



HIS PREFERENCE.

BILKINS (*who is bound to be in the swim*)—"I'm weal glad baggy twosers have come in again, because the tight ones don't show my feet to advantage, doncherknow!"

THE HIRSUTE APPENDAGE!

THERE was a dear little baby in the house.

The dear little baby had just enjoyed his matutinal bath.

There was also a sweet young girl of twelve belonging to the family.

The sweet young girl proposed to finish her ablutions in the baby's bath-tub.

"My daughter," said the father, "do you know it is said that if a little girl washes in the same water as her baby brother uses she will grow up and have a moustache on her lip."

"Mamie," observed her mother, "never mind your father. They told me the same story when I was a little girl and scared me off. But I grew up and had a moustache on my lip all the same—and more than once, too. George, don't be silly!"

And George, who never wore a moustache in all his life, looked over at his wife with a baleful gleam in his usually mild eye.

But the innocent lady went on with her sewing, and as she sewed she sang:

Some day, some day!
Some day I will meet thee, love,
I know not when or where.

Still, there are people in the world who believe it is impossible for the boat of married life to flow gently down the stream of time and never strike a snag!

APPROPRIATE.

LITERARY CUSS—"Have you seen the new Boston monthly, *The Arena*?"

JOAQUER—"Can't say I have. Or, rather, I could say I have, but it wouldn't be true."

LITERARY CUSS—"Some good things in it, 'specially an article by Rev. Savage."

JOAQUER—"Savage? Ah, how highly appropriate. Combats in the arena were a savage pastime, you know."

And a feeling of gloom and depression settled down upon the group, which was not dispelled until some one remarked, "Well, let's have another."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AFTER THE STYLE OF AN ESTEEMED CITY CONTEMPORARY.

"A.S.S." BARRIE.—Handwriting looks as though you had kicked the ink-bottle at the paper, and therefore indicates you to be a captious person—in other words, "a kicker."

"AMELIA RIVES," COBOCONK.—Your writing and that of Jimuel Briggs, another graduate of Coboconk University, resemble each other. You and he had better compare fists and characters.

"COWBOY," TEXAS.—Excellent writing. Indicates fine manly attributes. Come down and get a place on our staff.

"JIM BLUDSO," HAMILTON.—You know more about a poker hand than a writing hand. In character you are a pronounced chump.

"JOHN SMITH," MUSKOKA.—What you want to do is to go to work and learn to write. Your character, if you have any, is about so-so—perhaps not so much.

"PETER SIMPLE," WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.—Very neat hand. Character acquisitive and speculative. By the way, Peter, if you have any lots to get rid of, drop us a line.

"JUMBO," AYR.—Your character is—well, consult dictionary under head "cr."

"JIM FISK," AURORA.—Never mind the writing. Just give us name and address of your town constable.

"FAIRY BELL."—Chirography simply exquisite. Character lovely, amiable and generous. Many thanks for the wedding cake. T. T.

A PROTEST WHICH AVAILED NOT.

AT AN EVENING PARTY.—THE HOSTESS (*who has been listening to very gallant, not to say audacious, talk, on the part of a gay young Captain, to her husband, in tones of affected deprecation*)—"My dear, I really wish you would speak to Captain Dasher!"

THE HOST (*effusively*)—"Why, bless my soul, certainly, my love! Captain Dasher, how are you? Delighted to see you! Don't understand how I came to overlook you!" (*Grasps him cordially by the hand.*)

SCIENCE IN SHORT CHAPTERS.

CHAP. II.—*The Elephant.*

BESIDES being the largest of known quadrupeds, the elephant has very many strong points about him, the strongest of which is undoubtedly his head. He is stronger in the head than a woman's rights advocate. He has also many other qualities in which he excels all the well known competitors; for example, his skull is thicker than a city alderman's, his brain is larger than that of a country editor, he can eat more and a greater variety of food than a district school master, while his hide is thicker and tougher than a boarding house beef-steak.

The elephant has a well established reputation for wisdom, which to a certain extent he deserves. For instance—whenever he travels he does not have his trunk consigned to the tender mercies of the baggage smasher, but takes that article into the car along with him.

Although as a general rule he is cautious and deliberate in his actions, still he rarely appears in public without making an exhibition of himself.