

again. But how is that to be done?"

"Go and ask him for it when he is alone," said the counsel.

"Why, sir, asking won't do, I am afraid, without my witness, at any rate."

"Never mind; take my advice," said his counsel; "do as I bid you and return to me."

The farmer returned with his hundred pounds, very glad to find that once more safe in his possession.

"Now, sir, I must be content; but I don't see that I am much better off."

"Well, then," said the counsel, "now take your friend along with you and ask the landlord for the hundred pounds your friend saw you leave with him."

We need not add that the wily landlord found that he had been taken off his guard, while his honest friend returned to thank his counsel exultingly, with both hundreds in his pocket.

A Royal Joke.

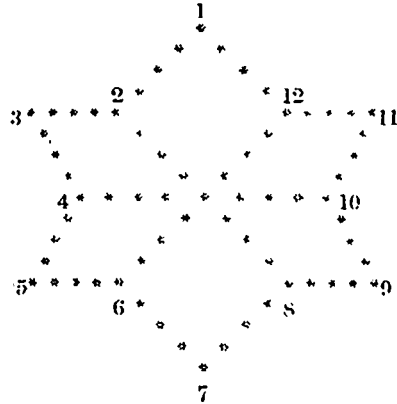
One does not think of Frederick the Great primarily as a joker. His life was anything but humorous, and was the cause of more tears than smiles. But Frederick loved a joke, especially if there was spice of maliciousness in it. His whole intercourse with Voltaire was a great comedy—a burlesque of friendship and literary patronage. On one occasion Voltaire requested the privilege of reading a new poem to him. Frederick was delighted, and named an hour when he would graciously listen to the latest production of the great French genius. At the appointed time Voltaire appeared, manuscript in hand, and read the poem. The king had meantime secreted behind a screen in the same room a man of a wonderful memory, who had the gift of repeating any composition, however lengthy, to which he had once listened. When Voltaire had concluded his recital, Frederick expressed great admiration, but declared he had heard the poem before. The poet was indignant, repelling the charge of plagiarism with great warmth. The king, however, insisted that the poem was by no means of recent origin, and said there was a man in his court who could repeat it from beginning to end. He sent for the man who had been concealed behind the screen, and who had listened to the reading, and requested him to repeat a certain poem, quoting the first lines. The man instantly, and to the great astonishment of Voltaire, repeated the poem word for word. The indignation of the poet, when he discovered the trick, may be more easily imagined than described.

Children's Department.

Having several hundred letters on our table from our young friends, we are unable to examine them in time to make our awards of prizes in this number. Nor have we space to insert any of the very excellent letters we have received. We hope they will pardon us, but perhaps it is as well, for doubtless every one who wrote to us is expecting to see his or her letter in the COMPANION. Of course that could not be done, and the disappointment to those whose letters are as well written as they could perhaps make them, but not so creditable as those of some who have had more practice or experience, will not be so great when they find that none are more fortunate than themselves.

We present this month a new puzzle, which we think will prove very interesting. Solutions must be received before May 20th, and all who send replies will be allowed to compete for the prizes which we will offer in our next number. Our next prizes will be offered for the solution of puzzles that will be given in the April, May, June and July numbers, and will be distributed on a plan that has never before been adopted in Canada. Look out for our next number, and do not forget to ask all your young friends to get their papa or mamma to subscribe for the COMPANION and TEACHER.

Canada Star Puzzle.



1 to 2 signifies a military instrument of music ; 2 to 3, very desirous ; 3 to 4, remains ; 4 to 5, to seize ; 5 to 6, to lift ; 6 to 7, a decree ; 7 to 8, conveyed ; 8 to 9, not at any time ; 9 to 10, a bird of prey ; 10 to 11, to whinny ; 11 to 12, a harbour ; 12 to 1, a prince in India ; 2 to 8, instruction ; 4 to 10, a popular magazine ; and 6 to 12, rivalry.

Publishers' Department.

IT TOO LATE AGAIN.—Just as we close our forms for the press this month, several pieces of music have come to hand. We are sorry we cannot use any, but we will probably give in our next number a double piece, the "Students' Reunion."

DON'T FORGET IT.—A liberal support and a reasonable addition to our subscription list will enable us to complete arrangements for further improvements with the opening of our next volume. We have guaranteed to enlarge our magazine in November if our friends will during the coming six months double our subscription list, which now numbers about 1,500 subscribers. This is not an impossibility, for if only one-half of the teachers in Ontario, numbering over 6,000 were enlisted, the work would be done. We have, however, already a very respectable list of subscribers from the other Provinces and the United States, and are continually adding to our lists from these places. Our neighbors across the line are much interested in our system of education, and look to the COMPANION AND TEACHER for particulars thereof ; and in view of this it should be our endeavor to make our magazine as presentable and interesting as possible, and to vie with them in the support of our educational journals. At our present rate of subscription we cannot afford to place canvassers