

## MIGGS AND THE MARCHIONESS.

"WHY is domestic service unpopular?" inquires an evening contemporary, and several of its correspondents reply, "Because a servant dare not ask for the character of her future mistress." No doubt, in the Democratic by-and-by, we shall alter that; and Miss Miggs the housemaid will— But the subject lends itself to dramatic treatment:

*Miss Miggs*—Which I've called, my lady, respecting the character of your friend the Marchioness of Flatherbury. She wanted me to take a written one, but I says, no written characters for me—a pussional character is what I requires if we are to come to terms, Marchioness.

*Lady Clara Vere de Vere*—You deserve to be complimented on your prudence, I am sure.

*Miss Miggs*—Well, you see, we 'as to be careful, now so many ladies is not above taking of us in with forged characters writ by theirselves. But regarding the Marchioness—is she clean and sober?

*Lady Clara Vere de Vere*—Oh, a tidier person does not exist; and her sobriety is almost proverbial in our set.

*Miss Miggs*—Then I'm glad to hear it; for if there's one thing I do hate, it's a slatternly mistress with a fancy for eau-de-wee, or even hether, or moor feer, which those I've met as was wedded to narcotics was something disgusting. Honest, I presoom?

*Lady Clara Vere de Vere*—I can safely assert that I never knew the Marchioness to take anything that did not belong to her.

*Miss Miggs*—What a blessing, my lady! when there's so many of 'em goes shop-lifting reg'lar at the stores and the big drapers. I couldn't a-bear to serve a thief.

*Lady Clara Vere de Vere*—Of course you couldn't. I am convinced that you will find Lady Flatherbury a model of integrity.

*Miss Miggs*—I begin to think she'll suit. By the way, your friend ain't a gossip I 'ope, for I can't put up with 'aving my private affairs discussed with the neighbours in the droring-room.

*Lady Clara Vere de Vere*—Oh, the Marchioness is rather reserved than otherwise. She talks very little on any topic; and never mentions her servants to callers. Is there anything else you wish to ask?

*Miss Miggs*—Not as I can call to mind at present. It ain't my 'abit to be hippercritical; for if a party pleases me in the main p'nts, I takes her situation, and gives 'er a little latitood in miner details. And so wishing you a very good morning, my lady, which the Marchioness did ought to be grateful to you for the kind and 'andsome way in which you've recommended of her. [Exit affably.]—*Funny Folks*.

THE young man who invites his mother-in-law to go up in a balloon should be watched. There's murder in his head.

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*Sunday School Superintendent*.—Now, children, tell me what heathens are. *Small Boy* (who has been reading about the Belfast riot)—Heathens is folks what don't fight over religion.—*Omaha World*.

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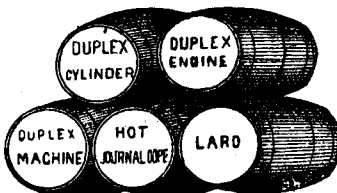
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WEDNESDAY, THE 1ST DAY OF DEC.

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By order of the Board,

D. R. WILKIE, *Cashier*.

TORONTO, 28th October, 1886.

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TORONTO, 27th October, 1886.

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