

TO SABINA.

WHAT'S THAT TO THEE?

If thou dost hear the slanderer tell
A tale to injure some one dear,
How the friend from her station fell,
Without one word to soothe or cheer:
But doth deem her act as base,
How she had swerved from honor's track,
Casting a shadow o'er her face,
Telling strange things behind her back:—
Heed not such tale, what's'er it be!—
What's that to thee?

II.

If thou canst soothe thy sister's care,
To help her on life's weary way,
Aiding her, some small grief to bear,
And peaceful rest a single day:—
Oh! such a holy deed shall fill
A chapter in thy book of life,
Stealing like tear the heavens distill,
To calm an hour of mortal strife.
Let such kind actions ever be
A joy to thee!

III.

If thou canst raise another's mind,
From things below to skies above,
And with staid counsel, soft and kind,
Bring back a wanderer that my love:
Who may have left a Christian's path,
For crooked roads that lead astray:—
It thou canst raise her heart of faith,
And guide her in the holy way:—
For such an act, what's'er it be,
God smiles on thee!

IV.

Heed not the voice of envy keen,
Nor treacherous smile that malice bears,
Strive thy friend's harmless acts to screen,
From venom and sarcastic sneers.
For any one may do a deed
That has no ill intent at all:—
Yet, for a trivial act may bleed,
That once she did, nor can recall:
To save thy friend from slander's clutch,
It matters much.

V.

For should thy sister pass away,
And sink within the silent tomb,
Without a hope, without a ray,
To lighten up her dismal doom:—
Wouldst thou not often think and pause
As thou might'st pass her place of rest:—
"Better I had espoused her cause,
And eased her bosom, sore distressed."
If thou hast soothed her in her need,
To thee, God speed.

VI.

The longest life must run its race;
Thy soul must know its final doom.
When God thou meetest, face to face,
In solemn hours beyond the tomb:
Then wilt thou meekly raise thine eye,
And hear Him say: "My child well done:—
Thou hast eased thy erring sister's sigh,
Following the footsteps of My Son.
Get thee to thy eternal rest,
On Jesus' breast."

Lucknow.

GARNIER.

SECOND SIGHT.

ROBERT HELLER'S DARK SECRETS MADE LIGHT—
FRED. HUNT, JR., HIS ASSISTANT FOR
YEARS, TELLS THE WHOLE STORY—ALL THE
CODES AND SIGNALS—HELLER'S ALPHABET,
TABLES OF QUESTIONS, AND HIS PHONETIC
SYSTEM.

Robert Heller, or rather Robert Palmer, for the latter was the name under which he graduated at the King's College, London, got his idea of second sight after witnessing a performance of the celebrated Houdin in England. The great French prestidigitateur never imparted the secret to any save his son, who was his conjurator, but Heller, after witnessing the exhibition, discarded the then prevalent notion of animal magnetism, and at once concluded that the identification of the article by the blindfolded boy depended upon an alphabetical arrangement by which the question was propounded.

After much study he succeeded in perfecting a system which, though differing in detail from that of the Frenchman, was theoretically the same, and he forthwith sought an apt pupil to assist him in presenting the mystery to the public. This, he it remembered, was not easy, for the interrogated party had a much more difficult task in the solution of the alphabetically put question than he had in propounding it, so that upon an average not one in a hundred was successful in sufficiently perfecting himself to appear in public.

Heller's second sight was, in fact, a much more complicated affair than that of Houdin's. It was considerably enlarged, and comprehended at least double the number of questions and answers, embracing in its range almost every conceivable article which could be presented by an audience. Mr. Fred. Hunt, Jr., Heller's assistant for many years, gives the following full and interesting statement:

I was twelve years of age when I became Heller's pupil, and intricate and perplexing as it may appear to those who examine the subjoined table, I succeeded in six weeks in so comprehending it that, at the expiration of that time, we gave an exhibition, when I underwent a severe test without a blunder. Heller had so simplified the system as to embrace every variety of article classified in sets, as will be shown in the accompanying table—one question, with a word or two added, sufficing to elicit a correct answer for ten different articles.

The student must be first posted in a new alphabetical arrangement, with which he must

familiarize himself as thoroughly as a boy in learning his primer. This is the most difficult part of the business, but when mastered thoroughly it comes as easy as if the question were plainly propounded.

FOR EXAMPLE,

you want the initials or name in a ring. Say it is Anna. By the alphabetical arrangement (see the appendix below) H stands for A, D for N. The exclamation "Hurry up" always means a repetition of the last letter, and again H will give the answer when put as follows:

"Here is a name."
"Do you see it?"
"Hurry up."
"Have you got it?"

Attention is only paid to the first letter of every sentence, and it will be perceived that the name of Anna is spelled.

Again, take Gazette, which is abbreviated in a phonographic manner in order to simplify the question. G is A, A is H, Z is hurry (not hurry up), E is F, T is P. The question would be:

"Are you able to tell the name?"
"Here it is."
"Hurry."
"Find the name."
"Please be quick."

Here you have GAZET in short meter. The letters K, U, X and Z being difficult wherewith to commence an interrogative sentence, the words "pray," "look," "see this" and "hurry" are used, as will be seen in the table. Care must be taken not to commence a sentence with either of these words unless applicable to the word to be spelled. For instance, if Xenia is required, X is "see this," E is F, N is D, I is B and A is H. Thus the question:

"See this!"
"Find it quick."
"Do hurry."
"Be quick."
"How is it spelt?"

Again, for the initials U.S., you will say:

"Look."
"Now, then."
"U. is look and S. is N."

If you want Kentucky named thus, the question:

"Pray name the State."
"Quick."

"Pray" is K, and Q. is Y. After the alphabet, we have the numbers, which, it will be seen, are easily understood after a little practice.

For No. 1.—The words used are say or speak.
For No. 2.—Be, Look or Let.
For No. 3.—Can or Can't.
For No. 4.—Do or Don't.
For No. 5.—Will or Won't.
For No. 6.—What.
For No. 7.—Please or Pray.
For No. 8.—Are or Ain't.
For No. 9.—Now.
For No. 10.—Tell.
For No. 0.—Hurry or Come.

"Well" means to repeat the last figure. Example: The number 1,234 is required; attention must only be paid to the first words of a sentence, thus:

"Say the number."
"Look at it."
"Can you see it?"
"Do you know?"

Or say the number is 100:

"Tell me the number."
"Hurry."

A rather difficult number would be 1,111. The question would be put in this wise:

"Say the number."
"Well."
"Speak out."
"Say what it is."

On a watch or a greenback there are sometimes eight or nine numbers, which can be followed as easily as the above. There are eight colours which will comprise the list as they are set forth in the table, and the solution of the numbers, as I have explained, will furnish the key; for example, the article presented is green, the question will be:

"What is the colour?"
—green being the sixth colour in the list. Blue is wanted, and as it stands third in the list, the word would be,

"Can you tell the colour?"

White is wanted, and as it stands first in the list, the question is,

"Say the colour."

Understand that the words explaining the numbers, as given in the list, are applied to the articles enumerated in each of the subjoined tables. Take the metals, for instance. The metal presented is copper, which is fourth in the list. The question would be:

"Do you know the metal?" Or steel, which is ninth in the list.

"Now, what is the metal?"

ARTICLES IN SETS.

It will be seen that the different articles are arranged in sets, numbering no more than ten. Each set has at the head a different question, worded very nearly alike, so as to make the audience believe that the same question is being constantly asked. The question at the head of the set, which is always asked first, is the clew to the set which contains the article to be described. Each set is numbered, as in the cases of the colours and metals, and the word conveys each particular article.

For the first set the question is:

"What article is this?"

This gives the clew to ten distinct articles. The next demand may be:

"Can you tell?"

—which would be the solution for "bag," it being the third in the list.

"Say the fabric,"

—the reply would be silk, that being the first in the line of fabrics, and as I have before stated, "say" representing No. 1. If a leather bag, it would be,

"Will you tell the fabric?"

"Will" standing for No. 5. A handkerchief is presented, and the question is, "What article is this?" Say, which explains that it is a handkerchief, as that is the first article in the list. "Can you tell the fabric?" "Cotton," cotton standing third in the list of fabrics. Then, again, if you want the colour, say it is blue. "Can't you tell the colour?" "Blue," which stands third on the list of colours. A watch embodies a greater number of questions than almost any other article, if you want to describe it fully. It is first in the second set, the key of which is—

"What is this?"

We will say that it is a lady's gold watch, double case, three hands, made by Tobias, No. 9,725, the initials from B. C. to C. H. engraved on the case, the year 1860, and blue enameled, set with five diamonds. This is a complex question, and must be put and answered as follows:

Question. "What is this, say?"

Answer. "A watch."

Q. "Say the metal?"

A. "Gold."

Q. "Say to whom it belongs?"

A. "A lady."

Q. "Yes?"

A. "A double case."

Q. "Can you tell the number of hands?"

A. "Three."

Q. "Will you tell the maker?"

A. "Tobias."

Q. "Now, the number?"

"Please tell me!"

"Be quick!"

"Won't you?"

A. "9,725."

Q. "Can you tell me the colour of this enamel?"

A. "Blue."

Q. "Tell the initials?"

"Say!"

A. "B. C."

Q. "Say to whom?"

"I want to know?"

A. "C. H."

Q. "Say these stones?"

A. "Diamonds."

Q. "Will you tell how many?"

A. "Five."

If it is a double case, the simple word "yes" conveys the intelligence, after to "whom it belongs." If an open case, the word "well" is used.

PLAYING CARDS.

These will be found in the sixteenth set, and the order of suits in the eighteenth. We will take the nine of spades as having been presented. The question will be:

"Say, what is this?"

"Can you tell?"

"A playing card."

"Do you know the suit?"

"Now then."

"De," is four, which means spades, and "now" is nine. The cards are told as follows: First the "playing card," second the suit, third the number or picture. If, after the preliminary question is put and answered, it is an ace, the interlocutor says "right?" if a king, "that's right?" if a queen, "good;" if a jack, "very good."

MONEY.

This will be found classed in the eighth set, the key to which is "Look at this."

No. 6 of the set is described as a "piece of money," and is always of a less value than a dollar. We will take a silver quarter of the date of 1820. The question is:

"Look at this."

"What is it?"

Ans. "A piece of money."

Ques. "Let me know the amount?"

"Will you?"

Ans. "25 cents."

As we know that "Let" is 2 and "Will" 5. If the coin is of this century, only the last two figures are asked; if of a prior date, the three last. The question therefore is:

"Look at the date."

"Hurry."

Which would bring the answer 1820. A foreign coin is furnished, say of Rome. The question would be, "Look at this; do you know what it is?"

The answer is, "A coin." "What country?" "Italy," as Italy stands six in the list of countries, as will be seen by referring to the table. A Mexican dollar will elicit the question, "Look at this, now." "A silver dollar." "Tell me the country." The reply will be Mexico, as that country stands tenth on the list.

A Treasury note is presented of the value of \$50, the question is, "Look at this, be quick." Answer, "A Treasury note." "Will you tell me the amount; come," which means 5 and 0, or \$50—come being a substitute for "hurry." Again, a \$2.50 gold piece is presented and the question is as before, "Look at this, will you?" Answer, "A gold piece." "Let me know the amount, won't you; come?"—let, won't and come standing for 250.

OTHER EXAMPLES.

"Pray, what is this?" "Tell me." The answer is a "key," key being the tenth article of

the set. Now, in order to tell what kind of a key these simple words will explain:

"Yes"—a watch key.

"Well"—a door key.

"Good"—a safe key.

"What is here?" "Say?" The answer is a "pipe." Now to answer what kind of a pipe as above, the words:

"Yes"—a meerschaum pipe.

"Well"—a wooden pipe.

"Good"—a clay pipe.

"Can you see this? Please say?" Answer is a "comb."

"Yes"—a pocket comb.

"Well"—a toilet comb.

"Good"—A currycomb. "Can you see this?"

"Are you going to tell?" The answer is "brush."

"Yes"—hair-brush.

"Well"—clothes-brush.

"Good"—paint-brush.

If an article is presented which is not down in the sets, the alphabet will have to be resorted to and the article spelled out.

HOW IT WAS DONE WITHOUT ASKING QUESTIONS.

As soon as my back was turned to the audience and a large silk handkerchief thrown over my head, the stool on which I was seated, containing a hollow leg, was placed directly over a hole in the stage. A rubber pipe was passed up which connected with a tin tube running underneath the stage to the back of the curtain. The assistant saw through a hole in the curtains all articles which were held up, and conveyed the intelligence to me through the pipe. None but large articles, such as hats, umbrellas, sticks, etc., were taken, and as this part always closed the second-sight part of the performance, it was clear to the minds of all that it wasn't done by questions, and this concludes the second-sight mystery which so perplexed the world, and which I never would have exposed but for the death of my lamented friend, Robert Heller.

THE APPENDIX AND KEYS.

ALPHABET.

A is H	J is L	S is N
B is T	K is Pray	T is P
C is S	L is C	U is Look
D is G	M is O	V is Y
E is F	N is D	W is R
F is E	O is V	X is see this
G is A	P is J	Y is Q
H is I	Q is W	Z is Hurry
I is B	R is M	

Hurry up—Repeat last letter.

NUMBERS.

1 is Say or Speak	7 is Please or Pray
2 is Be, Look or Let	8 is Are or Ain't
3 is Can or Can't	9 is Now
4 is Do or Don't	10 is Tell
5 is Will or Won't	10 is Hurry or Come
6 is What	

"Well" is to repeat the last figure.

COLOURS.

1—Is white.	5—Is red.
2—Is black.	6—Is green.
3—Is blue.	7—Is yellow.
4—Is brown.	8—Is gray.

THE METALS.

1—Gold.	6—Iron.
2—Silver.	7—Tin.
3—Brass.	8—Platina.
4—Copper.	9—Steel.
5—Lead.	

THE SETTING.

1—Diamond.	6—Garnet.
2—Ruby.	7—Emerald.
3—Pearl.	8—Turquoise.
4—Amethyst.	9—Carbuncle.
5—Onyx.	10—Topaz.

The Stone—Opal.

The Stone—Quartz.

OF WHAT.

(This set to describe the sex, etc., of the pictures.)

1—Lady.	6—Group.
2—Gentleman.	7—Animal.
3—Boy.	8—Drawing.
4—Girl.	9—Sketch.
5—Child.	

COUNTRIES.

1—America.	6—Italy.
2—England.	7—Spain.
3—France.	8—Canada.
4—Germany.	9—Foreign.
5—Russia.	10—Mexico.

THE MATERIAL.

1—Wood.	6—Rubber.
2—Stone.	7—Glass.
3—Marble.	8—Bone.
4—Bronze.	9—Ivory.
5—Lava.	10—China.

THE FABRIC.

1—Silk.	5—Leather.
2—Wool.	6—Kid.
3—Cotton.	7—Buckskin.
4—Linen.	8—Lace.

WATCHES.

The makers' name!
Or what company's make!

(This is to tell the makers' name of watches.)

1—American Watch Co.	6—Johnson.
2—Waltham Watch Co.	7—Swiss.
3—Elgin Watch Co.	8—
4—Duerer Watch Co.	9—
5—Tobias.	10—