

## Uncle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES.—Poets have a great deal to answer for and they should be careful what they say, for they have no idea what an influence they have. Now, I am told, that about one hundred and fifty years ago, one by the name of Thorsore, sang "Hail gentle spring! Ethereal mildness, Hail!" and made no end of trouble; of course, March being the first spring month, was the first to bear the comman, and so ever since she has been trying her best to hail. Failing in this, as she often does, her only resource is to blow, and blow she does with a will, and so it remains the breeziest, jolliest, freshest, liveliest, busiest month of all the twelve; and whether it comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb, or comes in like a lamb and goes out like a lion, its a good honest month, and I hope my children will work well through it, both at school and in making out the puzzles. I was well pleased with the good number of correct answers to February puzzles, also with the new puzzles sent in; the rebuses too are better, and this month Wm. Hull, of North Seneca, Ont., has won the prize.

UNCLE TOM.

## PUZZLES.

## No. 1.—ENIGMA.

My first is in Bob but not in Jim.  
My second is in ore but not in tin.  
My third is in stock but not in money.  
My fourth is in taffy but not in honey.  
My fifth is in loan but not in take.  
My sixth is in pond but not in lake.  
My whole is a city in the United States.

E. MCN.

## No. 2.—ANAGRAM.

Elt sw ehnt eb pu nad ginod  
Hiwt a rhtae ori nay tafe  
Lital veihinacg thlis reispupig  
Renal ot ubalor dan ot awti.

WILLIE ANDREWS.

## No. 3.—CHARADE.

Johnny was sick, and stayed at home  
From school one winter day;  
He watched his mother making my first,  
The cat and kittens at play;  
Or tired of this he turned his eye  
Upon his grandpa's crown,  
And wondered why it was my next,  
While his own hair was so brown.  
At last, he heard drums beat and shout,  
And from the window glanced,  
He saw a pony small—my whole,  
That to the music danced.

LIZZIE McLAUGHLIN.

No. 4.—WORD HALF SQUARE.—A precious stone; a fondling; a preposition; a numeral.

E. E. RYAN.

## No. 5.—NUMERICAL CHARADE.

I am composed of 13 letters.  
My 8, 11, 3, 1, is a metal,  
My 9, 10, 11, 5, 13, is an article of furniture,  
My 7, 6, 12, 13, is a number,  
My 9, 4, 2, is a title,  
My whole is a celebrated eastern traveller.

C. W. FINCH.

## No. 6.—RIDDLE.

I often speak,  
But I have no tongue;  
I often laugh,  
But I have no fun.

A few years ago  
I never was known,  
But now I'm a favorite  
With the Queen on the throne.

HERBERT W. McK.

## No. 7.—BURIED TOWNS.

The bat held an insect.  
I never ate a supper that was better.  
The stun is very severe.  
He threw the sod over the fence.  
I saw a slim artist.  
He read in Greek.

H. W. McK.

## Answers to February Puzzles.

1—Tis just as true that black is white,  
Or that a door is a gate,  
As 'tis that a man can farm aright,  
Who does not read the ADVOCATE.

LIZZIE.

2—Halifax.

3—Guiteau.

4—Whig, Ierne, Lancaster, Loom, Iowa, Anam, Montmorency, William, Germany.

5—Ada, Amy, Ellen, Estella, and Edith.

6—Thames, Forth, Trent, Don, Grand, St. John, Purus, Nelson, Tweed.

## Names of Those who have Sent Correct Answers to Feb. Puzzles.

Nettie Wilber, Gertie Heck, R. F. Kirk, Louie, Charlie S. Husband, Esther Louise Ryan, C. W. Finch, Nellie McQueen, A. J. Taylor, Wm. Hull, Nettie Widden, Minnie Sharman, Frank Sharman, Ada Armand, E. Robson, Richard E. Osborne, Ella McNaughton, Huron Nelles, Sarah J. Fennell, A. Phillips, Charles S. Stevens, Willie Andrews, Robt. Wilson, Flora L. Shaver, Maggie H. McKerron, Minnie G. Gibson, Calvin W. Finch, W. H. Bateman, H. W. McKenzie, Thomas Simpson, Geo. L. Gustin, Maria Anderson, Ella F. Campbell, C. P. Faircloth, Wesley Wootton, Jessie Munro, Ada A. Irvin, Mary Montgomery, T. L. Cousins, Henry Lowland, Arthur H. Mabey, Wilmot Sigsworth, Robt. W. W. Parry, C. G. Keyes, jr.

"Would you like to look at some mourning goods?" asked the polite dry goods clerk, as he slung down some glazy black fabrics before a serious lady customer. "No, not this mourning; some other mourning; good mourning," she responded, and the clerk was so overcome that he was shortly afterwards carried out to his bier.

## Minnie May's Department.

MY DEAR NIECES.—In every well regulated household, where suitable clothing and other necessities are provided according to the family income, it is an excellent plan for the young girls of the household to keep their own account books, in which is strictly set down every item of expense, even to the pennies. If an allotted sum is given to them quarterly, which is to constitute their principal resource for procuring what they need, it will be still better. In no other way can a young lady so well learn the systematic and economical use of money. Most girls of thirteen or fourteen, are old enough to set up their own account book; it will teach them many useful lessons beside that of economy. It will require self-denial oftentimes to avoid spending the whole allowance on some tempting trifle, but the experience of going without absolute needfuls for a whole quarter will be a salutary lesson. The account book will be a silent rebuke when it is opened, if money has been thus expended. Put down everything therein, black and white, and do not hide your foolish expenditures under the cowardly title of "sundries." Be honest with yourselves as well as with others you deal with. Keep your account book very neatly. Set down the articles one below the other in regular order, the prices in the margin with the dollars and cents exactly under each other. This may seem a trifle, but nothing is a trifle which helps to form orderly habits.

I once saw the large account book of a young married lady in which accounts were kept in this style: "Bought on 5th June, 3 pounds of sugar for 28 cts.; also, on the same day, 4 pounds of beef for 60 cts." It would be a perplexing business to balance her books at the end of the year, whereas a little system would have made that all easy.

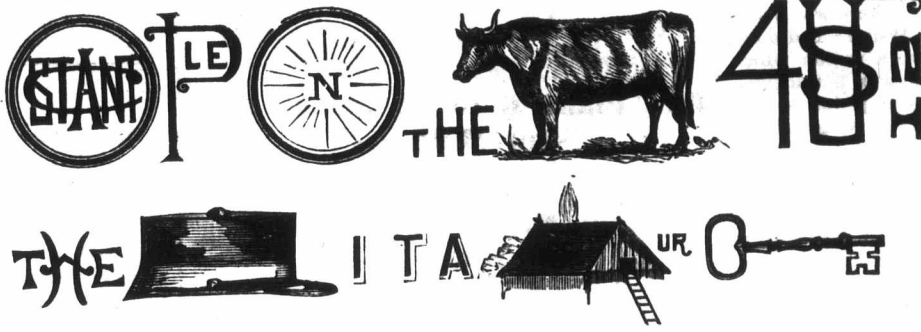
Learn to do everything in the best way while learning it; cultivate a quickness in finding out ways of getting the information you want, not

idly sit down and wait for it to come to you. Try keeping an account book neatly and orderly from your girlhood, and I will venture that your husband will never have cause to fret because you do not know how to expend his money with system and prudence. Rather he will rejoice that he has drawn such a prize in the world's lottery—that he has such an efficient helper in building up a fortune.

MINNIE MAY.

"Sam, you are not honest. Why do you put all the good peaches on the top of the measure and the little ones below?" "Same reason, sah, dat makes de front of your house marble and de back gate chiefly sloop bar'l sah."

Of all musical instruments, the violin is the most enduring. Pianos wear out, wind instruments get battered and old-fashioned, the pipes of organs become scattered and the original construction is lost sight of, all kinds of novelties are introduced into flutes, but the sturdy violin stands on its own merits. Age and use only improve it, and, instead of new ones commanding the highest price, as is the case with other instruments, it is the violins of the few Italian makers of the last three centuries that command fabulous sums. It is impossible to handle an old violin without a feeling of veneration when one reflects on the number of people who have probably played on it, the weary hours it has beguiled, the source of enjoyment it has been, and how well it has been loved.



No. 8.—ILLUSTRATED REBUS.

Robins and blue birds have been singing their tuneless lays for the last few days, and spring appears near at hand.

DOGS IN GERMANY.—Dogs are valued highly in Germany. In Vienna an enterprising man has established a bath house exclusively for dogs, which, after being thoroughly washed in large tubs, are placed in cages to dry. Dogs of all sizes and breeds and of every social position are admitted and charged only with reference to their size. No one appreciates the spirit of the phrase "to work like a dog," until he has been in Germany. The Arickaree Indians call a horse "a big dog." In Germany a dog might well be called a little horse. About half of the draft power is furnished by dogs and women; and they are frequently hitched up together. It is not uncommon to see a dog drag ten or twelve hundred weight. I have seen a man and a woman get into a cart drawn by two large mastiffs, and then drive down the street at a rate of which Jehu might have been proud. Sixteen dollars will purchase a dog for this purpose—a trifling sum considering his usefulness. A dog guards the property as well as drags it. In winter they are often allowed when resting or waiting to jump into the cart and cuddle down in the straw. In Vienna there is an immense hospital and veterinary college where horses, dogs and cats, and all quadrupeds are received. Farriers or boss blacksmiths are required to spend six months at this institution and receive a certificate of graduation before setting up in business for themselves. In this, as in all other matters, the Germans believe in thoroughness.