

American Notes, Chapter VIII: Washington The Library of Congress



"There is a very pleasant and commodious library in the Capitol and from a balcony in front, the bird's-eye view of which I have just spoken, may be had, together with a beautiful prospect of the adjacent country. In one of the ornamental portions of the building, there is a figure of Justice, whereunto the Guide Book says,

'the artist at first contemplated giving more of nudity, but he was warned that the public sentiment in this country would not admit of it, and in his caution he has gone, perhaps, into the opposite extreme.'

Poor Justice! she has been made to wear much stranger garments in America than those she pines in, in the Capitol. Let us hope that she has changed her dress-maker since they were fashioned, and that the public sentiment of the country did not cut out the clothes she hides her lovely figure in, just now." ---Charles Dickens

