

**Uncle Tom's Department.**

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES,—The letter budget is not quite so large this month. I do not wonder at it, for I know how busy you all are in the spring assisting in making your homes look tidy and beautiful. Perhaps, at no season of the year is the importance and necessity of labor so fully realized as in the spring time. We know then, most surely, that if we do not sow, we shall not reap, and somehow, nature seems to aid us more at this time than any other. Besides there is so much to attract your young active minds. I think it a vast deal better to be enjoying the out-door games, than to be inside poring over books, or writing. However, there is time for all things, and, I have no doubt, my letter drawer will be crowded with many nice letters next month, telling all that you have been doing, and with so many good puzzles, that it will be quite a task for me to choose the best ones. What delightful weather we were favoured with for the Easter holidays. I can imagine all the nice games you would interest yourselves with. Indeed, the very thought of them makes me feel quite young again.

Mr. Weld kindly offers a beautiful chromo this month, to the one who sends us the three best puzzles, and, also, to the one who answers the most puzzles correctly. All communications must be in by the 20th. Mark your letters "Printers' Manuscript," leave open, and postage will only be 1c. per 1/2 ounce.

UNCLE TOM.

**PUZZLES.**

**32—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.**

1. A kind of brush.
2. A town in England.
3. A town in Italy.
4. A town in Ireland.
5. Barren.
6. A river in Scotland.
7. A town in England.
8. A town in Prussia.
9. A misfortune.
10. A town in Portugal.
11. A town in Austria.
12. A town in Piedmont.
13. A kingdom.
14. A lake.

My initials and finals name two well-known persons.  
ELLA WESTON.

33—Behead an artificial production and leave a name for a girl.  
Behead again and leave an animal.  
Curtail and leave an adverb; curtail and leave an adjective.

34—Behead a circle and leave a part of the human frame.  
Behead and leave a fish.  
Curtail and leave a diphthong.  
Behead and leave a vowel.  
L. N. REID.

**35—ANAGRAM.**

Het riptosta dan eht eoptr emrfa.  
Mtus erahs eth mcomon motb fo lla.  
Etirh ryngo iwll out cepls eth aems.  
That illw raeai otghuh pmeseri allf.

L. N. REID.

**36—CHARADES.**

1. My first is to join, my second is a pronoun, my third is to divide, and my whole is a State of North America.
2. Whole I am an animal, beheaded I am what my whole possesses.
3. My whole is an impression, my second are made from my first.  
IDA PARSONS.
4. Whole I am ill will; beheaded I am a girl's name; beheaded again I am insects; beheaded again I am congealed liquid.  
LEWIS BRUNTON.

**37—WORD SQUARE.**

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. (1) A mineral produce. | (3) Something lent.   |
| (2) A town in China.      | (4) An English river. |
| 2. (1) A lady's name.     | (3) An ancient drink. |
| (2) A town of Arabia.     | (4) Extremities.      |

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|-----------------|------------------|
| 3. (1) A dance. | (3) A sensation. |
| (2) A flower.   | (4) A vegetable. |
- JOHN ROUTLEDGE.

**38—PUZZLE.**

A ittlet odrw ni nedssink poenks,  
A niotom ro a reat,  
Hsa netof Leah'd hte tearh hatst okenrb  
Dna emda a dneifreecnis.  
MINNIE FRASER.

**39—REBUS.**

I am found on every field; I lie on every path uncared for; I am broken, kicked, defaced without a murmur; sometimes I am made to ornament your rooms, while at others I am burnt to save another; behead me and I am a sound; no instrument is complete without me; I am in every voice, in every noise; behead me again and I am friendless; I have no parents, the solitary one of all our race; curtail me and I am an adverb; also a preposition almost indispensable.  
MINNIE FRAZER.

**40—DECAPITATIONS.**

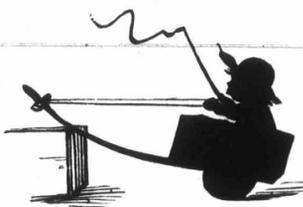
1. Complete I am a very small particle; behead and I am water; behead again and I am a possessive adjective as pronounced in the Scotch tongue; behead again and I am a preposition; curtail and I am a personal pronoun.
2. Complete I am an adjective; behead and I am an adverb; curtail and I am a preposition; curtail again and I am an interjection.  
RHODA.

**Answers to April Puzzles.**

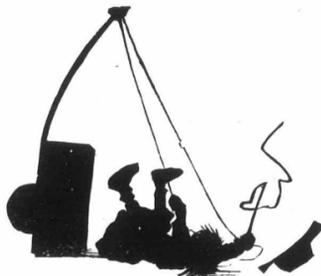
- 23—1, Helen; 2, Eva; 3, Francis; 4, Mabel; 5, Ada.  
24—Find, mind, hind, kind, wind, bind.  
25—Love can neither be bought nor sold; its only price is love.  
26—Plea-sure.  
27—1, Because it is not aloud.  
2, Oysters, because they are always found in beds.  
3, The adder.  
4, Because it has leaders, columns and reviews.  
5, Because for every grain of corn they give a peck.  
6, A shoemaker's—because good shoes last longer than bad ones.  
28—"Light cares speak; great ones are dumb."  
29—Scissors.  
30—Mud-lark.  
31—Be not wise in your own conceit.

**Names of Those Who Sent Correct Answers to April Puzzles.**

Arthur Crooks, Lizzie M. Reid, Janet Boyle, Rhoda G. McKay, Maggie Blair, H. J. Fry, Minnie Fraser, Catherine Jane Walker, Ida Parsons, Jane Crosby, Ella Weston, Eva Milton, John Routledge, Alex. Campbell, Mary McCrae, Eben Miller, Samuel Johnson, Evelyn Walker, Joseph McNaughton, Andrew Forsyth, Edwin Monteith, Frank Hughes, May Davis, Eleanor North, Fred McDermitt, Lewis Branton, H. Johnstone, E. J. Hobson, Maud Emmerson, Charles Leach, Lizzie Mann, John Lewis, Maria Summers, W. Jackson, Samuel Evans, Edmond Whetter, D. Scott, Joshua Freeman, Sarah Langtry, Edwin Mork.



Happy the child while driving his toy,  
So full of delight and glee;  
But sorrow comes quickly, and over he goes—  
Then rubs his head and cries "O! poor me!"



Thus many a man builds his castle aloft  
And goes bravely sailingly on,  
But a slight deviation from doing right—  
A tip-up and all hope is gone.

**HUMOROUS.**

GERMAN EXCHANGE.—"The other night," said a traveller, "I got chatting with a German, and asked him what he was doing." "Vell," he replied, "shoost now, I'm doing nodings; but I've made arrangements to go into pizness." "What are you going into?" "Vell, I goes into bartnership mit a man." "Do you put in much capital?" "No; I dosen't put in no gabital." "Don't want to risk it, eh?" "No; but I puts in ze experience." "And he puts in the capital?" "Yes, dat is it. We goes into pizness for dree year; he puts in ze gabital, I puts in ze experience. At ze end of ze dree year I vill have ze gabital, and he vill have ze experience."

One of the social stars of Paris is rebuked by a friend, who says, sternly: "Cora, if I were you I should be afraid of having bad luck. The way you neglect your poor old blind father is awful, and you so rich now." "Neglect him? Why, you are mistaken." "No, I ain't. Isn't he begging at a street corner not half a mile from here?" "Well, and every time I pass don't I give him a penny?"

"Come, pa," said a youngster just home from school, "how many peas are there in a pint?" "How can anybody tell that, you foolish boy?" "I can, every time. If you don't believe it, try me." "Well, how many are there, then?" "Just one p in every pint, pa."

"I am at your service," said a young clerk the other evening to a handsome young lady, in answer to her inquiry for a bow. "I am," replied she, "much obliged to you, but I want a buff and not a green one." He sunk into his shoes and she went out.

ALTERING THE COMPLEXION.—Bill: "I say, Mary, run and ask Jule to come and play with us." Mary: "You know, Bill, mother says you ain't to call him Jule; his name's Jul-ius." Bill: "Well, what does she call me Bill for, then? I shan't call him Jul-ius until she calls me Bill-ious."—Judy.

A Pennsylvania Dutchman, who married his second wife soon after the funeral of the first, was visited with a two hours' serenade in token of disapproval. He expostulated pathetically thus: "I say, poys, you ought to be ashamed of yourself to be making all dis noise ven dar vas a funeral here so soon."

A Fifehire man took his child to the minister to be baptized, who asked him, "Are you prepared for so solemn and important an occasion?" "Prepared!" he echoed, with some indignation; "I had a firlo' o' bannock bakin', two hams, an' a gallon o' the best Highland whiskey, and I wad like to ken what better preparations ye expect frae a man in my condition o' life?"

A Scotch farmer once took his wife to see the wonders of a microscope. The various curiosities seemed to please the woman very well, till the animalcule professed to be contained in a drop of water were shown off. These seemed to poor Janet not so very pleasant a sight as the others. She sat patiently, however, till the "water-tigers," magnified to the size of twelve feet, appeared on the sheet, fighting with their usual ferocity. Janet now rose in great trepidation, and cried to her husband: "Come awa', John." "Sit still, woman, and see the show," said John. "See the show, man! What wad come o' us if the awful-like brutes wad brak' out o' the water?"

Daniel Webster once affirmed in company that no woman ever wrote a letter without a postscript. "My next letter shall refute you," said a lady of his acquaintance. Soon after he received a letter from his fair disputant, where, after her signature, stood "P. S.—Who is right now—you or I?"

A gentleman took his little boy to a model farm to see the wonders of the place. After they had been there a short time, the little fellow ran crying to his father, being at the same time pursued by a big turkey cock, which was trying to get a piece of bread out of his hand. "What, my boy," said the father, "are you afraid of a turkey? Why, you ate part of one yesterday!" "Yes, papa," responded the little fellow, wiping his eyes, "but this one isn't cooked."

TRAIN UP A CHILD, ETC.—Mamma: "Maud, could you eat another piece of bread and butter?" Maud: "Yes." Mamma: "Yes, what?" Maud: "Yes, what—Yes, please; but you ought to say 'Yes, what, dear?'"

Athletic sports for ladies—Jumping to conclusions; walking round a subject; running through a novel; skipping full descriptions.