

dog in the neighborhood that is afflicted with the same penchant or idiosyncrasy. He has also so persecuted one of our house cats, by "treeing" him on every possible occasion, that grimalkin has betaken himself to the forest solitudes, and reverted to the lynx-like ways of his (supposed) distant progenitors, and he only visits our homestead at intervals, several weeks apart, but is still willing to receive human caresses and marks of recognition in the cow byre, when he is sure of Nipper's absenteeism, for signs of whose ingress he always keeps a "weather eye."

Arthur has a habit of shouting "Maria" whenever a stranger cat comes around our place. This word is a signal for Nipper to charge straight at the feline, and he always looks sharp about him towards all points of the compass, when he hears the word from the lips of his master, and if anything small quadruped, clothed in fur, appears on the horizon of his vision, it has got "to git" in the briefest possible time. And all the cats in these precincts are aware of the fact, and shape their course accordingly — trees, housetops and high fences at such a moment, are the only shifts that offer salvation.

And when our two small children wish for some fun, and see an erratic feline about our premises, they search out their father, and implore him "to just Maria that cat" for them, for come what will, there is sure to be a display in the way of speed, of all that canine and feline muscle are capable of.

The last pair of our House Wrens bade us good-bye at the time of the full moon in October, and an acquaintance who has strong sporting proclivities, assures me that the Woodcocks which in considerable numbers frequent our bogs in spring and autumn, invariably leave here

at the time of November's full moon. The man in question tells us that he has noticed this fact for the last twenty-five years or more. About the 9th of Oct., last an unusual number of Wild Ducks appeared about our ponds and small brooks. There were flocks of about a hundred, but they only made a brief stay, and moved onward. And in a few days afterward, a letter was read here from a relative, residing near Deloraine, Manitoba, which informed us that seven inches of snow, with a frosty wind, were the conditions prevailing in that quarter. But the mystery is how the small birds get a hint to move off to safety whilst the weather is serene and mild! There are young flocks of Gold Finches here now in good numbers, but there are no yellow (male) ones among them. Probably the males do not get their adult plumage until they are a year old. These flocks are believed to be late hatched broods, and will stay here all winter. There is plenty of composit and coniferous seed to sustain them.

Dandelion flowers still bedeck the road margin plentifully, and the Fringed Gentians is in full blossom now in some of our morassy places.

W. YATES.

PUZZLE PAGE.

A DIAMOND.

1. The eighth letter of the alphabet,
2. A numeral,
3. A wading bird,
4. A boy's name,
5. To perfume,
6. A limb of the body,
7. An article from China.

My 1st is in "lock" but not in "key,"

2nd,	"	fish	"	sea,
3rd,	"	fairy	"	fay,
4th,	"	strait	"	bay,
5th,	"	short	"	wide,
6th,	"	skate	"	slide,
7th,	"	meadow	"	down,