

## UNCLE TOM'S DEPARTMENT.

## The Fishing Party.

Wunst we went a-fishin'—me  
An' my Pa an' Ma—all three,  
When they was a picnic, way  
Out to Hanch's Woods, one day.

An' there was a crick out there,  
Where the fishes is, an' where  
Little boys 't ain't big an' strong  
Better have their folks along.

My Pa he 'ist fished an' fished  
An' my Ma she said she wished  
Me an' her was home; an' Pa  
Pa said he wished so worse 'n Ma.

Pa said ef you talk, er say  
Anythin', er sneeze, er play,  
Hain't no fish, alive er dead,  
Ever go 'to bite, he said.

Purt nigh dark in town when we  
Got back home; and Ma, says she,  
Now she'll have a fish for shore!  
An' she buyed one at the store.

Nen, at supper, Pa he won't  
Eat no fish, an' says he don't  
Like em. An' he pouted me  
When I choked!—Ma, didn't he?

—JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

## A Well-Mannered Man.

A well-mannered man is a very lovable object, for the fact of his being well-mannered speaks of the possession of estimable qualities of mind and heart, as the great principle of good manners is goodness of heart; like many other habits, good manners are trained in childhood, and where this education has been neglected, it is often difficult to establish them in early life. A constant regard for others, selflessness, humility, and refinement of thought, will go far towards making a well-mannered person. No man is natural, he is conceited or awkward, and nothing but association with, and close observation of well behaved people will give him the requisite polish.

Let school taught pride dissemble all it can,  
"These little things are easy to little man."

In conversation, how easy to distinguish the gentleman; polite attention is given to all that is addressed to him, and his replies are courteous and kindly, and his manner is so natural—nothing put on. His teeth, hair, hands and ears are attended to in his bath or bedroom, and never give him a thought afterwards; even twisting his moustache is not indulged in. When he calls upon a lady he does not stay too long, and when he rises to take leave he goes at once and does not keep her standing listening to his talk, of which perhaps she has had too much already; neither does he offer her his gloved hand, be his gloves ever so clean and fresh. There is much in the manners of to-day that is sincere and heartfelt, compared with the past, when, all was coarse and brutal; even the lowest oaths were sanctioned in every day life.

"How sweet and gracious even in common speech"  
"Is that fine sense which men call courtesy"  
"Wholesome as the air and genial as the light,"  
"Welcome in every clime as breath of flowers—"  
"It transmutes aliens into trusting friends,"  
"And gives its owner passport round the globe."

## Modern Table Manners and Methods.

The use of knife, fork, spoon and fingers undergoes considerable modification from time to time, and singularly enough, as it would seem, more articles are now allowed to be handled at table than formerly for many years. Among these we may name bread, olives, cheese, radishes, celery, asparagus, berries served with the stems, and most fruits, while it is no violation of polite usage to take cubes of sugar with the fingers. Generally, however, what is considered the proper usage will be indicated by the hostess in the utensils supplied with the various articles, and when none are furnished it may be accepted as an indication that the fingers are expected to do duty. The knife is to be used only for cutting, for spreading butter and the like; the spoon conveys to the mouth fluids and semi-fluids only—everything else is relegated to the fork.—*Good Housekeeping.*

## Our Library Table.

Current Topics, Chicago: \$1.00 per annum.—This periodical is in its infancy, but if success depends upon well selected reading matter it will surely attain it.

The Lake, Toronto.—There is already a career of usefulness ahead of our Canadian Monthly, if it keeps on improving as it has done.

Free Press Home Journal, Winnipeg, Manitoba.—This lively sheet furnishes fun and fiction for many an idle hour.

The Humanitarian, New York: \$1.00 per annum.—All the reading matter in this number shows careful preparation. The opening article upon "Pauperism" is well worthy of perusal.

Worthington's Illustrated Magazine comes to hand with a generous supply of good things for the entertainment of its rapidly growing circle of readers. The April number of this vigorous young magazine is the best that has yet been published, its table of contents showing great diversity of material and a most excellent list of contributors. The interest and value of its leading articles, the exceptional literary quality of its stories, poems, and Department matter, are admirably supplemented by the fine press work and artistic illustrations which make this number as attractive as it is readable.

## Boys and Gardens.

By all means, let the boy have a garden and let him have a considerable plot of ground, where he can raise flowers, and also edible vegetables. Nothing will ever taste so good to him as his own lettuce and beets and radishes.

Don't imagine for a moment, however, that your boy, unless he be a genius, will know how to take care of these plants of his. No matter how much he loves them, he will require a good many weary hours of careful teaching and training before he is able to do efficiently even his small duty by his garden-patch. The trouble is that boys love so many things. If they loved their gardens only, or their lessons only, or ball-playing only, or stamp-collecting only; but it is with them as with the perplexed lover—"how happy could they be with either were 't other dear charmer away!" It is a good deal more trouble to see that the boy keeps his garden well than it would be to keep it yourself; but it is a good deal of trouble to bring up a boy right anyhow, and that is something that a mother might as well understand at the outset. Those who try to do it by easy means generally rue it with anguish of soul in the end.

"I never knew a boy who was fond of a garden," said a wise man who had brought up many boys, "to go far astray. There seems to be something about working in the soil and loving its products that does the boys good morally as well as physically." And honest Jan Ridd says, "The more a man can fling his arms around Nature's neck, the more he can lie upon her bosom like an infant, the more that man shall earn the trust and love of his fellow men." Again, he says, "There is nothing better fitted to take hot tempers out of us than to go gardening boldly in the spring of the year." And every one who has tried this can testify that it is true.

A certain little boy, who left a garden at home to take a trip with some friends, wrote home to his mother, "I am having a splendid time, but I wish every morning that I was sitting on my little green cricket in the back yard, watching my plants grow." This little boy always thought that some time, if he watched closely enough, he should see a flower open, but, beyond a few four-o'clocks, he has never witnessed this ever-recurring but magically secret phenomenon.

If possible, supply your own table with your boy's produce at ruling market rates, having it well understood beforehand how the money will be expended. Praise whenever you consistently can; offer prizes for the best fruits, flowers and vegetables, if you have several boys at work; and in every way treat the enterprise with consideration and respect. Many a boy who has put his best efforts into his garden loses heart when he hears it sneered at or made light of. "Your garden? Oh, dear! I never thought of that! What does that amount to?"

It cannot be too early impressed upon a boy that whatever he does should be done well. Therefore make his garden seem as important as you can without dwelling unduly upon it; and remember that the physical and moral effects of the garden are not all. The information that a boy gets from it concerning varieties of seed and soil may be invaluable to him later on.—[Harper's Bazaar.

## Keeping Up Appearances.

How many a roof, transparent to the mind's eye, discloses anxious fathers and harried mothers, sacrificing everything to keep up appearances. The underclothing may be patched and insufficient, but it is covered by stylish gowns. Slipshod, ragged and unkempt at home, when abroad one would suppose them to live luxuriously. Scrimping on the necessities of life, eating crusts, shivering over a handful of coals, piecing out whatever is needed by makeshifts, such are destitute of refinement as of comfort.

This course of action should not be confounded with that forethought and thrift which hoards remnants and looks decent and trim on what would be impossible for a wasteful person. It is merely a pretension and obtrusive assumption. They believe "we live amid surfaces, and the true art of life is to skate on them well." They have not grown to the understanding that the object of existence is the culture of soul and body, and that the condition of the latter depends upon the former. [Hester W. Pool in Good Housekeeping.

## A Hint from 1742 for 1893.

At this time, when so much is being said against the hoop-skirts and crinoline, it is interesting to know that at the first performance of Handel's oratorio of *The Messiah*, given at Dublin, Ireland, April 13, 1742, so great was the anxiety of the people to obtain seats that "the ladies of rank in the capital agreed for the time being to go without hoops, so that an additional number of people could be admitted in the audience." [Boston Evening Transcript.

Keep then the door of thy lips.

If fat should catch fire in the oven throw a spoonful of salt over, or ashes will do as well.

A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity to freshen into smiles.

A sure cure for diarrhoea is a teaspoon of dry arrowroot swallowed every hour until a cure is effected.

It is a great misfortune to have a fretful disposition: it takes the fragrance out of one's life. The habit of fretting is one that grows rapidly, unless it is sternly repressed.

## Puzzles.

## 1—SQUARE WORD.

"You've sought for me high on a year,  
But here I am at last."  
I bring with me both hail and rain,  
"A level surface" cast.

I've brought along "a bird" of prey,  
"Inactive" though when slain,  
I'll sing to music with "a slow,"  
A smooth and gliding strain."

EDITH FAIRBROTHER.

## 2—RIDDLE.

A cheery face is mine,  
A first-rate housewife you divine;  
When grimy, you despair  
To find neatness anywhere.  
But dirty or tidy I can sing  
A song of home, a happy thing.  
I love the five, the more it glows  
The merrier my singing goes.  
A misty crown I wear  
As oft renewed as lost in air;  
In sickness and sharp grief  
They fly to me for quick relief.  
In days of health my contents pour  
Freely and often o'er and o'er.  
I only beg one single rule  
Keep me, like a toper, full.

AMOS HOWKINS.

## 3—CHARADE.

My FIRST is a hero, who gave his word,  
And for Wallace and Scotland drew his sword;  
A useful metal my SECOND is found,  
To obtain it men have to work underground.  
My THIRD is what the mariner dreads,  
As upon his vessel's deck he treads.  
My WHOLE is what we all must need,  
When upon the back of a fiery steed.  
Come answer this puzzle, cousins dear,  
And cause old Uncle Tom's heart to cheer.

ADA SMITHSON.

## To Lily Day:

Well truly now, dear cousin,  
I could not away remain,  
For puzzling is such a TOTAL  
That I must come again.  
I'm LAST you could do without me,  
For my puzzles haven't much sense,  
And my FIRST for leaving you awhile  
Was not the lack of "pence."  
I found I could not write at all,  
But getting some of the latter to-day,  
I composed this simple rhyme;  
And now my letter I must close.  
It's time to go to bed,  
I will not this time say "good-bye,"  
But *An Recoit* instead.

CHARLIE S. EDWARDS.

## 5—CURTAILMENTS.

Chief High Lord of the Admiralty,  
King and Ruler of the Navy;  
Three in one, and one in three,  
H. R. H. King Fairbrother, thus do we address thee.

Oh! thou gracious one, I thank thee  
For the honor thou hast whole me,  
For the title thou hast given me,  
For the office thou hast booked me.

When! Oh! when thou great and mighty,  
On hended knee can I thank thee,  
Hear thy kindly voice thus say unto me,  
Arise, Sir Knight of ADVOCATE canoe?

Oh! thou royal highness, grand and sublime,  
When shall I SECOND my robes of state,  
Lest the honors of my office,  
Book young Devitt as a middy of might.

HENRY REEVE.

## 6—ANAGRAM.

An anagram has been called for  
By our cousin Ed. Fairbrother,  
So though his own are all so good,  
I'll try and send another.  
Tis scarcely fair to use my name  
Till the cousins of it tire,  
Pray let it drop a little while  
Ere you justly rouse their ire;  
And cousin Ed., just go ahead,  
As you have ever tried;  
The pride you'll be of a mother some day,  
Or rather of a bride.

ADA ARMAND.

## 5—CHARADE.

## To Ada Smithson:

Welcome, TOTAL, and welcome  
To your splendid puzzles too,  
That the former owner of your FIRST  
Was cleverer, can't be true.  
For LAST of brevity I will now  
End my rhyming here,  
Hoping that in our "souvenir"  
Your portrait will appear.

ADA ARMAND.

## Answers to March 15th Puzzles.

1. Know, now. 2. Without. 3. Something.  
B R D  
A S H I P  
B A L L A D H O V E L  
S L I P S D I V I D E D  
A P A R T P E D A T E  
C O R N E R L E T H E  
E N T E R E R D E E R  
E E R

## Names of Those Who Have Sent Correct Answers to March 15th Puzzles.

Henry Reeve, Ada Smithson, A. R. Borrowman, Addison and Oliver Snider, I. Irvine Devitt, Thos. W. Banks, Willie Hunter, A. Malcolm, Matthew A. Robertson, Lily Day, Edith Fairbrother, Maggie W. Scott, Peter Scott, Jessie Nelson, George English, Mary Morrison.

## DUCK AND HERRING.

At Swindon, Wiltshire, some years ago, a Mr. Duck eloped with a Miss Herring, which gave the inspiration for this stanza:

Oh! has a heron took flight with an eel,  
Or a trout by a bit of good luck;  
But I never could bring my mind to feel  
That a Herring would bolt with a Duck.

All the Year Round.