## BLUFF AND BABIES.

We had a soreye at eur home Tuesdy.

It was a delitef il affare.

Judging from the standpoint ov Cecelia and Margie

Ten lady friends for too and 6 ov them had babies.

When I arrived hom from town I was graecphully intr juced.

The ladys were paralyzed when they saw me.

And congratulated Mrs. Bluff on her most excellent choice of a hubby.

One ov the ladys said I resemblad a disgusted gentleman who onct flourished in this country by the name ov Bur, I think she said Aron.

And then she held up her plump little baby up to me and asked if I didn't think she was a dumpling.

I don't like babys, yet to tickle the mother's vanity, I said she was a darling.

"Tootsy, deor, give Mr. Bluff a kiss," ejackelated the fond mother.

Here was a delemmy for me to be in; but the little dumpling pookered up its mouth and leened over from its mother's arms for me to kiss.

Not to be out done by a baby I kissed the voungsteer.

When up jumped mother No 2 with out streached arms and dirty face baby therein said:

"Mr. Bluff, now candidly, what do you think ov my little pet."

I scrootnized it quickly and breefly ansered.

"It would take a premium at a baby show."

"Kiss the nice man, deerie," said the woman.

Heevings and earth. I was in for it agin, when the youngsteer bended over to be kissed, and I kissed it.

Then No. 3, Mrs. Potter like, tragickly said:

'Mr. Bluff, I beleeve you are a jedge ov the beautiful in natur. Pleese pass your opinion on this littel lump ov luviiness."

A hasty glance reveeled a darned dirty nose and my stummick was becomming disorganized.

But in the language ov the poet I reheersed.

"To sweet to live; yet to luvli to dye!"

When she, with tears in her eyes, past the lump ov sweetness over to hav my effecshuns showered th reupon.

I tuk the little innercent, turned my back, and pretended to go into convulsh ns over it, and then handed it back, admonishing the mother to be careful as the babe migl t ketch the meezels from to mutch exposure and not enuff soapine.

And then I attempted to glide out ov the room noiselessly and eskape further complimentry allushuns to the remaining dispised but not forgotten little ones; but no such luck.

For mother No. 4 was on her feat in a jiffy and conf o.ted m with,

"My deer Mr. Bluff, here is the nicest, sweetest, luvliest little angel you ever seed; taik it; it wants to go to you!"

And she placed the angel in my arms, mutch against my protestashuns.

"Now kiss the gentleman, Bessy deer!" said the mother, or feel onct more, when, just as I was about to taist the nectar ov little Bessy's lips, she, with both hands, grabbed my curly locks on either side and Roam howled.

It tuk the combined efforts ov the mother and 1 other to get the deathlike grip ov the angel untangle, when, in childish glea, Bessy gazed up at me with a smile ore shadowing her angelic face as much as to say,

"Aint I too utterly too, too?"

Without thinking I said, "You air altogether too daily!"

Without further molestashun I passed out ov the room and seeted myself down to tee, etcetery, &c., when mother No. 5 remarked:

"Mr. Bluff, you didn't tell me what you thought ov my baby!"

Without looking up I said:

"Oh it's a dandy!"

"It taint!" said she, "it's a gurl!"

"Excoose me, pleese," said I, "I was mistaken in my notice"

After which I finished my dinner in piece

But when the deer ladys with thar babys retired for hom, I slipped up to mother No. 6 and whispered in her ear:

"Your baby is the sweetest child I ever saw in awl my travels!"

With the look ov a thankful fawn she said,

"I thank you, Mr Bluff, for I know you to be a sensibel connisseer ov the trooly bootiful and luvly. Please call and see us; you will find the latch string down by the garden gait."

I tipped my hat and returned to my stoodio to persue my studies ov Plootarck's Wives

Feebly thine,
LOU BLUFF, ESQ.,
Propr & Manager

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So long as people will gaze at hem and wonder, men can be found to attempt any feat, however dangerous. The parachute jump has numbered its victims by scores, and probably will continue to do so The last vicim is Lieutenant Mousfield, of the British army in India. Some time ago he made a successful jump from a baloon at a great height, and gained so much notoriety that was anxious to do it again An immense throng of people, including many notable, gathered in the Victoria Gardens, Bombay to see him do it. When the hero entered the gardens he was greeted with roun's of applause. He steped proudly into the baloon. It shot up 400 feet into the air and suddenly collapsed. The parachute refused to work, and the daring aeronaut was dashed a shapeless mass of bleeding flesh, into the midst of a crowd of spectators, as probably many another man will be.

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BAD gangs come to grief in these parts, and grief is now locking horns with old man Hovard in Alameda jail. This grief didn't go to the old man. He voluntarily arose and went straight to the great grief of his life! He and his son Bill and Abe Jones all arose and robbed stages in Oregon and California, stole horses, cattle and otherwise hastened on to grief. They all got there. Although in search of the fat of the land, yet they all got there with empty stomachs. Although in search of the happiness that makes Christmas merry, yet they all got there with bleeding hearts and bruised bodies. Bill was killed, and the old man and Abe will go from different gloomy thresholds to a yet gloomier one to [illegible]

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KATE: "I don't know; I certainly do not make any exertion in that direction."

JENNIE: "Well, during the last few months, for example, you have taken up painting,

without any teacher; you came to the rescue when Miss Latarge deserted her Delsarte class [illegible]


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