

it to town a fortnight previously and left it with a watchmaker to be sold. However, it would be well to make sure he was really on the right track, so he asked the young girl to describe this silver ring. Here again, however, he was doomed to disappointment, for just at this moment the mother came into the room, and over-hearing the conversation, ordered her daughter off to bed with an unnecessary degree of promptness which showed that the subject was evidently not one she cared to have further discussed.

Captain Torrens had heard enough, however, to send him back to Halifax next morning as fast as his good horse could carry him. A hard day's riding brought him into town just as the evening shadows were gathering. Not waiting even to remove the stains of travel he began a tour of the watchmaker's shops in quest of the precious ring. One after another the principal shops were visited fruitlessly, and he had almost begun to despair, when in a quiet bye-street he espied an obscure little place that had hitherto escaped his notice. Unlikely as it looked he thought he might as well try it, and stammered slowly to the window. Conceivably his delight when at the first glance he saw the very thing he sought lying in a tray among a number of cheap rings, chains and trinkets, its chastity yet imposing richness contrasting strangely enough with such trumpery surroundings. Hastening into the shop the captain demanded to be shown the ring with a nervous impatience that caused the old watchmaker to stare at him somewhat suspiciously over the tops of his gold-rimmed glasses. On asking how it came there he was told that a sea-faring man had pledged it for the sum of twenty shillings a fortnight previously.

"All right," said Captain Torrens, "here is my card and twenty-five shillings. Let me have the ring, and if the man who left it ever comes back for it, tell him to come to me, and bring with him the finger he cut off to get it."

The rest of the story is easily told. The ring on being shown to Dr. Copeland was immediately recognized by him as the one his wife had worn. Effective measures were instantly taken for the arrest of the man whose daughter had so unwittingly betrayed him. Confronted by the ring, and other evidence which rapidly accumulated, he made a full confession revealing the secrets of the wreckers' dreadful trade, and the government taking the matter in hand, relieved Sable Island of the blight of their presence forever. The ring went back to the family of Mrs. Copeland, in England, and the Pale Lady with the Bloody Finger roamed restlessly about the sands of Sable Island no more.

Ottawa, Ont.

J. McDONALD OXLEY.

(FOR THE CHRISTMAS CRITIC).

DOUBLE ACROSTIC FOR BIBLE READERS.

1. A City whose language was heard in the day of Pentecost.
 2. A person who gave great pleasure to one who in return gave great pain to many.
 3. A place where lamentation was heard and from whence no comfort was obtained.
 4. The number required to keep an apostle a prisoner.
 5. One whose name was changed by the substitution of a letter.
 6. Is the number of those who shared our Lord's final sufferings.
 7. A quotation where Christ leaves a boon to His disciples.
 8. A priest of David who assisted him in trouble.
 9. A King of Assyria who dwelt at Nineveh.
 10. Is the command given to the disciples at the last supper.
 11. A city built by the children of Gad.
 12. An article Solomon had brought out of Egypt.
- The initials explain the joyful occasion which the finale proclaim.

CAPPEDOCIA	A	Acts 2-9
HERODIAS	S	Matt 14-3
RANA	A	Matt 2-18
IV.	V	Acts 12-4
SARAI	I	Gen 11-29
TWO	O	Two thieves
MY PEACE I GIVE UNTO YOU	U	John 14-27
AMATHAR	R	1 Sam 22-20
SCUNACHERIN	B	2 Kings 19-36
DO	O	Do this
ARDER	R	Num 32-34
YARN	N	1 Kings 10-28

C. H. W.

The art of opening letters addressed to other people and refastening them so that no one will know is a profession in Spain. In the Post Office they have a dark chamber, where experts inquire into things, and these have long since given up the use of steam for opening gummed communications. Even red-hot platinum wire for letters sealed with wax is out of date. The favorite means is with a knife sharper than a razor, which is run along the bottom of the envelope. The letter having been extracted and then replaced after the officials of the Post Office have learned what is going on, a fine-line of liquid cement is drawn along the opening, the slightest pressure conceivable is applied, and the letter is as whole as ever. The system only fails when too many letters are opened at a time and put hurriedly into the wrong envelopes.

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