

In The Play Room.

"Mild or wild we love you, loud or still, child or boy."—SWINBURNE.

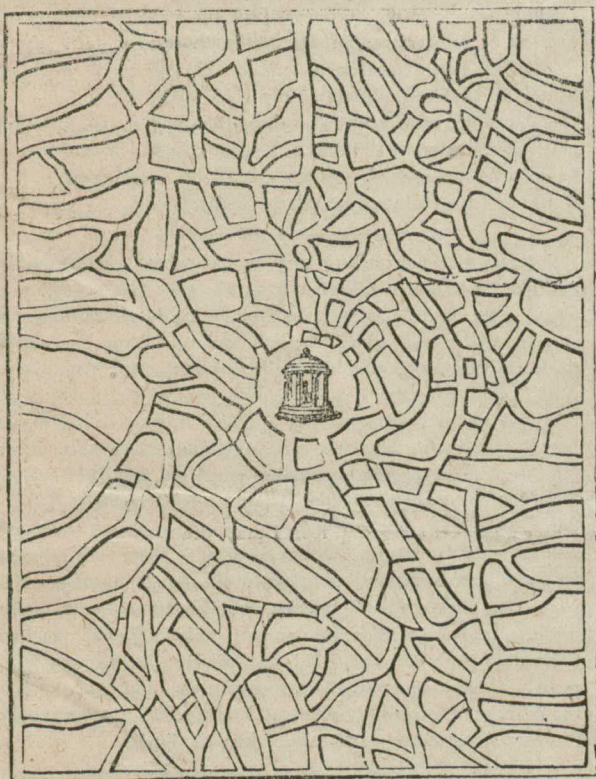
(The editor of this department will be pleased to receive letters from young contributors. Contributions such as puzzles, short stories, etc., will be welcomed.)

Answers to Puzzles
(In Last Issue.)

NO. 1. CHARADE.—Mont Real Ice palace—Montreal Ice Palace.
NO. 2. NUMERICAL PUZZLE.—1st. Prince of Wales. 2nd. Alice. 3rd. Toronto. 4th. Iodine. 5th. Token. The whole LADIES' PICTORIAL WEEKLY of Toronto.

NO. 3. ACROSTIC.—ROMANS 4. 15.

1. L	a-W	(Law)
2. A	c-E	(Ace)
3. D	anc-E	(Dance)
4. I	n-K	(Ink)
5. E	ase-L	(Easel)
6. S	tor-Y	(Story)
7. P	a-N	(Pan)
8. I	ren-E	(Irene)
9. C	re-W	(Crew)
10. T	rochu-S	(Trochus)
11. O	xli-P	(Oxlip)
12. R	ussi-A	(Russia)
13. I	m-P	(Imp)
14. A	mus-E	(Amuse)
15. L	awye-R	(Lawyer)



ROSAMOND'S BOWER.

No. 1. Rosamond's Bower.

This cut represents, it is said, the Maze at Woodstock, in which King Henry placed Fair Rosamond. It is certainly a most ingenious puzzle, and consists in getting from one of the numerous outlets, to the Bower in the centre, without crossing any of the lines.

No. 2. Arithmetical Puzzle.

A and B have equal sums of money; A loses one third of his money, and B gains \$100; B then has three times as much as A. How much did each have at first?

No. 3. Logogriph.

In noise and in sound
My head is to be found,
And my last may be seen in any door.
These both joined aright
Will bring into sight
An insect you've heard of before.

Prof. Wickle's Prize
Graphological Examination.

Special Notice.

The Ideal Wife Prize Examination closed on Dec. 15th. We shall continue to publish in this column the delineation of the different specimens of handwriting sent in for the Prize Competition until they have been completed. We will then publish the decision with the numbers to which the different prizes were awarded. No more specimens of handwriting will be delineated for this Examination. It will be useless for subscribers to forward them, as Competition closed, as above stated, on Dec. 15th, and we shall simply continue to publish those which were received on or before that date.

Delineations.

363. This is a conversational, friendly, uncultured and not very tasteful person. A certain clear-sightedness, though, gives her opinion worth, and her words right. She is sometimes careless,

and at no time anxious for results. Kindly in disposition, rather narrow in thought, but with some good ability and desire to be appreciated, would make a good wife, even to an unworthy husband.

364. Very similar to (1), but with more culture sense of beauty and reticence.

365. This lady is enterprising and ambitious, energetic, decided in opinion, generous and of calm and correct judgment, would not accept without a protest, any sort of short coming in her husband. Has sympathy and tact and sufficient ideality to save her from being commonplace.

366. This lady is frank and honest, graceful in expression, with great adaptability, perhaps she is a little imprudent in speech, and too confiding to her friends, but she makes so many that she can afford to risk losing a few, she has good taste, love of the beautiful and an extremely good opinion of herself.

367. This is a strongly marked character, impulsive, alert and energetic, she is sharp, observant and witty, and knows how to "kill two birds with one stone." In speech she is prudent, in judgment sharp but first, careful and anxious to do right, of great constancy and persistent effort, could make the best of a bad bargain and has power to attract and hold the best of fine husbands.

368. Idealism, energy, love of change, rather over sanguine estimate of the future, some generosity, self esteem, an exacting, impatient and lively temper, prudence in speech, and independence of thought are shewn in this lady's writing, she deserves a good husband, for she would make to a fine man a most excellent wife.

369. This writing is difficult to delineate as it is very unformed, but it holds some good traits. Persevering and painstaking effort are seen discretion, truth and truthfulness. The writer is fond of praise and rather ambitious, has some taste for beauty, but it needs cultivation, would make a true though not a brilliant wife.

370. This is a fine writing spoiled by extravagant mannerism, writer is sensitive, of rather hasty temper, slightly affected, but original and clever, full of anxiety to excell which hampers and spoils her best efforts, she is prudent and generally close-mouthed has a studied method and utterly lacks tact and true artistic perception, though she may deny this, as in all probability she passes for a critic, while on some subjects she is very lenient in her opinion, in others she is hard and unreasonable. This character is so fine, that it is worth training to perfection.

371. Cool self-control, determined effort, decision and exceeding perseverance, energy, independence of thought, rather frank speech, a very sensible and satisfactory study, lively and matter of fact, a little lacking in the more feminine and gentle traits and utterly incapable of the shadow of an untruth.

372. Prudence, good temper, hope, a little reserve, [good] judgment, but some extravagance, energy and carefulness are seen in the very pleasing writing.

373. This rather erratic but very interesting writing shows tenacity, ambition, originality and variable temper, writer is hasty but forgiving, constant in affection, fond of society, and very apt in conversation. Writing shows also some culture and while careless is far from indifferent to even small affairs.

374. This lady would be a good wife, as far as duty goes, but her affections are well controlled and not passionate, her judgment is sharp and her temper not very smooth and easy going. However, she has energy and rather a refined mind, her tastes are cultured and she is the very opposite of vulgar, hope is lacking and wit is not apparent.

The Girls Who Enjoys Good Health.

For a long time I have had my eye on the girl whose special fad of the moment is good health. It is now quite the correct thing to be thoroughly sound in body, to have a good appetite, plenty of muscle, nerves under good control, a clean scrubbed skin smelling of soap and water, and a general well-groomed appearance. This blooming girl who enjoys good health scuds along the street like a ship under full sail, like a young race horse let loose from bit and bridle. Her vanity over her physical soundness and beauty of youth is adorable. Her eyes are bright, not hazy, her skin has a wholesome glow, her manner is alert and eager, not languid and "droony." She does not cultivate headaches, nor boast of a miserable appetite, and she has very sensibly come to the conclusion that a well girl, sound as a dollar tidy, trim, full of vitality is far more interesting than any languid young person living on pickles and candy can possibly be. When this young lady stepped into full-fledged womanhood, she had a little brief attack of egotism, during which she talked oftentimes of herself, cultivated the vapors, thought she was nervous, couldn't walk far nor ride backwards, all sorts of trifling inconveniences made her dreadful ill and people who were polite were continually having to ask her how she was, did she feel any better and when she was going to get well. This became in time monotonous and tiresome and uninteresting. She grew a muddy-looking girl with sleepy eyes; her figure, her poses, all expressed lassitude, dullness, inertness. She had a wilted look, a moulting droop and became happily for her, unlovely even to herself.

A girl has a right to think a good deal about herself. She must look at herself in the glass and think what is becoming to her, and suitable for her, and in proportion with herself and her surroundings; and she must make the very best of herself, her advantages and her opportunities. She need not go in extravagantly for dress reform, nor toss away her corsets, or adopt any new inventions in underwear, but she must go in for a daily bath, a clean ruddy skin, well-kept hands, clean, bright hair and a cheerful countenance. It is not necessary that she should be a vegetarian, or take to an oatmeal and milk diet; but she must eat wholesome food, and get enough sleep and take enough exercise to keep her body plump, her cheeks blooming and her skin clear.

Many young women, nice girls at that, brush their teeth daily in a thoughtless, mechanical way, simply because it is an acquired habit to brush the teeth. A perfectly wholesome, well-groomed girl, with crisp, well-washed hair, a sweet breath, a cool, soft skin, emits a subtle, delightful odor not to be attained by a thousand bottles of Lubin's extract. There is the difference between this odor and the perfume of white rose extract that there is between the scent of a new cut clover-field at sunrise and the heavy air of a hot-house lined with orchids and heliotrope. Any girl who is not sickly or an invalid may have this wholesome, attractive beauty of

health if she desires it. She may brush her teeth twice a day with the object of making them clean and shining white. Inside and out, the roof of her mouth, the gums, the tongue, up and down between the crevices of her teeth, rinsing her mouth well, and when finished, washing her brush well. Any dentifrice that makes a lather, I was once told by a great physician, is harmful to the teeth. At least once a week should she wash her hair in barely tepid water, with a pretty smart rubbing at the roots, drying it quickly and brushing it thoroughly. By this means the hair will always be bright, dry, crisp and full of vigor. Some hair looks heavy and dead, and is clammy to the touch. The main reason that it looks so is because it is not clean and possibly does not get a bath once in three months.

It will not take five minutes a day for a girl to have a plunge bath or to "wash herself all over" if the plunge is not possible. If cold water does not agree with her, let her use warm; but the chief value lies in the brisk rubbing with coarse towels until her pink skin glows like a baby's. This is grooming in good earnest and when it is finished she will hop into her clothes, feeling better tempered, more contented, more brave, all her virtues will be in the ascendant.

The best refinement a girl can show is a refinement that cannot exist without soap and water and a good pair of nail scissors and a brush and comb. This is better than a taste for Browning, or a boudoir filled with aesthetic stuffed cushions of Kensington embroidery. The culture of the body ought to lead to culture of the mind. A stranger naturally expects everything of a wholesome, healthy-looking girl. She looks capable of any amount of brave work, full of endurance, a good girl to lean on, to confide in. She carries sunshine and a sweet atmosphere around with her. Her body is all right. She has plenty of exercise and is too clean to allow herself to suffer from constipation, her blood circulates evenly, the nails on her fingers shine like pink opals, are well-cut and free from overgrown flesh and hang-nails; her mind is pure, her thoughts are pure her life is pure. Thus the wholesome girl impresses the stranger.

The healthy girl is proud of her appetite. She can eat a good breakfast, a better dinner, and can enjoy a ten or twelve o'clock supper. She is proud of the way she can work. When she is warm she will rub her handkerchief over her face briskly, and mischievous darling that she is, a trifle ostentatiously to let people see the pink doesn't rub off or the white crumble away in little pills. I do not know which is the handsomer, a thoroughbred, well-groomed horse, or a well-groomed woman, nor which excites in a general way the most genuine admiration.

Some persons laugh at the girl who spends a long time over her toilet. Don't mind them any dears, go on and spend all the time you can afford. Make your faces as fresh as daisies, as sweet as clover, as bright as a May morning, as clear as a rain-washed rose. You can't do it with a powdered rag and a hare's foot dipped in rouge, or with a bottle of Lubin and a lace frill. Those are but hothouse arts and aids to hothouse beauty. Cultivate you, my dears, the beauty that can stand sunshine and the inspection of the electric light. Keep the shine off your nose with a little innocent rice powder, but trust to soap and water, crash towels and energy for the rest, and when you scud past me in the street I shall look after you in all your sprightly grace and I shall dream I am out in the pure dew-washed country and that it is just five o'clock of a June morning, with young birds waking in the larch trees, and cow bells tinkling down in the meadow where the pied daisies are all in bloom.

MRS. WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR is rather reserved in her display of heraldry, and sends out many notes on plain white paper entirely unmarked, save with the address of her residence stamped in silver or one plain color at the top of the sheet.

No one has more fashions and fancies, all her own, in the line of stationery, than Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt. She has a varied array of sizes and shapes, French gray and pale, blue gray being her favorite colors. One style of paper is a very thick, translucent kind, resembling isinglass. The number of her house on Fifth Avenue, or the name of her Newport cottage, with the words, "Newport, Rhode Island," underneath, are stamped on the paper. White ink is used occasionally by Mrs. Vanderbilt.

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