

mother who deserted her baby because she couldn't support it."

The other two assented more mildly, and then the whole subject was forgotten in the deeper interest of listening to Ada singing a lullaby on the other side of the partition.

Presently another tap came to the door, and with finger on her lips, Celia tiptoed across to open it.

It was Miss Martin, of the ribbon counter, come to see how the baby was, and behind her peered the prim but kindly face of Miss Amelia Flynn.

Celia gave a startled exclamation. "Oh, Miss Flynn!" she said. "How did you——"

"I didn't, my dear. I just guessed. Mr. Flynn doesn't know and does not need to, unless you ever wish to tell him yourself. A man can be very blind when he wants to be." She gave Celia a little reassuring pat on the arm. "But I just knew how it was and I couldn't rest easy until I had seen that baby!"