

of snuff, which she accepted, and which caused her to stop—I suppose merely to thank him—a considerable time; and as our guide for the moment was completely deserted, I managed to elicit from him that all the pressmen, as well as the compositors we had just left, work from seven in the morning till seven at night, excepting from twelve to two, which period they devote to “dinner and recreation;” lastly, that they are paid according to the amount of work they perform. In these halls *sic* daily struck off on an average above 350,000 sheets, besides about 12,000 sets of what are called in England court cards; namely, kings, queens, knaves, and aces, the printing of which, in France, is monopolised by the Government.

So many of the pressmen were talking to our “ladies,” that the young guide had some little difficulty in inducing them to follow him into a long chamber, in which we found seated, nearly in pairs, and very busily at work, twelve young well-dressed men, with mustachios, and twelve very pretty-looking young ladies in caps of all colours. On the table at which they were seated stood basins full of flowers. The work they performed consisted mainly of now and then making a dot—then a little scratch—then a slight turn of the head—then a