

MINNIE MAY'S DEPARTMENT.

MY DEAR NIECES,—

Most of you live in the country—perhaps several miles from even a village or railway station—and, I dare say, you often sigh for the many opportunities and advantages within the reach of those who are differently situated. This is a rapid age we live in, and almost all the youth of our beloved country is eager for knowledge. The human soil (so to speak) is ready for cultivation—ripe for education. Now, because you live in the country do not suppose that education is beyond your reach. There are some, I know, who do not yet seem to feel the want of education; but these are slowly, but surely, getting to be in the minority—the enormous strides made of late years in almost every kind of mind culture plainly show which way the wind sets. The great scheme of our Public Schools, extending, as they do, all over this vast country, has laid a firm foundation, has created a desire for education which can now never be eradicated, but must go on and on. Another great factor in the spread of education is the wonderful cheapness of books and magazines. People have really no excuse for remaining ignorant, unless they wish to remain so. Look at the children's books of the present day; compare them with what our grandparents had! Possibly in many households some of these old books are lying about in the attics or cupboards. How our youngsters would laugh at the illustrations and the whole get-up of those dreadful old books—and no wonder! So you see, dear girls, that in these days our tiniest dear ones are all being set out on the educational road. You may live far away from town, but cultivation is easily within your reach. A few young people who desired to attain a little mind culture to add to (and make so much pleasanter) their usual household duties, could, I think, form a delightful little club by meeting occasionally at each other's houses; forming, in fact, a sort of Chautauqua Circle on a small scale. Let some

bright girl think of a nice name and motto for your club—or all think of a name, and draw lots. I once belonged to a little literary club—there were about six or eight of us only—and some very charming and instructive evenings we had. I will give further information on this subject in future letters, for I feel sure that many of my country nieces who are searching after knowledge will get interested in the plan I suggest.

MINNIE MAY.

UNCLE TOM'S DEPARTMENT.

Puzzles.

1—CHARADE.

All o'er our fair and native land,
From North to sunny South,
Through public press and telegraph,
And, too, from mouth to mouth,

The talk of trouble has gone up,
And pictures fierce of LAST,
And comparisons to our neighbors South
Have been published far and fast.

God grant that LAST may not come down
Upon our peace-blessed shore;
But should it come our gallant ONE
Will fight as they fought before.

And pictures gory two Eighteen-Twelve,
Where their enemies were slain,
Will rise right up before their eyes
A second Lundy's Lane.

And mothers proud will bless their sons
As they go forth to fight—
To fight upon the battle field
For home and kin and right.

But our friends across the border
I do not think will meet
Our brave Canadian volunteers
And England's great COMPLETE.

HARMOND A. BRADLEY.

2—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

My 4, 5, 2, 7 is any green tree.
My 6, 3, 8 is a thin sort of silk.
My 8, 5, 1 is a boat shell.
My 4, 3, 2, 5 is the staff of justice.

My 6, 5, 1 is a game.
My 2, 3, 7, 5 is a tax.
My whole is to "make ridiculous."

CLARA ROBINSON.

3—SQUARE WORD.

My FIRST is righteous, though in truth
It leads us into sin;
My SECOND in a fractious tooth
Will truly make you grin;

My THIRD is a color, and forsooth,
To you and me description lends;

My FOURTH is aught that comes to pass;
My FIFTH is payments from a class

Who dwell in homes another tends.

CHARLIE S. EDWARDS.

4—PHONETIC CHARADE.

I now thus FIRST this puzzle o'er,
THIRD may FIRST it after,
And yet it is not very gay
To give LAST mirth or laughter.

Total, fun is hard to have,
As hard a SECOND to hold;

Oh dear! you'll please excuse the slang,
I really should say gold.

A. P. HAMPTON.

5—METAGRAM.

To change a biped into something to cool you,
You just change his head, let none overrule you;
But if you want something your meal to contain,
Just take the above thing and change it again.
To make the past tense of to rapidly go;
In plain common sense the same thing I would do;
But if bruised oak bark is your fad, I should say,
I'd alter his head without any delay.

A thing to contain what's to the stomach most dear;
And if you see someone who has been in great pain,
I'll explain his appearance if you change him again.

THOS. W. BANKS.

Answers to January 15th Puzzles.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1—Man, ban, bay, boy. | 2—Plover, lover, over. |
| Pin, pie, tie. | Blowing, lowing, owing. |
| Well, sell, silk, sick. | 3—N I T |
| Book, cook, cork, cord, card. | N I C E |
| Vase, base, bank, bank. | I C E S |
| 4—Bright-right. | T E S T |
| 5—Wis-dom | 6—Spear, pears, spare,
pares, reaps, parse. |

SOLVERS OF JAN. 15TH PUZZLES.

Charlie S. Edwards, Bertha Jackson, Clara Robinson, Annie P. Hampton, Thos. W. Banks, Chris McKenzie, Chris McKenzie (for December).

STOCK GOSSIP.

In writing to advertisers, please mention the Farmer's Advocate.

JOS. CAIRNES' JERSEYS AND CHESTER-WHITES.

A representative of the ADVOCATE recently spent a few hours looking over the stock of Jos. Cairnes, Camlachie, Ont., whose farm is situated at the village of Camlachie. The Jerseys, as yet, only consist of four or five individuals. Beatrice of Glen Rouge 99877, by One Hundred Per Cent., 16590, dam Milly McLennan 25232, is one of the best, a two-year-old of good dairy type, as is also the three-year-old, Addie of Glen Rouge 99876, also by One Hundred Per Cent., dam Tryotolic 61746. The above cows were bred by William Rolph, Markham, and form the foundation of a future herd. A nice bull calf was also seen from Beatrice of Glen Rouge, and sired by Hugo Bonanza.

The Chesters comprise some very fine individuals. Gracie—449—, bred by H. George & Sons, is a lengthy, strong sow of good quality that has bred some extra nice stock, her sire being Royal—72—, dam Queen—150—, by World Beater—55—, Miss Long—716— is a sow of fine quality, smooth and well formed, and the dam of some extra nice pigs. We were shown a very fine four-months-old sow from her, and also a grand young sow due to farrow this spring, of exceptionally good quality, and a sow that should mature into something of the right stamp. Miss Long is bred from Miss Thorndale—303—, and was sired by Zola—233—, one of Mr. Harding's stock boars. The stock boar now in use in this herd is Boy in Blue—478—, bred by Mr. Harding, of Thorndale, Ont. He had for his dam Lady Cleveland—403—, and was sired by Lincoln—306—. A nice young six-months-old sow was recently purchased from Mr. Harding for use. A few choice young sows due to farrow this spring, and a few good four-months-old pigs are still on hand from the above sows, and by Curley Boy—599— and Boy in Blue.

American Shropshire Breeders' Association.

At the recent Executive meeting in Detroit the following expert judges were named: Richard Gibson, Delaware, Ont.; John L. Thompson, Gas City, Ind.; W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove, Ont.; F. D. Ward, Batavia, N. Y.; W. J. Garlock, Owen, Wyo.; S. H. Todd, Wakarusa, O.; Geo. McKerron, Sussex, Wis.; Prof. J. A. Craig, Madison, Wis.; and Mortimer Levering, Lafayette, Ind.

It was decided to give \$50 to Montreal, \$75 to Toronto, \$75 to London, and \$50 to Manitoba; Guelph Fat Stock Show, grand sweepstake, premium of show, if won by registered Shropshire sheep, \$50.

Classification.—Best registered Shropshire wether, one year old and under two: first premium \$10, second premium \$6, third premium \$3. Best registered Shropshire wether, under one year old: first premium \$10, second premium \$6, third premium \$3. Best three registered Shropshire wether lambs: first premium \$10, second premium \$6, third premium \$3. Extra special premium for best wether, sired by registered Shropshire ram, out of grade ewes, one year old and under two: first premium \$10, second premium \$6; under one year old, first premium \$10, second premium \$6.

The classifications for Montreal and Manitoba are as follows:—For best flocks of registered Shropshire sheep, consisting of one ram lamb, one year old or over, and three ewes any age, all to be owned by exhibitor at least ten days before showing: first premium \$15, second premium \$10. Best flock four lambs (one ram lamb and three ewe lambs), all to be bred in America and owned by exhibitor at least ten days before showing: first premium \$15, second premium \$10.

At Toronto and London as follows:—For best flock of registered Shropshire sheep, consisting

of one ram one year old or over, and three ewes any age, all to be owned by exhibitor at least ten days before showing: first premium \$15, second premium \$10. Best flock of four lambs (one ram lamb and three ewe lambs), all to be owned by exhibitor at least ten days before showing: first premium \$15, second premium \$10. Best flock four lambs (one ram lamb and three ewe lambs), all to be bred and owned by exhibitor, who must be a resident of the Province where prize is competed for: first premium \$15, second premium \$10.

The Executive Committee decided that the annual meeting of the Association would be held in Chicago in November, at the American Fat Stock Show.

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THE entire buildings, machinery, plant, and all apparatus of the Edmonton Butter and Cheese Manufacturing Association is for sale. The principal building, near Edmonton, was erected last spring. The building at Poplar Lake is three years old. The machinery, which is complete throughout, was purchased chiefly from J. S. Pearce & Co. The central building is situated in the center of the Edmonton dairying district, which is undoubtedly the finest in Canada. Especially favorable terms will be given to a buyer who will agree to operate the Creamery upon terms favorable to the patrons.

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