

honest on our part to do it. So he must do the best he can, and we hope he may get one of the prizes. In our first puzzle in the January number our printer made a mistake in leaving out part of the explanation of the second diamond, which should read, "4, What we breathe. 5, A beverage." Some have supplied the deficiency all right, but to give all a chance we extend our time for receiving answers to January puzzles from February 15th to February 23th. Now send them in correct. We hope all our young friends will be particular, and write their letters to us just as well as they can. If you get into a careless way of writing you will always stick to it. If we find you are not very careful about this we will discontinue this department, for we cannot benefit you unless you try to do as well as you can. Some of the letters we receive are very neat and pretty, but others are very poorly written; and when we say *poorly*, we mean just this, that the writer could have done better if he had tried. Some of our letters are not very nicely done, it is true, but when we take into consideration the age of the writers, some of whom are only 8, they are very handsomely done, we consider. Please remember the above when you write again. We have received letters from three girls who evidently attend the same school, or are neighbors, as their answers are precisely the same. We know they compared notes in some way before they sent us their answers, from the fact that they name the same counties in reply to No. 4, and each one names only *three*. We want every boy or girl who competes to rely upon himself and not copy or ask assistance from others. A common feeling among children is to wish that others can do no better than themselves if they cannot solve all the problems that are given when prizes are to be competed for. One of our young friends is an exception to this rule. She is anxious to get a prize, but adds, "I cannot solve No. —, but I hope some one else may have it." That is what we call *healthy rivalry*, which should always exist among school children. Freddie Bell, Oxley, sends a solution of one of the High School examination questions, and signs himself "a faithful supporter of the COMPANION." John Kimmesley, (10) Napanee, says, "I cannot write very well, but I have a good head and can find the answers to puzzles as well as anybody." And so he does. Bella Hammond, (8) Askin, writes, "I have been trying to find out some of your puzzles, and I think I have found out two, but I don't know whether they are right or wrong. I could not make out the others I am going to school, and am in the Second book. I like my teacher, and have to write down my words and meanings every night." This letter is very nicely written.

Malvina Lamb (13), Avonton, writes:—"The old year has passed away with all its joys and sorrows and is gone forever. With mingled feelings we look back upon the changes which have been wrought. Prizes have been won and difficult tasks have been overcome at school, and happy days have been spent at home in the company of those we love. But the year has not been all joy, for while in some homes the circle is complete, in others the chain is broken, and many are mourning the loss of loved ones who will never return. These thoughts should lead us to improve the time while it is ours." We like this letter because it is the only one we have received that has not something nice to say about our magazine, and we have

had so much of that lately that we are anxious to receive something original. The following is from Hannah Facey (15), New Hamburg:—"My teacher often gives us questions to work out of your magazine, and although they are difficult, still we like them. He also lets me read the stories you print, and this is how I saw your puzzles. I will try them every month now and write to you." B. F. Beam, Stevensville, talks so flatteringly of his teacher that we refrain from publishing his letter. His teacher, like all good teachers, is a subscriber of the COMPANION AND TEACHER, and we desire to save his blushes. B. F. thinks "review day, Monday, is the best and jolliest day of the week," and we have no doubt it is from the interest he seems to take in his lessons. The last letter we can give this month is from W. A. Cameron (10), Williamstown, and is, in part, as follows:—"I notice that you have adopted a good plan to secure the interest and the improvement of your young readers, by giving puzzles and offering prizes for correct solutions and well composed letters. My writing is not first-class, but I am only ten years old, and spend much time in getting up my other studies. I am fit to enter the High School in almost all the subjects, but Papa will not allow me to enter yet, so I have begun Latin, and like it very well, as I do also Arithmetic, Algebra and Geometry. I am in Stocks—will soon be in Equations, and am half way through the first book of Euclid. I like solving puzzles, and if I succeed without assistance from others, I will often send you my answers, and will be pleased if my solutions will be found correct."

Our Nut Corner.

GEOGRAPHICAL PUZZLE.

(7) There are three European countries which express:—

1st, How Robert felt after he had been out playing;

2nd, What he took to allay that feeling, and

3rd, What he spilt upon his jacket in so doing.

(8) NUMERICAL PUZZLE.

My whole is the name of a bird.
Without my 2, 5, 6, 7, I am a part of the face.

" " 1, 4, 5, 7, I am a liquor.

" " 2, 3, 4, 7, I am a covering for the head.

" " 2, 3, 4, 5, I am a short sleep.

" " 2, 3, 6, I am an article for the toilet.

" " 1, 5, 6, 7, I am a falsehood.

" " 3, 4, 5, 6, I am an enclosure.

" " 2, 3, 4, 5, I am a shallow vessel.

" " 3, 4, 5, 7, I am an animal.

" " 1, 3, 6, 7, I am frozen water.

(9) A PROBLEM.

A gentleman had three daughters, and in order to raise marriage portions for them, he laid aside at the birth of each child the sum of £5, and the same amount on every subsequent birthday as long as they remained under his roof. The portion of the eldest daughter, Mary, who married when 18, amounted to £95; the second, Elizabeth, who married at 21, to £105; while the youngest, Eliza, who remained a maiden until she had nearly reached her 25th year, only brought her husband £35, and yet had received all she was entitled to, and not spent one penny of it. How is this to be accounted for?