

Billingsgate, or "les Halles," perhaps might faint at the effluvia of an *Hottentot* toilet.

In the middle-ages, and even down to the times of the Bourbons and the Stuarts, the absence of personal cleanliness and domestic purity, rendered artificial odours indispensable; and "sweet bags," perfumed pillows, and scented gloves, breathing of rue, rosemary, cinnamon, and cedar, like a box from the *Fonderia of Santa Maria Novella*, in Florence, were indices of the barbarity of a people, to whom the first duty of civilization was unknown.

The hero of the *Fronde*, and traitor to all parties, the gallant Prince de Condé, was so notorious for neglecting his person, that *Mademoiselle* cites him in her memoirs, as past endurance; and talks of his uncombed hair, and untied cravat, with other less supportable slovenlinesses. She herself, however, was apt to lapse into similar faults; and she gives a description of her personal disorder in going in the "*carrosse de la Reine*," as a thing of frequent occurrence, and even of boast, when not in her state toilet.

In the old times, apartments strewed with rushes, rarely removed, or *parquets* never washed, tapestries that received the dust of ages, hangings inaccessible to purification, and filthy feathers nodding over canopies as filthy, with princes and princesses too dignified to wash their hands, required at least an "ounce of civet, good apothecary," to cleanse the foul imagination of the visitor; and they must have given occasion for a love of perfumery, more overwhelming than modern nerves can well relish. Cardinal Mazarin, who, in his quality both of priest and Italian, could not have been particular in such matters, (for it is unnecessary to observe that dirt was a dogma of that religion of which the *pic-puces* were the ministers), used to joke Anne of Austria for her love of perfumery. He was accustomed to say, that bad smells would be her punishment in the other world; and really I think they might suffice for any moderate iniquity, short of the "seven deadlies."

As personal purity has increased, the intensity of the fashionable perfumery has lessened; and the verity of the axiom been