

Uncle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES,—There is no need, I am sure, of telling you that scarcely a month remains to prepare for Christmas—that season of rejoicing. From this time till the morning of that "blessed day" many of you, no doubt, will be devising and making your gifts for loved ones. What real and true pleasure it affords one to give little presents, even if ever so small; it is not the value of the articles given which is treasured, but the kindness in the act.

How happy are those little children whose parents remember them at that season with some little donation. It is an old custom, which has undoubtedly given a great source of pleasure, and one, we hope, that will always prevail and creep into each parental heart. We remember, when a child, the anticipation of Christmas was quite exciting. We used to get the longest and largest sock in our possession, and suspend very securely in the most conspicuous place for the good old

PUZZLES.

148—CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.

My first is in street, but not in lane,
My second is in wild, but not in tame;
My third is in iron, but not in gold,
My fourth is in hot, but not in cold;
My fifth is in zebra, but not in bear,
My sixth is in nest, but not in lair;
My seventh is in merry, but not in gay,
My eighth is in tell, but not in say;
My ninth is in acre, but not in rod,
My tenth is in strange, but not in odd;
My eleventh is in David, but not in Amos.
My whole is the name of a county.

G. H. MATTHEWS.

149—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 11 letters:
My 5, 10, 6, 8 is a noisy crowd.
My 7, 10, 4 is a small house.
My 7, 1, 8, 5, 10, 2 is a fruit.
My 3, 6, 9, 4 is to please.
My 11, 1, 8 produces an insect.
My whole should be taken from the occurrences of every-day life, and the more of it a farmer has the more successful he will be.

J. M. JACKSON.

Listen, dna isto, adn lows,
Eeddsne eth wosn.

Y^B FOOLLWENG.

Denur Tonum Anet eh slei—
Ti si bumsre, ti si ont hated,
Rof eh ssggurelet ta mites ot slare,
Dan vobea mih eth urdil ekiss
Ear tho hiwt sih yerif hetarb.

WOONEFLGILL.

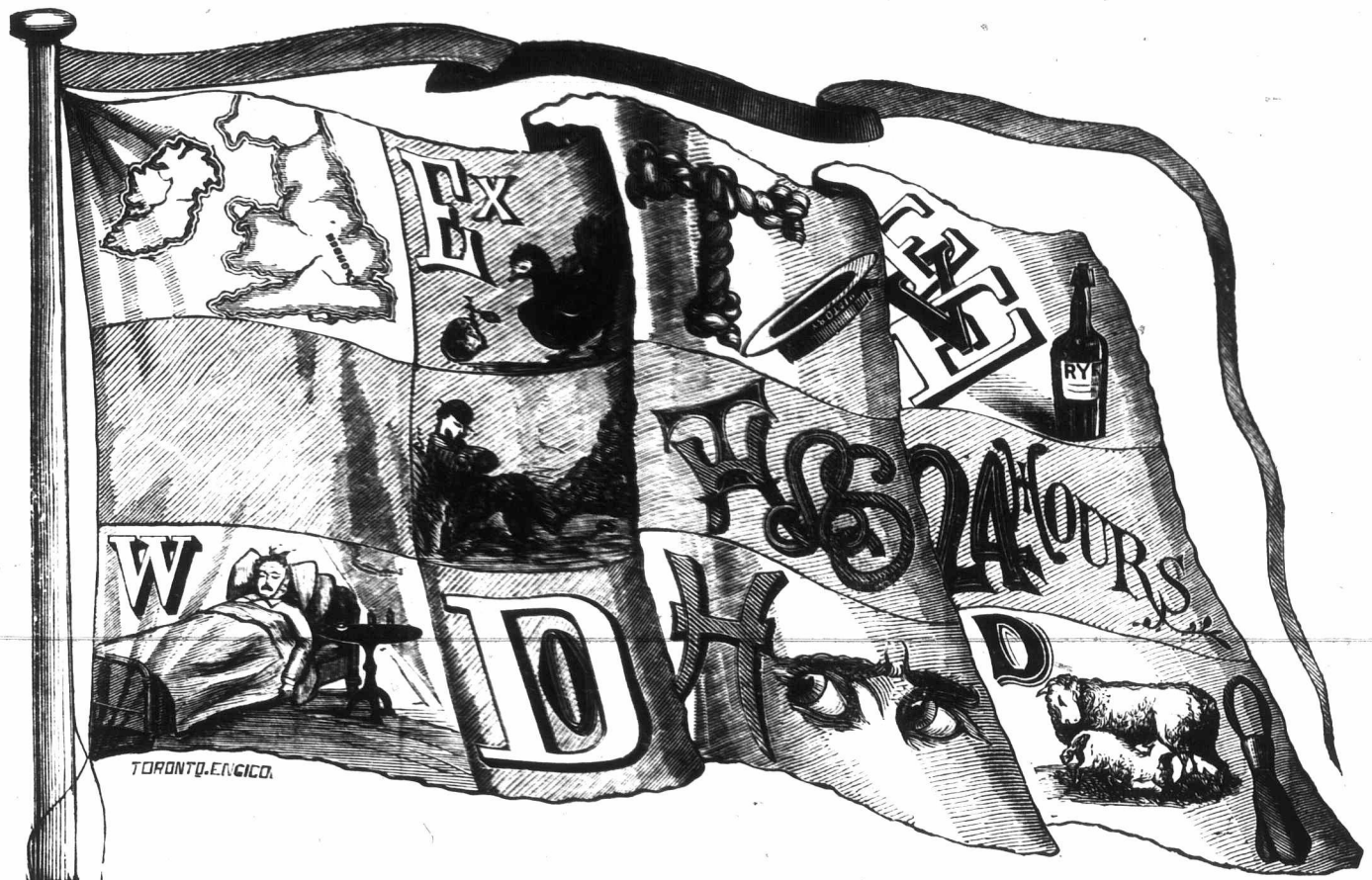
153—ENIGMA.

I am welcome to all from cottage to throne,
There's scarce a condition where I am unknown;
I strive to do good, and I scarce can do harm,
Even music without me must give up a charm.
I'm the joy of the weary, the hope of the sick,
And fain would I visit where sorrows are thick;
I'm a friend to the peaceful, a foe to all strife,
My presence is needful to keep you in life.
By chance you may find me as far off you roam,
But I ever am purest and sweetest at home.
When life is all over, and troubles all past,
May I be your portion for ever to last.

NERO.

154—PUZZLE.

Take half of a bird, two-thirds of a cat, three-quarters of a lion, half of a bear, and quarter of a yard, and make a book.



Santa Claus to fill; and daybreak would scarcely appear when we would so happily search for the contents. Strange to say, Santa Claus never forgot us, no matter how very cold and stormy the night might be; likewise, my dear nephews, and nieces, may he visit each one of you this Xmas and each succeeding one.

And now, my dears, keep your eyes wide open and senses alert to enjoy the coming delights of the season, hoping all those who attend school will pass successful examinations, and will return to their duties, after the expiration of holiday time, with cheerful spirits and renewed energy, to begin the new year.

And now I must thank you all for the lively and constant interest you have taken in our department. We especially thank those who have favored us with so many good puzzles, and for the particularly pleasant and complimenting letters. Hoping to make our column more interesting in the ensuing year, with your acceptable assistance, we now heartily wish you all a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

UNCLE TOM.

150—ILLUSTRATED REBUS.

A glorious motto that every man, woman, and child in Canada should know and act upon. The most exalted stations of honor, the largest fortunes and the greatest happiness depend on it. We might give a handsome picture to every one of our subscribers, of 16 years of age or upwards, who will find out the answer and write us conscientiously that they have done it this day. They must not exceed it. Answers to be in this office by December 15th.

151—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 11 letters:
My 5, 6, 9, 8, 9, 10, 11 is an island in Europe.
My 9, 1, 3, 9 is a name of a continent.
My 11, 6, 8, 9, 2, 9, 7, 6 is one of the Northern States.
My 2, 6, 10, 6, 7 is a lake in Europe.
My 8, 6, 10, 9 is a river in Asia.
My 1, 3, 11, 7, 9 is a gulf in Africa.
My 4, 7, 6, 10, 4 is a river in Ontario.
My 6, 7, 3, 6 is a lake in Ontario.
My whole is one of the political divisions of Europe.

JENNIE BELL.

152—ANAGRAMS, 1.

Tou fo eth sobom of het Ria,
Uot fo teh ducol-dosli fo the mnargets haknes,
Roer het oodwssal wnrob nad abre,
Evro eth vssreht-deliis kasfrone,

155—ENIGMATICAL BOUQUET.

1—A perennial and a wine. 2—A metal cane or stick. 3—A boy's name and something connected with most birds. 4—The fountain of contentment. 5—The head, covering of a certain man. 6—Two things often seen on the breakfast table.

NINA JUDSON.

156—CONCEALED PROVERB.

That is a long time ago, O Dan. Villains do especially congregate in that den; I saw a knot of them come to grief early this morning. Their respectable appearance is all a sham, mere humbug.

157—PI.

A tonforape krame yass hatt folaldurtufaceman nights sopire brea het stoblen tharcrace inces heyt reacldidesasi sa begin drang ripling dan quears.

158—PUZZLE.

No vegetable mineral or animal am I,
I'm neither male nor female, but between the two;
I'm grown, strange to say, from two to six feet high,
Am named in the Old Testament, commanded in the New.