

**TABLE-TALK ON
BOOKS, MEN,
AND MANNERS**

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Table-Talk on Books, Men, and Manners by Sydney Smith & Chetwood Evelyn

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SYDNEY SMITH & CHETWOOD EVELYN

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BOOKS, MEN,
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TABLE-TALK ON BOOKS, MEN, AND MANNERS.

TABLE-TALK

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OR

BOOKS, MEN, AND MANNERS.

from Sydney Smith, and others.

EDITED BY CHETWOOD EVELYN, ESQ.

Wm. L. G. & Co. N.Y.

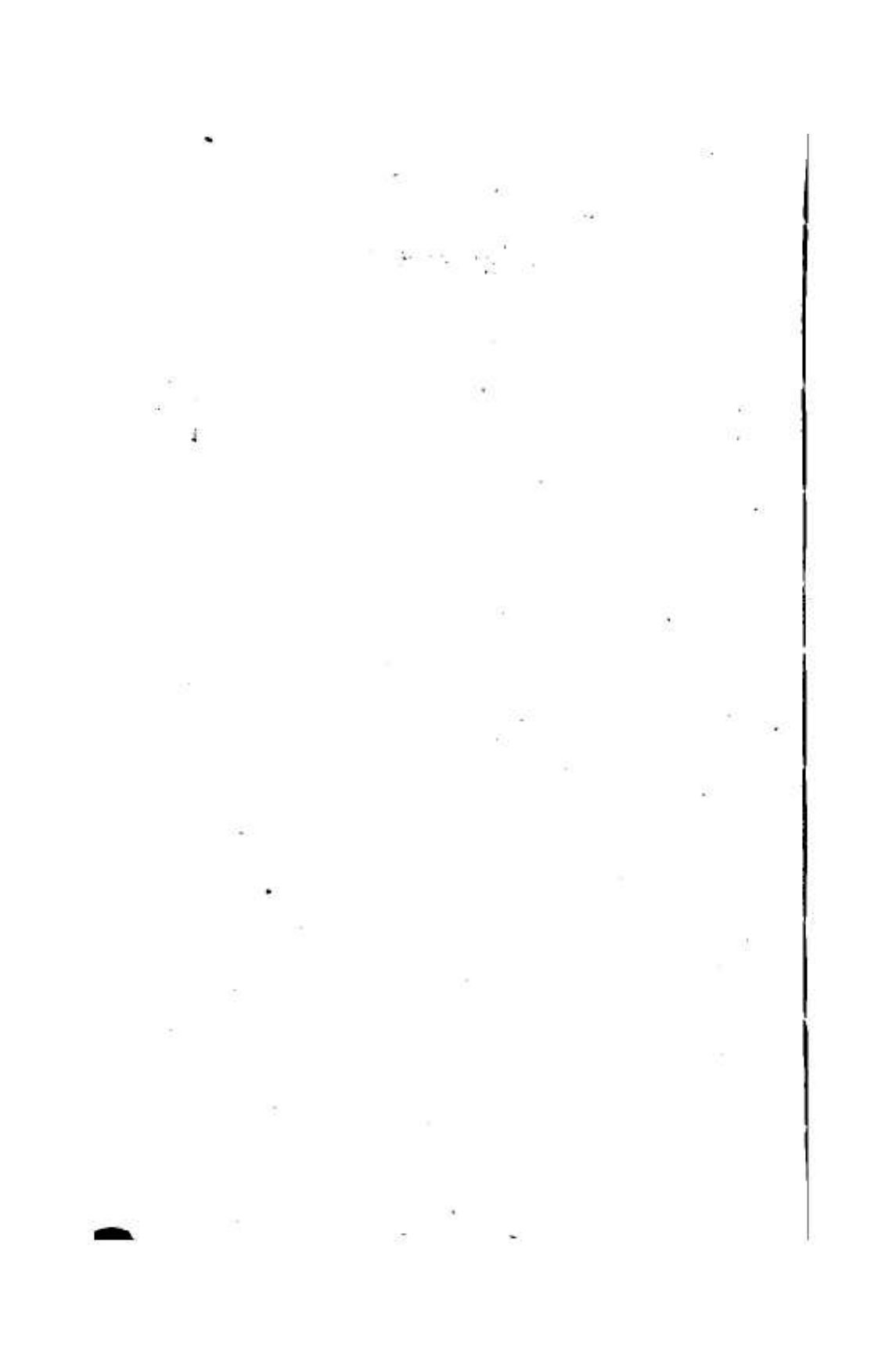
NEW YORK:

GEORGE P. PUTNAM & CO., 10 PARK PLACE.

M.DCCC.LIII.

" SCARAMOUCHE, THE FIRST FAMOUS ITALIAN COMEDIAN, BEING AT PARIS AND IN GREAT WANT, BETHOUGHT HIMSELF OF CONSTANTLY FLYING NEAR THE DOOR OF A NOTED PERFUMER IN THAT CITY, AND WHEN ANY ONE CAME OUT WHO HAD BEEN BUYING SNUFF, NEVER FAILED TO DESIRE A TASTE OF THEM; WHEN HE HAD BY THIS MEANS GOT TOGETHER A QUANTITY MADE UP OF SEVERAL DIFFERENT SORTS, HE SOLD IT AGAIN AT A LOWER RATE TO THE SAME PERFUMER, WHO, FINDING OUT THE TRICK, CALLED IT 'TABAC DE MILLE FLEURS,' OR 'SNUFF OF A THOUSAND FLOWERS.' BY THIS MEANS HE GOT A VERY COMFORTABLE SUBSISTENCE, UNTIL MAKING TOO MUCH HASTE TO BE RICH, HE ONE DAY TOOK SUCH AN UNREASONABLE PINCH——"

Spectator, No. 283.



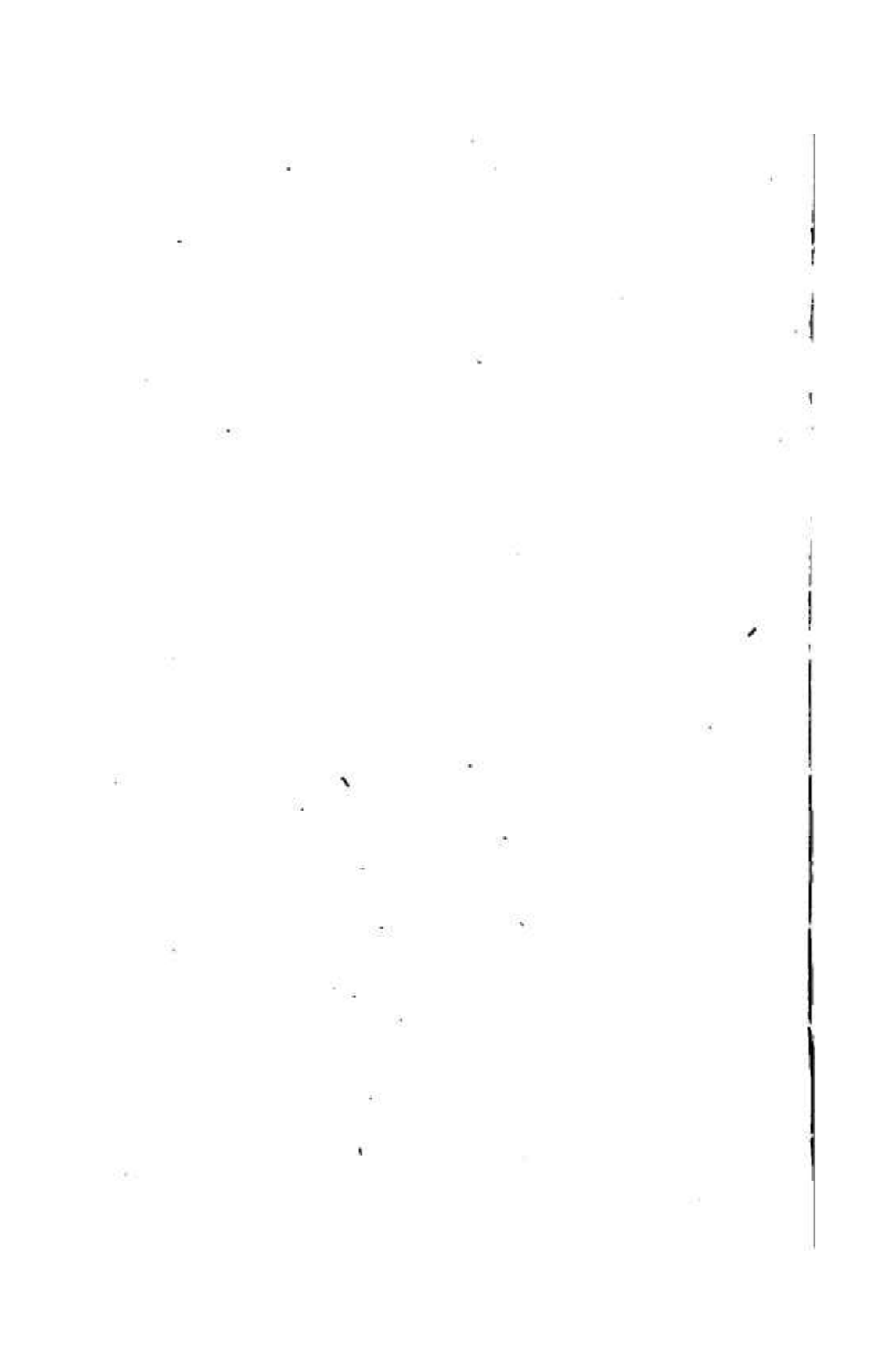
TO YOU,

My dear Cousin Eliza,

THIS BOOK

IS MOST AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

CHETWOOD EVELYN.



AFTER-DINNER TABLE-TALK



WIT AND PROFESSED WITS.

I WISH, after all I have said about wit and humour, I could satisfy myself of their good effects upon the character and disposition; but I am convinced the probable tendency of both is, to corrupt the understanding and the heart. I am not speaking of wit where it is kept down by more serious qualities of mind, and thrown into the background of the picture; but where it stands out boldly and emphatically, and is evidently the master quality in any particular mind. Professed wits, though they are generally courted for the amusement they afford, are seldom respected for the qualities they possess. The habit of seeing things in a witty point of view increases, and makes incursions from its own proper regions upon principles and opinions which are ever held sacred by the wise and good. A witty man is a dramatic performer: in process of time, he can no more exist without applause than he can without