

edged paper, and sealing-wax upon the table, and the same symptoms around you of public business and partisan-spirit, while you reflect that the former occupant of the room and of one of the beds, restored again to private life, is five hundred or a thousand miles off, divested of his feathers, and a fortunate man if not the worse for his campaign at the seat of government.

In the streets of Washington no warning seems omitted from which a spectator might learn patriotism, and a statesman honesty. The stage-horses wheel as gracefully to receive the unsuccessful applicant for office as to bring the court-favourite to his lodgings; and the minister's furniture shines as bright at the auctioneer's door on the day of his taking leave as it did on the evening of his first drawing-room. Oh the silent lessons I have read at the auctioneer's on ambition and her reward, the boasted purity of a popular government, the value and splendour of real virtue, and the contemptible character of her counterfeits! Indeed, so severe are some of the sarcasms thus practically presented, that I was once ready to exclaim against the punishment inflicted on a late favourite of fortune, then newly sunk in disgrace, as greater than he could bear.

The carpets on which his flatterers had stood, with smiles and compliments for him, were now cheapened on account of the dust of courtiers' feet, and the peculiar obsequiousness with which the surface had been scraped at audiences and levees. But, ah! the bowls and dishes, the cups and glasses out of which so many simpering mouths had been so lately fed, and now scarcely dry from the unavailing banquets: what emblems were they of the hollowness and brittleness of the station they had recently embellished! The minion had before possessed my secret contempt and abhorrence; but I could now have saved him the pangs of such a show. And yet such things are salutary. If they are able to affect others as they affected me, a walk through Pennsylvania Avenue might cure the most ambitious and corrupt of statesmen and courtiers.

Some of the inhabitants of Washington have had intelligence and observation enough to afford much interesting in-

formati
What v
little m
deed, p
to form
Congre
to influ
tries to
it would
by their
often fo
ness.
influen
tention
have of
overaw
To ar
the abs
features
to guar
ception
capitol.
tion is
last wa
confess
he had
and del
tomac,
house.
prevent
such a
pose, u
Thought
neglect
than to
to beco
From s
foreign
large p