

## Uncle Tom's Department.

## A Little Snow Scene.

Tommy stands watching the fast-falling snow.  
Wondering what makes the wild "white wind" blow.  
"Auntie, oh, see it!" he joyously cries;  
"Out-doors is full of nice, little, white flies."  
"Ah, Tommy, darling," says auntie, "these things  
Falling from heaven are angel's white wings,  
Which the good Father sends, softly, like down,  
Keeping the seeds in the cold, hard ground warm."  
Tommy looks up, then, with faithful blue eyes,  
"Wa ches with wonder the slow-moving skies.  
"Are dese de feeders dey drop?" questions he.  
"Oh, won't dare mamma be sorry to see  
"Em tummin' home wis dare little wings bare?  
Auntie, I'll div 'em my tippet to wear!"

## To Our Young Readers.

Christmas is coming,  
Hurrah! boys, hurrah!

Is the song many of my young friends are singing,  
and preparations for a merry Christmas are being  
made. I would advise you to see that there are no  
holes in your stockings, and stretch them the full  
size, for Santa Claus will be around shortly, loaded  
with good things. He will be especially liberal to  
my nieces and nephews; I heard him think so.  
There is an old saying, and a true one, that if you  
do not eat plum pudding, turkey and mince pie on  
Christmas Day you will not be lucky the next  
year. Impress this fact on your mother's mind;  
she will find full instructions for preparing a Christ-  
mas "Cheer," I presume, in MINNIE MAY'S DE-  
PARTMENT. But remember plum-putting, like all  
good things, is to be used and not abused.

Little fools will eat too much,  
But great ones not at all.

And too much plum-putting on the  
25th of December renders necessary  
the rhubarb and magnesia, and the  
salts and senna, on the 26th. But for  
the benefit of nephews whose mother  
will not comply with their request,  
and have no sisters to do it, I will give  
a recipe for stewing a steak, which, if  
not as nice as a turkey, will be found  
a rich treat. Try it.

## TO STEW A STEAK.

Wash it well, and season it hot,  
Bind it and put it in the pot;  
Fry three onions, put them to it,  
With carrots, turnips, cloves and suet;  
With broth or gravy cover up,  
Put in your spoon and take a sup;  
Soft and gentle let it simmer,  
Then of port put in a brimmer;  
With judgment let the catup flow,  
Of vinegar a glass bestow;  
Simmer again for half an hour,  
Serve at six, and then devour.

To my nephews and nieces—Are you  
anxious to become men of business? If so you will  
find good instruction in securing subscribers for the  
ADVOCATE. I have received letters from nephews,  
now prosperous men, stating that they owe their  
first acquaintance with a business life to canvassing  
for this paper. The most enterprising men  
of the world, are those who did not de-  
spise the day of small things. Neices can  
also work to advantage. Read the inducements  
Mr. Weld offers, and with a little effort these pre-  
miums will become yours. Besides, how is UNCLE  
TOM'S DEPARTMENT to be read in every household  
but by your canvassing for him.

The fortunate winner of the prize chromo this  
month, after a close struggle, is Master Frank  
Lawson, Nilestown. The prize for answers will  
be awarded 20th Dec., after receipt of answers to  
this month's puzzles.

I must now conclude by thanking you all for  
your kind assistance to this volume, and wish you,  
A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS.

## Puzzles.

## A CURIOUS LETTER.

113.— Friends sir friends  
stand your disposition  
I bearing  
a man the world  
is whilst the  
contempt ridicule  
are  
ambitious

## THE APPLE TREE PUZZLE.

114.—How can ten apple trees be planted so  
that there will be five rows and four trees in each  
row?  
MARY MAYFLOWER.

## RIDDLES.

115.—It is as high as all the stars,  
No well was ever dug so low;  
It is in age five thousand years—  
It was not made an hour ago.  
It is as wet as water is—  
No red hot iron e'er was dryer;  
As dark as night, as cold as ice,  
Shines like the sun, and burns like fire.  
Than the whole world it larger is,  
Than a small pin's point it is less;  
I'll tell you ten times what it is,  
Yet after all you shall not guess.  
LOUISA NICHOLSON.

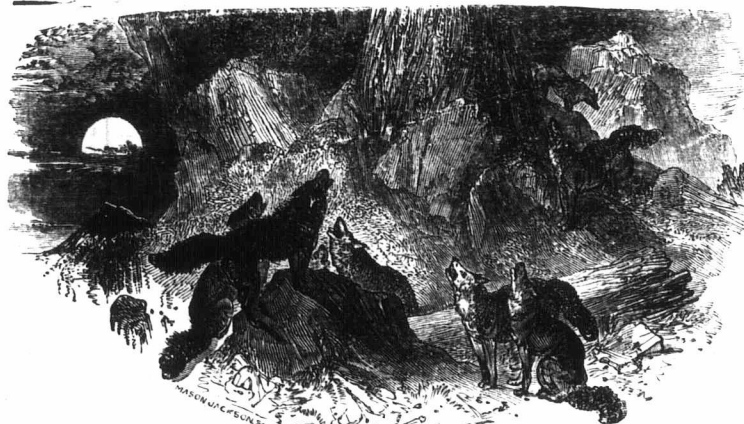
116.—What word is that in the English lan-  
guage the first two letters of which signify a male,  
the first three a female, the four a great man, and  
the whole a great woman? THOS. RUSTON.

## SQUARE WORD.

117.—My first is a river, its waters are clear;  
My second is sometimes very heavy to bear;  
My third is a town with scenery grand;  
My fourth was a garden in a beautiful land.

## PUZZLE.

118.—A semi circle on a perpendicular meet,  
An article's my next you'll find;  
My first again you now repeat,  
Now add a letter of a separate kind,  
And then a consonant that's in the brine,  
My whole is a very useful article.  
FRANK LAWSON.



WOLVES.

119.—What is that which oft by lowly hands is  
sought,  
But which we do not seek for naught,  
And which we cannot do without?  
M. McMULLEN.

## ENIGMAS.

120.—My first is part of my second,  
As farmers mostly know;  
My first to all is useful reckoned,  
As I'm prepared to show;  
And if the farmer thinks it best,  
Keep my whole among the rest.  
121.—My first you will find the trapper has got,  
My next to exist will be found nevertheless,  
My third you will find in the poor man's cot,  
My whole will be found on a lady's dress.  
THOS. M. TAYLOR.

122.—They say my first is very bright,  
And what they say is true,  
But only through my second can  
My first be seen by you;  
My second would without my first  
Be far from being bright;  
My whole is what the workingman  
Welcomes with great delight.  
J. H. C.

## Answers to Nov. Puzzles.

106. Fish. 107. Sign. 108. Toast. 109. Parina-arm-ram.  
110. ScarF. UsureR. Bella. MooN. Untertook. Lull. Old.  
CannoN — Columbus. Franklin. 111. Time. 112. Saturn.  
Love. England. Eve. Petrarch. The initials form Sleep.

ANSWERS RECEIVED TO NOV. PUZZLES.—W. Thurston, Kim-  
berley; J. F. Jacobs, New Brighton; Joshua Sautbert, Albany,  
N. Y.; H. Crofts, McGillivray; Miss E. Smith, Berlin; E. J.  
Wells, Kincardine; R. S. Bethel, St. John, N. B.; Miss J.  
Hodgins, Biddulph; J. H. Fields, Omaha, U. S.; Mary May-  
flower, Gloucester; Frank Lawson, Nilestown; T. M. Taylor,  
Eden Mills; M. McMullen, Harwich; J. H. Cross, Caledonia  
Springs; Thos. Ruston, Sebringville; Louisa Nicholson, Valley-  
field, Q.

## Natural History.

## II.—AMERICAN FUR-BEARING ANIMALS.

The Brown Wolf is the fiercest and most carni-  
vorous of the wild animals yet indigenous to  
America. It resembles a large lank-faced, ill-con-  
ditioned dog, having a straight tail. It varies  
somewhat both in size and color, according to the  
nature of the different localities in which it occurs,  
being larger and fiercer in more northern and un-  
peopled countries—feebler and of smaller size  
when surrounded by enemies and living in a state  
of continual fear and precaution. He wanders  
about in summer during the morning and evening  
twilight in search of food, which in a sufficing  
quantity he seldom finds. Frogs, field mice and  
the putrid remains of larger animals are not des-  
pised. The rutting season of the female is in  
January. She is then followed by numerous males,  
the strongest or boldest of which becomes her com-  
panion, and seldom quits her till the young have  
completed their education. When about to bring  
forth, she prepares her den in some sheltered and  
secluded spot, which she furnishes with leaves,  
dried grass, and a portion of wool or hair from her  
own body. The number of her litter varies from  
five or six to nine, and the young are born with  
their eyes closed. For several days the mother  
never quits them, she herself being carefully fed  
by the male. She suckles for two months, but  
about the end of the fifth or sixth week she dis-  
gorges half-digested food, and soon accustoms them  
to kill and feed upon small animals which she has  
previously captured. It has been observed that,  
during this period, the young are never left alone,  
but are always guarded by one or other of the pa-  
rents. In about two months they lead them from  
their covert, and initiate them in the  
mysteries of the chase. In November  
or December they begin to wander  
to thly themselves.

The wolf, in a wild state, is a cow-  
ardly though cruel animal. He has  
sometimes been observed so stupefied  
by sudden fear as to be killed or se-  
cured alive without danger or diffi-  
culty. At the same time, when pressed  
by hunger and assembled in troops  
during the winter season, they become  
formidable, both to man and beast, as  
our engraving represents. We know  
from ancient chronicles, and from var-  
ious legal enactments and feudal  
tenures, how greatly the mother coun-  
try was infested by wolves during the  
days of our Saxon ancestors; and that  
in the reign of Athelstane it was found  
necessary to erect a kind of retreat at  
a place called Flixton, for the protec-

tion of passing travellers. The extirpation of  
wolves from England was imposed as a tribute by  
King Edgar upon the conquered Welsh. Ludwal,  
Prince of Wales, paid yearly a tribute of 300  
wolves. When the deep and long enduring snows  
of winter have entombed the face of nature in their  
silent shroud, these creatures often suffer dread-  
fully from famine, and were they not for the most  
part as fearful as rapacious, they would assuredly  
prove most unpleasant. In a state of domestication  
the wolf can be regarded as nothing more than a  
dog of a somewhat anomalous and unusual aspect.  
Some have been rendered so tame and docile, that  
but for their unextinguishable love of live poultry,  
they might be allowed to wander where they  
choose. They associate freely and fondly with  
common dogs, and speedily acquire from them the  
habit of barking. In general, however, and when  
left free to manifest their natural instinct, dogs ex-  
hibit a great aversion to wolves.

WHY FRANKLIN USED SIMPLE LANGUAGE.—  
Tradition has it that years ago, when Benjamin  
Franklin was a lad, he began to study philosophy,  
and soon became fond of applying technical names  
to common objects. One evening when he men-  
tioned to his father that he had swallowed some  
acephalous mollusks, the old man was very much  
alarmed, and suddenly seizing him, called loudly  
for help. Mrs. Franklin came with warm water,  
and the hired man rushed in with the garden  
pump. They forced half a gallon down Benjamin's  
throat, then held him by the heels over the edge  
of the porch and shook him, while the old man  
said: "If we don't get them things out of Benny  
he will be pizened, sure." When they were out,  
and Benjamin explained that the articles alluded  
to were oysters, his father fondled him for an hour  
with a trunk strap for scaring the family. Ever  
afterward his language was very simple and explicit.