Uncle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES: - As · I have reason to think you were interested in your last visit to my studio, according to promise I again invite you to come with me and spend another evening in my picture gallery. Since last we met I trust you have enjoyed the pleasant evenings of this really beautiful winter (beautiful in Ontario, at least), and that much goodly knowledge and many pleasant memories have been laid in store during the month that has just passed away.

But you wish to turn to the pictures-the language of those eyes is, "Please, draw the curtain aside." Gladly, my boys and girls, for your will is my pleasure, now that I am host. You recognize the centre picture—it was the first we studied this year; to the right is the next we examined, while to the left here is the one to which I would call your attention. You will notice it is much the same in style as the one to the right; the most prominent feature in the picture is a portrait of a gentleman. Scenes illustrative of his life form the background. It is worth your while to study that face—it is not a common one. Those drawn brows, that thoughtful, pre-occupied look, bespeak an earnest, busy life--a life that is not being frittered away. Were I to tell you the name of the gentleman represented in the portrait, you would recognize it at once as one of the leading names in one of the strongest religious denominations in Canada, and pastor of a large and flourishing congregation in one of our cities. We shall return to the leading figure again, and now for

You wonder what interpretation can possibly be read from a somewhat dilapidated building to the left of the background, and an apparently tasteful, commodious structure to the right. That is all you see in the first glance-look again-if the picture be a true one it will bear study. Ah! you are beginning to "interpret." You see, there is a view of the inside as well as of the outside. In the building to the left a few faithful workers - the "remnant" which is found everywhere where once Gospel privileges have been enjoyed—are striving to keep the church afloat-nothing more. You can see the listless attitude of the sparse number of wor shippers; you can almost hear the dragging, discordant notes of that part of worship which is called praise. It is no untrue representation the artist has depicted on canvas. All over this Christian land of ours are to be found just such places and phases of worship.

the scenes in the background. It will take

some study to read their interpretation.

Now turn with me to the inside view of the structure on the right. Our eyes are gladdened to see the large number of earnest, young facesjust such faces as I imagine my nieces and nephews to have. A band of busy workers they -ready and glad to second and assist any movement that will be to the edifying of either mind or heart. The surroundings suggest comfort and convenience without idle extravagance -- just as our homes should be. Having thus studied the picture, do you ask for the interpretation? The first is a church whose pastor is indolent, careless, unfit indeed to be a "watchman"-the second shows the transformation which an earnest faithful pastor may accomplish, and which time and again has been the result of the labors of him whose portrait you see. But I see you | the garden.

are wearying somewhat with my story, and you want to know what all this has to do with you, girls and boys of our country homes. Let the portrait speak thus to you :- "People often say to me: 'I don't see how you accomplish so much. Where do you get the time to do the work you do?' but I can only tell them that all I have ever accomplished has not been owing to favorable circumstances, 'good luck,' so called, but to hard work-hard work. I commenced life for myself when I was seventeen, since when I have not had a dollar from any one to help me. Perhaps my life has been, comparatively speaking, a busy one, for if I wish to accomplish any thing I find I must be busy. I never read a novel in my life, simply because I never had time to do so." Add to this his wife's testimony, and then I leave you to apply the lesson I have sought to teach. "My husband is always working. If he undertakes anything and fails to accomplish it in one way, he works at it until he gains his end in some other way. He never gives He plans out all his work, systematizes it, and has particular hours for doing each part of it. When we commenced life together we were in debt. I remember, for a time we cooked our potatoes in a dipper. I can only testify, as he has done, that all he accomplishes is the result of hard work.

UNCLE TOM.

Puzzles.

1-NUMBRICAL ENIGMA. If a two-wheeled vehicle you would seek. Place in order my 1, 3, 4, 6. You'd have by placing in rank my 6, 3, 4, Something that quickly would burn with a roar. If a pleasure trip you would like to go, Place my 7, 3, 1, 2, 6, in a row.

But now set together my 3, 4, 1, 2, And you'll have something arranged to pass through.

And if you are trying to merit Heaven, You must have my 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. NORA ENGLISH. 2-ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



3-HIDDEN QUADRUPEDS. Come for your music at twelve. Cedric owes me five dollars.
Do girls attend this school?
You go at six and I will go at twelve.
I abhor seeing that boy.

4-HIDDEN BIRDS. John was not a popular king.
Gaspar row fast for they are after us.
Men generally rob in the dark.
FLORENCE HENRY.

5-Drop Vowel. Th-r- -s n-th-ng s- k-ngly -s k-ndn-ss -n-th-ng s- r-y-l -s tr-th. CARRIE EEDY. k-ndn-ss -r.d

6—TRANSPOSITION.

Hewn ew egt of dneoyr meoh—
Enwh ev'we vareltled orguhth effis arfi,
Aym ew ese het locmedwe notrhe,
Ehrew ew lahsl eb idr fo acre.

FRANK RIDDLE.

7-BURIED GIRLS' AND BOYS' NAMES. —Do, Ralph, tell Harry not to make a noise (2).
—The van the baker was in was painted red.
—Look at Ernest, how fast he runs.
—The watch papa gave Bertie is lost. I dare say will find it. he will find it.

he will find it.
5.—Mamma, my hand is very sore—kitty had a fit and scratched it (2).
6.—Make haste, Fred, Winnie has a long letter from father. Come, take your hat, for Winnie is in the garden.

BEATRICE MATHIAS.

My whole means to harmonize. Behead, and it means to give for a short time. Behead again, and it means the last part. Behead and prefix, and it means also.

EDITH ROBINSON.

8-BEHEADINGS.

Diagram. Queer. Since. Competitor.
-A port.
-Encircled.
-An animal. A capsule. A fish. HENRY REEVE

My whole is an adage.

My 5, 7, 10, 18, 14, 22, means to quiet.

My 5, 6, 1, 4, 2, is a small animal.

My 2, 4, 13, 16, 22, 23, is to seatter.

My 20, 19, 6, 21, 24, means hues.

My 9, 1, 18, 11, means to fret. My 9, 1, 18, 11, means to fret. My 17, 3, 15, 12, means delighted.—A. T. REEVE

10-NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

11-CHARADE. Who is it? that has all the sway,
As he sets LAST his sanctum gay:
And at the end of every y, ar,
Doth all the prizes pay—

Who is it? that PRIME ink and quill, Would PRIME wisdom our minds instil; And at the end of every year, His promises fulfil—

Uncle Tom. Who is it? Captain of our crew, Sailing ENTIRE our vessel, too; And at the end of every year, Rewards the faithful few—

12—A GEOGRAPHICAL HUNT.

My (Cape E. of N. America) (river in the N. W. Territories) said to me one day, let us have a hunt (Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence). Says I, we will (Cape east of New Brunswick) the (Lake in Kewatin), and have a (Lake in Quebeo) one. We saw a (town in France) (mountains in New Hampshire) (Island in the St. Lawrence River) and a (Channel N. of Hudson Bay) have a (Newfoundland Cape) in a (Lake in Ontario) swamp; they ran into a (Bay east Cape Breton) and got all (Lake in Ontario). As we were going up a (Island east of the United States) (point west of Australia) hill we saw two (Gulf in the Mediterranean Sea) and a (city in New York) have a pitched (river in the Northwest), but we killed them, which soon made (river in British Columbia) we found a (sea in Europe) (river in Idaho) in (Gulf east of Africa) and my (Isle in the Irish Sea) shot him with his (river in the Northwest Territory) and (islands in Oceania). We also saw a (Island in Lake Michigan) taking a (city in England); but a (Lake in Quebeo) came along chasing an (river in West Virginia), which frightened it, and we saw it no more. I lost myself (river in Montana) (Cape south of South America), and as the (Lake north of the United States) season was at hand, the (mountain in Alaska) being at a close, we had no (port off Patagonia) to go farther.

FAIR BROTHER. 12-A GEOGRAPHICAL HUNT.

Answers to February Puzzles.

2-What's a table richly spread, Without a lady at its head.

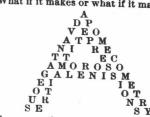
3-Want, wan.

4— Standing still is childish folly,
Going backward is a crime;
None shall patiently endure
Any ill that he can cure;
Onward keep the march of time.

Key ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPRSTUWY
UYWTOSRFINMLKEHGFDACB 5—Ah, must we prize our blessings, When from our grasp they have forever

flown;
We mourn in the winter twilight,
For summer days whose joys were half unknown.

6-Hawk. 7—Fork, rake, mower.
One little grain in the sandy bars,
One little flower in a field of flowers,
One little star in a heaven of stars,
One little hour in a year of hours,
What if it makes or what if it mars.



10—When we gather round the fireside,
When the evening hours are long,
We can blend our hearts and voices
In a happy social song;
We can guide some erring brother,
Lead him from the path of wrong,