

Uncle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS, — Stealing from sleep is the subject I want to discourse with you upon this month. I know some of you are in the habit of stealing precious hours which ought to be given to sleep, for a dozen other purposes, which are perhaps proper in themselves but most injurious in the manner you take them. You wish to finish a piece of fancy-work, so when all the household are asleep you are toiling in your own room over your midnight lamp; if you have a long story to finish you cannot bear to lay it down until your heroine is out of her present difficulties. Evening gatherings get fashionable at times, and are kept up continually until a late hour, to the sad loss of sleep to all who attend them. Now, dear nieces, early lay down the principle that sixteen hours out of the twenty-four is all you can safely devote to every-day pursuits and recreations. Any time stolen from the remaining hours must in time be paid for at terrible rates of interest. You must pay for it in the loss of that freshness and bloom so natural to youth, and in its place is a faded, haggard look. Let a person attempt mental labor who loses much sleep, and—to use the words of another—"his intellect will seem to have mittens on." Do not fancy that it does not hurt you as you are used to it. The effects may not be apparent for a little while, but Nature will exact pay in the long-run. We do not believe in the old nonsense, which no doubt you have all heard quoted, that five hours' sleep is sufficient for a man, six for a woman and seven for a fool.—Much depends on one's temperament and strength; but let all young people take all the sleep they require—and beware of the dangerous habit of stealing from sleep.

UNCLE TOM.

PUZZLES.

17.—MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I am composed of twenty-two letters:
My 13, 2, 18, 6, 5 is an article of clothing.
My 16, 1, 20, 15, 10, 19, 12 is a week.
My 11, 18, 3, 4, 7 is what most people like.
My 10, 22, 17, 14 is of daily use.
My 9, 8, 21, 20, 19, 7 is an island.
My whole is an old but worthy adage.

18.—INCOMPLETE SENTENCES.

In each of the following sentences fill up the blanks with suitable words having the same sound, but spelled differently and having different meanings:

1. It is but—to pay your—to the conductor.
2. When the—was over, he did—to—to his father.
3. The—was—to do her work well.
4. The—that the—of South America are very tall.
5. The enraged farmer—his neighbor's cow for eating his—.
6. Don't—if the—should let you.
7. The—of a knave is not always as—as his character.
8. He—would—but is awed into sincerity before this sacred—.

JENNIE C.

19.—CROSS-WORD PUZZLE.

My first is in blossom, but not in fruit.
My next is in wardrobe, but not in suit.
My third is in larder, but not in food.
My fourth is in lovely, but not in good.
My fifth is in linger, but not in wait.
My sixth is in happy, but not in great.
My seventh is in ocean, but not in lake.
My eighth is in oven, but not in cake.
My ninth is in barter, but not in buy.
My tenth is in heaven, but not in sky.
The letters if placed aright will show
One of our measures, which perhaps you know.

20.—CHARADE.

When you come in from walking,
My first doth meet your view;
Mind, do not miss my second,
Whatever else you do;
For in this frosty weather
With care my second take,
As if you should stumble on my whole,
You might produce an ache.

21.—ANAGRAMS OF ANIMALS.

1, Gun; 2, fowl; 3, Basle; 4, a mall; 5, rag-bed; 6, no rag oak; 7, a tree-ant; 8, a chill-chin; 9, rest the hood lot; 10, A rich man repent.

22.—CAARADE

My first, a conjunction, is small, it is true;
My second's a weight, far more heavy than you;
A substance my third, largely makes up my whole,
Which has oft along rivers a very large bole.

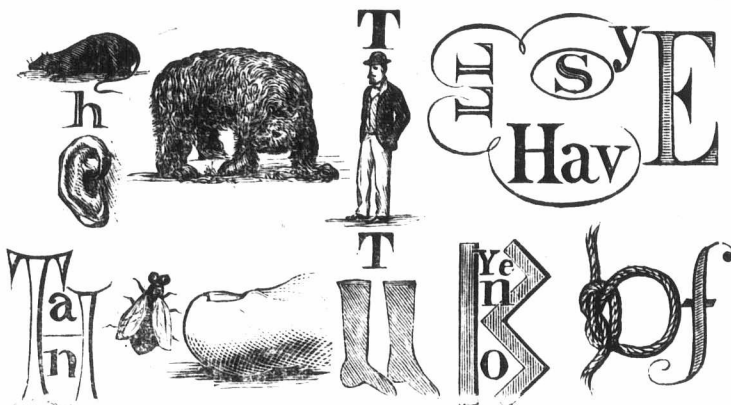
23.—EASY ZOOLOGICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of seven letters:
My 1, 2, 3, 4 is an animal found in cold climates.
My 4, 5, 6, 7 is an animal found in warm climates.

24.—DECAPITATION.

1. Behead a portion and leave an animal.
2. Behead an animal and leave part of the human frame.
3. Behead a part of the human frame and leave a fish.
4. Behead a fish and leave an animal.
5. Behead an animal and leave a grain.
6. Behead a grain and leave a luxury.
7. Complete, I go through many a board;
8. Behead—a weapon unlike a sword;
9. Behead once more, you'll plainly view
10. Nickname applied to many a Jew.

JAMES WEST.



25.—PICTORIAL REBUS (GOOD ADVICE).

26.—What author might with truth have said,
"Cut off my head—behold my bed?"

26.—EASY CLASSIFIED ACROSTIC.

My first is in deaf, but not in hear;
My second is in doe and also in deer;
My third is in May, but not in June;
My fourth is in song, but not in tune;
My fifth is in house and also in shed;
My sixth is in cot, but not in bed;
My seventh is in chair, but not in stool;
My eighth is in lake, but not in pool;
My ninth is in pencil and also in ink;
My tenth is in blue, but not in pink;
My eleventh is in dish, but not in pan;
My whole was a Greek and a well-spoken man.

Answers to January Puzzles.

- 1.—Derby.
- 2.—1 Crabbed; 2 Duckling; 3 Redstart.
- 3.—Hard, aloe, nose, deed, dish, into, star, horn.
- 4.—Charles Dickens.
- 5.—1 I pass no, passion; 2 glare, large; 3 let this, thistle; 4 united, untied; 5 one cadet, anecdote; 6 towels, lowest not impart, important; 7 lambs eringe, clamberings.
- 6.—Pembroke.
- 7.—A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Farmers' Advocate, 1878.

EARTH	BEARD	FEAST
ADORE	ERROR	ELDER
ROVER	ARISE	ADORE
TREAT	ROSES	SERVE
HEART	DRESS	TREES

9.—

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10.—

11.—Cat-a-mount.

12.—Band-box.

13.—Susan, Barbara, Maud, Ann, Ada, Mabel, Amy, Eva, Kate, Martha, Lydia, Emma, Ellen, Leah, Helen, Alice.

14.—Magpie.

15.—Dray, yard, mite, emit, part, trap, tang, gnat.

16.—Onion.

Names of Those Who Sent Correct Answers to January Puzzles.

Eliza Douglas, Wm J Drope, John Suvart, A F Grass, Emma M Grass, G Wade, Maria Briggs, Emma Knapp, Sarah A Leach, Maud Smith, James Graham, Lulu Roberts, Harry Bennet, William Carson, John McKenzie, Nellie Emerson, Bessie Harding, S Sutherland, George Davis, Bessie F Stevens, Mary Brady, G Davis, Thos Saunders, Ellen Smith, Jas Taylor, Georgina West, Emily Anderson, Thomas Frank, John Scott, Abraham Leslie, Herbert Jones, Henry Rowland, A Webb, Barbara Emery, J W Walker, Robt Wilson, A F Munn, Harry Hunter, Maria Haworth, Irene Ellison, J W S Richardson.

HUMOROUS.

In giving a concert programme, a New Orleans paper announced that "Farewell to the Forest" would be sung by a "mule quartet."

A Florida preacher closed an unsuccessful revival meeting recently with the remark: "I tell you, my hearers, it don't pay for the gas."

A man was boasting that he had an elevator in his house. "So he has," chinned in his wife, "and he keeps it in the cupboard in a bottle."

Junior clerk—"Would you kindly permit me to absent myself to-morrow to attend my father's funeral?" Head of the firm (deep in figures)—"You may, Hawkins, but pray—do not let this happen again!"

"Whiskey is your greatest enemy," said a minister to Deacon Jones. "But," said Jones, "don't the Bible say, Mr. Preacher, that we are to love our enemies?" "Oh yes, Deacon Jones, but it don't say we are to swallow them."

Little Laura was tired and sleepy on New Year's night when she prepared for bed, and forgot to say her "Now I lay me," and in apology to her mother for the neglect said, as she tucked away at her little stockings: "I couldn't go to heaven to-night, mamma, any way in the world, 'cos I'm too tired."

It was a rich old widow who wondered that the handsome young man had fallen in love with her. "Yes, it is wonderful," said Mr. Spruceup, "but I do love you to distraction. Why, I even love the ground you walk on." "I thought so, observed the widow, "but I am not in want of a landlord at present."

"Chickens allus come home to roost," is a mighty good proverb, but dat don't allus apply to dis part. Kase I'm been look all day, an' all I kin fin' ob mine dat didn't roos' home las' night was a few feeders in de cullud preacher's do' yard.

Lawyer—"How do you identify this handkerchief?" Witness—"By its general appearance, and the fact that I have others like it in my pocket." Lawyer—"I don't doubt it at all. I had more than one of the very same sort stolen."

A kicking cow, says Josh Billings, never lets drive until just as the pail is full, and seldom misses the mark; it is just so with some men's blunders.

A lady taking tea at a small company, being very fond of hot rolls, was asked to have another. "Really, I cannot," she modestly replied; "I don't know how many I have eaten already." "I do," unexpectedly cried a juvenile upstart, whose mother had allowed him a seat at table. "You've eaten eight; I've been countin'!"

The hardest man to convince is the one who agrees to everything you say.