

VANITY FAIR - Volume XXVI

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Cartoons and selected excerpts

12. *Sept. 17, 1881*

STATESMEN—No. CCCLXXII

“Sanitas” by T

The Earl Fortescue.

The Fortescues are one of the most ancient of our English families. Four hundred years ago they gave to the country the great Chief Justice of that name, and one hundred and fifty years ago one of them was raised to the Peerage. The present and third Earl was born sixty-three years ago, and was called to the House of Lords in his father’s lifetime. He has taken a great interest in middle-class education, and so great a share in all matters relating to sewage, that he has well earned the name of “Sanitas,” conferred upon him by the late Lord Beaconsfield.

He is a Whig of the Conservative kind. He is also a gentleman. He speaks fairly well, and what is more important, he makes a good speech. He has a keen sense of humour, and a great store of amusing stories which he tells readily and with effect. He is also a man of taste, of genial manner, and of natural amiability. He is one of the few men who still venture habitually to ride on horse-back through the streets of London. He is a man of considerable property, and was once Chairman of the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers.

JEHU JUNIOR

VANITIES.

The Americans are so fond of statistics that some ingenious calculator in New York has discovered that the United States contain 12,000 dentists, who make three millions of false teeth in the course of a year, and use for stopping £100,000 worth of gold and £20,000 worth of silver. By way of a suggestion to the “body-snatchers,” who do such a good trade in the States, he adds that it is the custom to bury the dead without removing their false teeth.

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At Southsea the bath chairmen know their habitual customers not by their names, but by their diseases. Thus a friend of mine is spoken of by the fraternity as “The fracture.” His usual man not being forthcoming one day, he sought to engage the services of another bath chairman. The latter however excused himself, saying that he was engaged to take out “a lady abscess.”



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Vincent Brooks, Day & Son, Lith.

"Sanitas"