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MISCELLANEOUS. THE BACHELOR AND BABY. "What shall I do?" and the "old bachelors stamped about the sitting room in a perfect rage of doubt, looking first at the napping baby in the little willow cradle, and then at the busy fencer clock on the mantle shelf.

As sure as my name is Joseph Phelps that little, two-fisted, languid-looking nephew of mine, is about waking, and I wish one whole hour of the time in which his mother appointed for her return. When I actually went thinking about it. What can I do with that can't I treat it to sugar, what dye callens, or hold it, or trot it or do anything with it.

At this juncture a faint wail from the baby receptacle brought bachelors Joseph to his tabs. With an energy and alacrity that would not illly become a husband or a baby tender, he commenced rocking the cradle; sending the baby into tremors of kicks and squalls, backwards and forwards, from one side of the pillow to the other, the fabled red face rolled; the infant's fists were clenched with a force that purpled them; while from the white plump throat, came a cry that set the bachelors wild with fear.

A gain Joe Phelps looked at the clock. "What in the deuce can I do?" he exclaimed, viewing woefully the little inclined face before him. He sat down in a big chair before the baby; spread a double cradle quilt over his knees, and with a look of terror on his face, proceeded to take the baby from his resting place. He drew the young hopeful into his lap, as neat as an old lady would a pocket handkerchief, with his thumbs and fingers. A fresh yell from the rosy mouth of the baby was the only expression of thanks as he commenced the never-out-of-fashion baby trot.

"It must be that something is pricking him. Shoo! Shoo!" said Joe, commencing a search for the aggravating pin, that was driving the child into such a rage. But no pin was to be found, and he made an attempt to turn baby over, but on the clumsiness of his fingers; the little ell-like form fell out of his lap to the floor, sending forth a cry that was louder, clearer, deadlier than before.

"Lord save me I've broke its neck!" was the exclamation as he picked the baby up, and in the agony of his despair, tried to quiet him. A thought struck Joe. He saw a basque hanging against the wall of the adjoining bedroom, and with a smile of delight upon his countenance, he went for it. Sure enough, there it was, stuffin', boddice, and all a real monument of feminine ingenuity. He was wild with joy. He pinned it over his coat, and fastened the sleeves behind him. He took baby and laid its head against the false breastwork.

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SOAP AND CANDLES. THE subscribers beg leave respectfully to call attention to the trade and families to the Soap and Candles manufactured in Wilmington, N. C., by Messrs. Costin & Gafford, samples of which can be seen at our office, No. 2, Water St., where we keep constantly on hand large supplies for cash. JAS. C. SMITH & CO. April 28.

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