

## Uncle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES,—I hope you have all survived the extreme cold weather of the last month, and still retain the usual number of toes, fingers and ears. I have received an unusual number of letters this month, speaking in such flattering terms of the ADVOCATE; which you must know is very gratifying to us; also from many who have answered some or all of the puzzles. Now, I want all my nephews and nieces, who can make out the puzzles, to send them in, and I will give the one under fifteen who answers all correctly from now to next December the ADVOCATE free for 1882, and to the one who writes the nicest letters I will give the same. Now, who is going to win? How did you fare in regard to valentines this year? I believe there were not nearly as many sent as usual. The custom seems to be dying out. I think it is a pity; for it is a harmless one, and productive of much amusement. St. Patrick's day will soon be here. I suppose all my loyal Irish friends will rejoice. Well, you may be proud of him; for according to tradition, he was a "gentleman, and came of decent people."

UNCLE TOM.

## Puzzles.

## 108—PUZZLE BIRDS.

Each of the following stanzas is to be completed by adding, at end of the fourth line, the name of the bird described in the preceding three lines. The stars show the number of letters in the name which must rhyme with the second line.

- Now soaring high, while gazing at the sun,  
Now perched upon some cliff, with aspect regal,  
Far, far above the range of hunter's gun,  
What bird is that? The \*\*\*\*\*
- A Bible tale oft runneth in my head,—  
For on my memory it is deep engraven,  
'Tis of a prophet who by birds were fed,  
What bird is that? The\*\*\*\*\*
- Wise birds are they who "to the moon complain"  
Of wolves and foxes which by night do prowl,  
Yet rats and mice flee from this bird in vain.  
What bird is this? The\*\*\*
- Black vest, white coat, and collar buff or yellow!  
What bird is this, dear children, can you think?  
His song is cheery, bright and gay, but mel-low.  
This is the \*\*\*\*\*
- What bird so loved, we could not do without him?  
To build his nest, he seizes cord or bobbin.  
With whistling notes he fills the air about him.  
You can't mistake the\*\*\*\*\*

—St. Nicholas.

## 109—ENIGMA.

First in sieve, not pail.  
Second in rum, not in ale.  
Third in calf, not in ox.  
Fourth in cat, not in fox.  
Fifth in rude, not in kind.  
Sixth in brain, not in mind.  
Seventh in wheat, not in hay.  
The whole a savage bird of prey.

OSCAR.

## 110—CHARADE.

My first is a cooking utensil; my second is a species of tree; my whole is used in making soap.

## 111—HIDDEN ANIMALS.

- "Oh, how I should like to marry a king,"  
The tiny young maiden did sweetly sing.

- It was a bleat, and a lamb's bleat, too;  
Indeed, dear sir, my words are true.
- Said the lover, "Mine, oh, be;  
Fair maid, I love none but thee."
- "Oh, now, Eliza, take a peep  
At baby as he lies asleep."

## Answers to Feb. Puzzles.

104—Chicago.  
105—Moscow.

BALE MALT  
APES AREA  
LEAP LEAR  
ESPY TART

CAMP IMAGE  
ARAL MOLAR  
MATE ALUTA  
PLEA GATES  
ERASE

## BLANKS.

107—1, Pare, pear; 2, Hair, air; 3, All, a"l; 4, Sam, psalm;  
5, Him, hymn; 6, Hugh, hew; 7, Men, mean.

## Names of Those Who Sent Correct Answers to February Puzzles.

R. Elgin Fowle, Samuel Allan Connell, Richard E Osborne, Jr., Hugh McDougall, Howard Sharnan, C Cooper, Freddie O Fiewelling, Robt Wilson, Maggie Ellis, Harry Johnson, Jessie Cowan, Johnny Crawford, A L Moore, Minnie Hill, Edw Bradford, Mary Armstrong, Robt. Thompson, Tom McKay, Ellis A Anderson, Geo G Gunn, Gussie McKenzie, Ida L Miller, A O Lawless, Geo Smith, Willie Willis, Maggie McIntosh, Carrie Wallace, Hugh McDougall. Special credit is due Mary Armstrong, she having answered all the puzzles correctly.



112—PICTORIAL REBUS (Good advice bears repeating.)



## Monkeys.

We shall soon see the Italians in our cities, towns and villages with their organs and monkeys. We often seem to pity the poor monkey, when pulled and pushed around with a cord attached to its neck, and then be compelled to clamber up the side of a house and run along the eaves and get into the second story of a building. Many a fall they must have! But the more frequent mode is to let them remain on the ground, and run to the observers and pull their dress and hold out their hats for a copper. Some consider them as a nuisance in the public streets; but we were all boys and girls at one time, and the pleasure it gives the children to see the pranks is not little, and for the

sake of the children (whom we are always pleased to see around) a monkey should cause us not to act too harshly with those that give them amusement. Here you see one seated on a chair like an old man, reading, and the children are taking in the situation.

## The Shoe that Fitted.

The minister hit 'em every time,  
And when he spoke of fashion,  
And riggin' out in bows and things,  
As woman's rulin' passion,  
And comin' to church to see the styles,  
I couldn't help a winkin'  
And nudgin' my wife, and says I, "That's you.  
And I guess it sot her to thinkin'.

Just then the minister says, says he,  
"And now I've come to the fellers,  
Who've lost this shower by usin' their friends  
As a sort o' moral umbrellas,  
Go home," says he, "and find your faults  
Instead of huntin' your brother's;  
Go home," says he, "and wear the coats  
You tried to fit for others."

My wife she nudged, and Brown he winked,  
And there was lots o' smilin',  
And lots o' lookin' at our pew,

It sot my blood a bilin',  
Says I to myself, our minister  
Is gettin' a little bitter;  
I'll tell him, when meetin's out, that I  
Ain't at all that kind of a critter."

## Humorous.

OUTRAGE BY A POLICEMAN.—Sam Johnson was up again yesterday. "What brings you here this time?" asked the Recorder. "De pliceman, sah; de same what brung me heah last time." "I mean what did you do?" "I was jess passin' a grocery store, when I struck my head agin a ham what was hangin' by de dore. I tuck the ham down to put it somewhares whar it would be safe from folks bustin' their brains out agin it, when de fust I knewed a pliceman tried to get de ham away from me, and bekase I wouldn't let de ham go, he jess brung me along, too."

A devout Methodist asked Wesley what he thought as to his marrying a certain woman well known to both. "Why," said the other, "she is a member of your church, isn't she?" "Yes," was the reply. "And you think she is truly a Christian woman?" "Yes," said Wesley, "I believe she is." "Well, then, why not marry her?" "Because, my friend, the Lord can live with a great many people that you and I can't."

ENTERTAINMENT IN IRELAND.—Biddy O'Flannigan: "Shure now, Mrs. Driscoll, lave your washin' an' come out. Mr. Maguire, the landlord, has passed, rinnin' away, bedad; Pat, his tinant, has passed, rinnin' after him, goin' to cut his thirty throat; the ba'lifts hvae passed, rinnin' afther Pat for the rent, wid revolvers in their hands; the 'Skull Threshers' have passed, rinnin' after the bailiffs to corpse 'em; an' all the darlint boys an' girls are rinnin' after the lot jist to see the fun, be jabers."—[Fun.

The use of baby-carriages is deprecated by Dr. Henry H. Smith, of Philadelphia. He says that a child who is carried in arms is being constantly trained in balancing its head and shoulders, and that such infants are sooner able to sit alone and creep or walk more vigorously than those who in the continued supine posture of the baby-carriage fail to receive their muscular exercise. There is also increased appetite, with improved digestion and nutrition. One of the evils liable to ensue from the constant use of the baby-carriage is the jarring and concussion of the delicate brain and spinal cord of the infant created by bouncing the carriage over gutters or up and down the curb-stones. This evil, Dr. Smith contends, is quite as serious to the infant as the concussion of the spine, the result of railroad travel, is to the full-grown man, the nervous system of the child being easily impressed by jars.