

such hindrances. They try to kick doors open, and they pinch their fingers in the cracks, and make a great noise about the wrong and the injustice to which they are subjected.

Good friend, has a door been shut in your face? Do not spend your time in kicking or banging the door, but consider, not what man intended, but what the Lord intended. Turn about. Perhaps the Lord has some purpose in this which is wiser and wider than you know. While men have shut the door on one side, perhaps the Lord is opening one on the other side.

Accustom yourself always to look at the bright side of things, and never make a fuss about trifles. It is pitiful to see what mere nothings some women will worry and fret over, lamenting as much over an ill-made gown as others do over a lost fortune; how some people we can always depend upon for making the best, instead of the worst, of whatever happens, thus greatly lessening our anxieties for themselves in their troubles; and ah! how infinitely comforting when we bring to them any of our own.

"For every evil under the sun
There is a remedy—or there's none.
If there is one, try and find it;
If there isn't, never mind it."

UNCLE TOM'S DEPARTMENT.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES,—

April, with its tears and smiles so fitful, and its All Fool's Day, has crept in upon us almost unawares, and he who escaped having the epithet "April Fool" applied to him must have had all his wits about him, especially if there were any young folks around. Perhaps a few words about this peculiar custom may interest some of our young readers.

It seems to have originated only in the last century, and as the French records mention it long before we read of it in England, some assert that it had its origin in France. It is now practiced by the country people of Scotland to a much greater extent than anywhere else. "Hunting the gowk" is a favorite trick with them. It is played as follows: Some wag sends a poor fellow (the gowk, or, in other words, a sort of simple-minded fellow) to a neighbor, perhaps two miles distant, ostensibly on a real errand which is explained in the letter he carries to that person. The real contents, however, are these lines:

"This is the first day of April—
Send the gowk another mile."

No. 2 looks regretful, says he is unable to fulfil the request, but that some other person a mile or so distant will do so, and gives the messenger a letter supposed to be to that effect, but which is, of course, the same as the first. Thus the fun goes on until someone, out of pity, tells the "gowk" that it is the first of April. The unfortunate butt of such a joke dare scarcely appear in public for several days without being pointed out as an object of ridicule.

Once, however, this very custom served a far different purpose. It is related that the Duke of Lorraine and his wife, who were captives at Nantes, in France, made good their escape on account of making the attempt on the first of April. They disguised themselves as peasants, the Duke carrying a hod on his shoulder and his lady a basket of rubbish on her back, and thus succeeded at an early hour in passing the city gates. A woman met and recognized them, and running to the guard told him about it, whereupon he laughingly cried out "April Fool," all the soldiers echoing the cry and paying no heed to the woman's story. The affair was told as a jest to the Governor, whose suspicions were at once aroused. He caused an investigation to be made, but the soldiers found the fugitives beyond their reach and themselves indeed "April Fools."

In Canada the small boy has the largest share of the fun, although occasionally his elders do not disdain to amuse themselves by innocent practical jokes on their unsuspecting neighbors.

Our puzzlers will be anxious to learn who have been the successful competitors during the quarter just ended, so I herewith append the names of winners of prizes for original puzzles during that time. Solvers' names will appear as soon as full returns reach me.

For original puzzles during Jan., Feb., and March, 1st prize (\$1.50) Miss Muriel E. Day, New Carlisle, Que.; 2nd (\$1), Miss Agnes C. Scott ("Kit"), Oshawa, Ont.; 3rd (75c.), "Ogma," Mitchell, Ont. The contest has been a close one, although many good contributors were very late in starting, but they will have a better chance next time.

How many of you have tried the Great Canadian Puzzle? All cannot win the great capital prize, but all have an equal chance of doing so, and every one can certainly secure a handsome pin. I hope all of you will make an effort to do so. With the increased number of subscribers we anticipate an influx to our corner which will make it even brighter and merrier than before. Hoping to realize this pleasant anticipation, Your loving—

UNCLE TOM.

A man cannot possess anything that is better than a good woman, nor anything that is worse than a bad one.—Simonides.

The Great Canadian Puzzle.

DEAR EDITOR,—Please let me know, in next issue, if, in "The Great Canadian Puzzle," one has some word or words which fit both in letters and meaning, but are not the same as your answers, will one have a chance for the \$50 prize? If it fits, will you count it right, supposing no other has words which fit even better? This little difficulty may occur also with the old proverb.

"GYRA."

[In answer to "Gyra," no words will count as correct except those intended by the originator of the puzzle. This also refers to the proverb. We hope our readers are working vigorously at the puzzle. Do not be deterred by thinking the answers are difficult. You will be astonished at their simplicity when you see them published.]

Puzzles.

Address all work for this department to Miss Ada Armand, Pakenham, Ont.

1—HIDDEN CITIES AND TOWNS OF UNITED STATES.

- Two men have just gone wheeling down the hollow, Ella!
- At Christmas Tommy got a new ark and a toy tomahawk.
- We may see those foreign friends of Otto's; we go directly by where the "Royal Oak" landed this morning.
- The hunted hart forded the stream and evaded the hounds.
- "Wages is agin' a workin' man nowadays," said Pat Eason, as he discontentedly viewed his week's earnings.
- He suddenly became rich! Monday his uncle died and left him a large estate.
- Senor Detro, Italian harpist, played at the "Astoria," Tuesday last.

2—SQUARE WORD.

- To degrade.
- Healing ointments.
- To divide.
- To strike.
- A girl's name.

3—DROP LETTER.

- r-s-r-, one of England's greatest poets.
- a-o-, one of the largest rivers in the world.
- S-p-e-, an old fort in the United States.
- a-e-, an island in the Western Hemisphere.
- a-i-e-, a famous place.
- N-e-b-, a British possession.
- l-l-b-d-, a city in Afghanistan.
- e-a-, a city in Europe.
- d-e-, a river in Europe.
- K-u-h-o--a-c-, a bay in Canada.
- u-s--l-, a lake in B. C.

4—SQUARE AND CIRCLE PUZZLE.

O	O	O
O	O	O
O	O	O

Divide this square into four pieces of equal size, each piece to be of the same shape and to contain three circles, without cutting into any of them.

MABEL ROSS.

5—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

- 10, 2, 1, 4, 9 is a Danish coin.
- 11, 9, 12, 8, 5, 9, 2 is a low shrub.
- 3, 7, 10 is hard wood.
- 10, 9, 6 is something every door should have.

The whole is the name of a famous man in a secret society.

PEARL CORRIGALL.

6—ENIGMA.

In night but not in day.
In clover but not in hay.
In cold but not in heat.
In furrows but not in feet.
In arm but not in hand.
In sand but not in band.
In England but not in Spain.
In honor but not in fame.
Total a famous Indian chief.

MARION SAUNDERSON.

7—1 is a flat stone.

2 is a yard and a quarter.

3 is a preposition.

4 is a vowel.

My whole is another word for to scourge.

BLANCHE McMURRAY.

8—TRANSPOSITION.

A horseman riding along with a one in his hand, sees some two. He does not *thrive*, but secures some and *four* them. Thus he *five* what is not his.

"KIT."

Diagram.

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9—RHOMBUS.

Across.

- Goes on water.
- Is not pleasant.
- Pos-esses wealth.
- Is virtuous.
- A pronoun and a verb.

Down.

- Is in table.
- An adverb.
- To move quickly.
- A weight.
- Part of the body.
- Long ago.
- A common receptacle.
- An exclamation.
- Is in little.

10—"NEW FORM" PUZZLES.

- Two O's, two T's, Two V's and a Z. Form this into something We all like to see.
- Four I's, one V, and a U. Two O's, one M, and a Q. Form this into something Disliked by a few.

MAGGIE SCOTT.

11—DROP LETTER.

- a-f-n--o-, city in United States.
- M--a--i-, bay in New Brunswick.
- a--d-, city in Spain.
- J--u--l-m-, city in Asia.
- n-o-, city in China.
- a-p--s-, city in Italy.
- W--l-l--t-n-, county in Ontario.
- l-o-, city in South America.
- D--l--g-, river in Australia.

MAGGIE WILSON.

12—WORD SQUARE.

My first is a kind of fur.
My second is a weapon.
My third is a kind of broth.
My fourth is one who loses.
My fifth is pitchers.

NELLIE SCOTT.

13—RIVERS OF CANADA.

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. zomeleank | 5. needheair. | 9. plolorvel. |
| 2. rfrare. | 6. gyaunsea. | 10. bhiliosuhg. |
| 3. kaseen. | 7. waahkettenc. | 11. oocumqblinus. |
| 4. ybaani. | 8. lihnoouri. | 12. asiocennalk. |

NELLIE SCOTT.

Answers to March 1st Puzzles.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1—Mediterranean Sea. | 2—Sarnia. |
| 3—Pirate—irate—rate—ate—tea. | 4—Wm. Lyon McKenzie. |
| 5—Adieu, diu—calm, alm—awed, wed—knight, night—malice, Alice—faction, action—Oporto, port—loathe, oath. | 7—Tasmania. |
| 6—Mar—tin—gale. | 8—Crooks; milk; cream; churn; butter; pats; curd; press; cheese; whey. |
| 9—Hypophosphites. | 10—8—mile—s. |
| 11—U S U R E R | 12—Banan A |
| S A T I R E | A die U |
| U T O P I A | N ew S |
| R I P E N S | Duckie T |
| E R I N G O | I nfe R |
| R E A S O N | O oco A |
| | O r i e n t a l |
| | O b i |
| | T opek A |
| 13—P A R T S | |
| A P A R T | 14—Subtle - bustle. |
| R A T I O | Shah - hash. |
| T R I C K | Shearers - bearers. |
| S T O K E | Sharper - harpers. |
| | Resorted - restored. |

SOLVERS TO MARCH 1ST PUZZLES.

"Kit," Pearl Corrigan, "McGinty," B. N., Blanche MacMurray, Annie P. Hampton, T. McKim, "Hazel," Muriel E. Day, L. Moorhouse, Alice Gordon, Mary Hampton, Effie Stewart, Madge, Lulu, Margaret, A. Archie Bligh, Chris. McKenzie.

COUSINLY CHAT.

"Kit."—The parts of a puzzle which are most important should be printed so that the printer may know that they should be printed in capitals or otherwise distinguished from the rest. Rebus may be drawn with pencil or pen, as desired. A. R. G. S., Chas. E. McK., Marion.—We are glad to hear from you, but please note the time for sending in work, so that names may appear in proper issue.

A. R. G. S.—Oh, no, not a grandmother; but if you are a good boy you may call me cousin.

Margaret.—Really cannot correspond, but do send that photo anyway. Why yes, I should like to get a letter written from your lofty perch.

"McGinty."—Your rebuses are not as good as some of the other puzzles you used to send. Yes, neatness counts in case of a tie, which often occurs.

Arnprior.—I have again received solutions from this post office with no name attached. Will sender please sign name next time?

"Annie Laurie."—Will be glad to get it when you find it. Yes, indeed, you were rather late.

"Muriel."—As I understand rules, the winning of a pin does not deter from winning capital prize as well. Am thinking of trying myself.

SOLVERS TO FEB. 15TH PUZZLES.

(Late for last issue.)

Marion Sanderson, Allan R. G. Smith, Chas. E. McKim, Mary G. Hampton, Annie P. Hampton, Blanche MacMurray, Muggins, and A. Archie Bligh.

Rule Was Reversed.

There is an old saying that "The more you kick a dog the more he will love you," but there are exceptions to every rule.

Some years ago I was stationed at Devonport. A friend of mine (whom I called Bates) owned a handsome retriever dog. The animal received more kicks than caresses from his master, and I was continually remonstrating with my friend on his cruelty to his dog, but his only answer to my entreaties to be kind to the animal was the usual one, "The more you kick him the more he will love you."

I was very kind to this dog, and my kindness was well rewarded, as the sequel will show.

One afternoon Bates and I engaged a boat for a row. Bates tried all he knew how to prevent his dog getting into the boat, but I eventually prevailed on him to let the dog accompany us.

On the return journey a fog came on and a passing steamer swamped us, with the result that our boat upset, and we were struggling in the water. We could not swim, and the steamer's crew could not see us, although they could hear our cries for help.

As I was sinking, the dog grabbed me and pulled me to the upturned boat; but I could not get him to save his master, who was drowned.—*Cassell's Journal.*

The Old School Exhibitions.

Oh, the old school exhibitions! Will they ever come again, With the good, old-fashioned speaking from the girls and boys so plain?

Will we ever hear old "Iser," with its rapid roll and sweep, And "Pilot," 'tis a fearful night; there's danger on the deep!"

Sweet Mary doesn't raise her lambs like Mary did of old; Their fleece is not "as white as snow"; they're wandering from the fold.

The "boy upon the burning deck" is not one half as fine— He was not "born at Bingen, at Bingen on the Rhine!"

The girls don't speak in calico, the boys in cotton jeans; They've changed the old-time dresses long with the old-time scenes.

They smile and speak in ancient Greek, in broadcloth and in lace, And you can't half see the speaker for the collar round the face!

O, the old school exhibition! It is gone for evermore! The old schoolhouse deserted, and the grass has choked the door.

And the wind sweeps round the gables with a low and mournful whine For the old boys "born at Bingen—at Bingen on the Rhine."

Atlanta Constitution.

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