

good report it has preserved its existence, and has made itself a *factor* not to be neglected by any statesman or historian."—*Daily News*, November, 1879. Mr. Gladstone, with his influential name and real scholarship, is also responsible for the misuse of the word. Mr. Gladstone's article on "the Hellenic *Factor* in the Eastern Question" appears translated into Spanish in the *Revista Contemporanea* of April 30. Following the example of Mr. Gladstone—and writing on the Eastern Question and Mr. Gladstone's attempted solution of it—the *Daily Telegraph*, November 30, 1879, says: "Another delusion dispelled by this war is that which apprehends Russia to be a civilizing *factor* in the East-European problem." Soap and water are also declared to come under the category of *factors*: "The Revising Barrister appears fully to appreciate the value of soap and water as an important *factor* in the progress of civilization." Crabs, lobsters, oysters, are "*factors*," though not of the highest order, according to the *Standard*, September 25, 1882: "Shellfish in the past, ever more than at the present date, occupied an important place in the history of man's dietary, though, indeed, if we are to accept without cavil Brillat-Savarin's famous dictum, '*Dis-moi ce que tu manges, et je te dirai qui tu es*,' they cannot be accorded a lofty grade among the *factors* of civilization."

Nihilism in Russia is also a *factor*, or it might be said a *malefactor*. "The desperation of the reckless minority organized against the czar is a serious *factor*, which cannot be left out of the account."—*Daily Telegraph*, September 22, 1882. "The false prophet of the Soudan is a *factor* in the situation with which the British Government will promptly have to reckon."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, October 24, 1882. A culinary artist who, in a popular penny journal, endeavours to instruct

the public on the secrets of gastronomy, informs his readers that "the great *factor* in the dressing of a salad is good Lucca oil and plenty of it," while another periodical says that "The essential *factor* of a good pancake is an egg." "A profuse expenditure of the coin of the realm, applied in a practical manner, has been a very powerful *factor* amongst not a few potent agencies in bringing ignorant, neutral, and apathetic voters to the poll."—*Globe*, March 12, 1882. A fashionable *society* paper, as journals of that class are absurdly called, declares that "one of the *factors* of her Majesty's health is a residence in the Highlands." A few further specimens of the abuse of the word in literary composition, are selected at random. "Russia has once more become a mighty *factor* in Europe."—*Daily Telegraph*, April 26, 1880. "The hostile attitude of Secocoeni is no new *factor* in the general situation in Africa."—*Times*, March 10, 1879. "The prepossession of the police against prisoners is a *factor* in any case for the prosecution."—*Daily Telegraph*, March 17, 1880. "Which made the old boots an expressive *factor* in the character of the man."—*May Fair*, April 5, 1879. "A good digestion is always quoted as a *factor* in the composition of happiness."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, April 29, 1880. "Whether Mr. Gladstone wishes it or not, he must be its (the new ministry's) vital *factor*."—*Standard*, April 13, 1880. "This country is still an important *factor* in the affairs of Europe."—*World*, March 24, 1880. "Fifty years ago the duel was still a recognized and important *factor* in English politics."—*Globe*, March 15, 1880. "A few years ago M. Rochefort was a serious *factor* in French politics."—*Daily News*, March 24, 1880. "The elector who, without being actually illiterate, is merely stupid, is one of the most perplexing *factors* that the