



AND NOW THEY'RE OUT.

JIMSON—"Say, I heard that that flyaway, Minnie Jinks, is going to be married. Wonder who the unfortunate cuss is?"

HOBBS—"He happens to be standing in my shoes at the present moment."

### CHARACTER IN HANDWRITING.

(NOT FROM THE SATURDAY "MAIL.")

AT the earnest request of many readers, GRIP has secured the services of an accomplished Reader of Character from Handwriting, who will be happy to furnish characters to all who may send in specimens of their chirography. For the present week a few very distinguished personages are represented, and the signatures form an excellent test of the ability of our new *attaché*, who, we may mention, is a perfect stranger in Canada, having just arrived from New York. Following are the Readings. This writing shows keen intelligence and sharpness, the tops of the letters being for the most part acute angles. The loop of the J betokens an absence of seriousness, although this defect is more than counterbalanced by the sagacity betokened in the capital A. Taken as a whole, the signature indicates a man of great forethought, carefulness, high-mindedness, unscrupulousness, rashness and wisdom. He may yet take a high place among his countrymen.

*E. A. Macdonald*

The same name, and yet how different! Notice the construction of the initial E. What Ernestness is here depicted. From the peculiar curve of the c we gather that this gentleman has a morbid love of litigation. Observe too how the l and d are joined. This indicates ambition, bashfulness and a desire to shrink away from public view into the mayor's chair or any

other out-of-the-way corner.

Here is a good signature, which is to say, a good man.

Just notice how goodness oozes out of the capital H's. The form of the w and the turn of the final d are instinct with virtue, probity, frankness and assurance (both fire and life.) The form of the o implies talent for administration. This gentleman would make a good chief magistrate and an excellent bank liquidator—though the form of the a indicates that he is at the same time a liquid hater.

*James French*

Please notice particularly those initials the J and F. Here benevolence fairly shines out. No widow or orphan could fail to win this good man's affection. The r and n betoken a *penchant* for municipal fault-finding, and from the shape of the final h I should say the writer takes a considerable interest in getting his neighbor's assessments raised.

Here we have a signature which in every part is instinct with intelligence. The K shows a fine, handsome figure

—that of a lady whom one would consider it an honor to be interviewed by. See how the double-t is crossed. The angle of the cross bar denotes power of reading character from handwriting. With a little practice this bright and gifted lady would do that sort of work almost as well as I can.

*E. F. Clarke*

This is the signature of a man of affairs—municipal affairs, I should suppose. The F denotes a great power of reducing taxation, while the k shows an equally great ability in weeding out useless officials. If this gentleman should ever run for mayor he ought certainly to be elected.

Only half a glance at this signature is needed to inform me that the writer of it is a genial, affectionate creature, who is capable of loving intensely. He could, for instance, fondle the preceding signature to his heart and bestow a wealth of ardent love upon it. But he is too busy with other things. I should say from the form of the R that he devotes some of his time to Masonry and such like. I gather this from the Solomon's-temple form of the general signature. He would probably succeed as a publisher, also, if he could get hold of a real good advertising medium.

SPHYNX.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—Just as this number of GRIP was going on the press, it came to our knowledge that the above signatures were all written by our imp of an office-boy, who thus endeavored to impose upon our new *attaché*. Under the circumstances nobody can doubt that there is something in the science of reading character from handwriting.

### A PRESCRIPTION.

MRS. AIL—"I always feel better for two or three days after I start taking a new medicine; but it soon loses its effect I become as ill as ever."

MRS. HALE—"Then I'll tell you how to cure yourself."

MRS. AIL—"How?"

MRS. HALE—"Try a new medicine every few days."