring garden settlements, and the formation of a branch mall or parade at that entrance of the town, with many other improvements, I would leave for a future opportunity ; a trifling exertion and expenditure of our magisterial body, might perform the other matters which I propose. Think of the present dead sea appearance of the Common, and then look at my expanse of fine meadow land, my canal, and shaded promenades—the advantage to be gained must be striking to any man of taste and public spirit ; I say public spirit, because many who have taste enough in embellishing their own demesnes, seem to care little about the innocent recreations of those who have no possessions to embellish.

[A waiter enters and places a card on the table, which is taken up by Placid.]

*Placid*.—[reading.] Monsieur Forioso, presents his respects and offers to exhibit his ORIENTAL PHANTASMAGORIA at public or private parties. The peculiarities of this exhibition are, that it does not require any *darkening* of the apartment to make it effective, every object appears vivid and true to nature, accompanied by appropriate motions and sounds. M. F. endeavours to take “the form and pressure of the times” as they pass, rather than refer to former or future generations for amusement.

*Crank*. A decided improvement on the old fashioned Phantasmagoria.

*Tickle*. What think ye gentlemen—shall we order an exhibition for some future evening ?

*All*. Agreed. Order the SHOWMAN to attend next monthly night. [*Tickle* writes a note and despatches it.]

*Placid*. Gentlemen “the Club” lies before me.

*Crank*. Play not with edge tools ; I would refer that also for a more convenient opportunity.

*Tickle*. Only the first two evenings of the season have appeared at present—allow the Club to stand over, we may soon expect the grosser materials to settle, and the more light and sparkling to be uppermost.