Our Sphinx.

St. Nicholas, Ho.

Goderich, Jan. 24th, 1877.

[illegible]

A correspondent sends a part only of a conundrum.

[illegible]

Charade.—Country of Asia; at no time [illegible] anything a fabulous animal [illegible] My whole and have seen the temples of Ava [illegible] Transpose (you know what transpose means) an iron fastening, and leave a small strip of wood; profit and leave a liquor; to lie and leave a juice; a disease and leave length of life; identical and leave the broad Scotch farce, an article of food and leave something for the busy bee; and leave a term of respect. The transposed letters form a celebrated pipe.

The answers to the Sphinx of two weeks ago have been missed, and we will have to ask St. Nick to send them again, if he will be so kind.

All the puzzles this week are from St. Nick, who also sends correct answers to those of last week.

Odds and Ends.

The season for "hops" has arrived.

They now call retired printers ex-press men.

As yet no one is willing to adopt rheumatism.

There's one thing about this kind of weather, hand organs are impossible.

A western paper speaks of the attempt to "shoulder-peat" the remains of Lincoln.

A Montreal evening paper advertises for "a live boy who can write slightly and rapidly."

Gough has scored his 7,500th lecture—he's about time he'd Gough the platform!

The late Presidential election in the United States has made it pretty hard for the "I-told-you-so" fellows.

You can tell a married man now every time by the agitation he displays at the sight of an empty coal scuttle.

The long evenings have come, whereat the gamers snicker and the old-sooker mourn the song of rejoicing.

"What the deuce," now grants everybody just as they are smilingly about to make some remark on entering the office.

A bashful compositor refused to accept a situation in an office where girls were employed, saying he never set up with a girl in his life.

She was plump and beautiful, and he wildly fond of her. She hated him yet, wondrous to relate, she strove to entice him. He was a flea.

They talk of putting editors in gaol for libel in Missouri, and it is thought that the prospect of board for the winter will make it a plentiful supply of libels.

The time is here when men will sit down hard upon coal-hole covers, and rise with a ghastly smile upon their lips, and murder in their hearts toward the lookers-on.

A country debating society has decided that the only person who can put up a satisfactory stove pipe without indulging in audible profanity is a naked and dumb man.

The Pekin (China) *Gazette* is two thousand and ten years old, and its present editor seems to have no doubt that it will keep right on for three or four thousand years more.

Sewing bees will soon be in vogue, and at every meeting three or four African heathens will be provided with clothes, and the chemisers of eighteen children will be raised.

A St. Louis tramp offered a cancelled postage stamp for sale at a high price as a sacred relic, declaring that it was from one of St. Paul's letters to the Corinthians. This is a hard winter.

A country editor offered to make his "daughter" a Christmas present of his printing office; but the boy declined it, with the remark that he had rather work for ten dollars a week than to run in debt nine hundred dollars a year.

Do you know how a church fair works? The principle is a very ingenious one. Some ladies borrow money from their husbands, buy materials, and make up fancy articles which they give to the fair. Then they change places, borrow more money, and buy the articles back again.

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