

Ancle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES,—Did you ever play crambo? One of our nephews kindly sends us an account of the game as played one evening when he was present, which he pronounces a pleasant and improving recreation, and splendid for the sharpening of one's wits and displaying their aptness at rhyming. The way it is played, each one of the party writes a question on a small slip of paper, and a word on a large piece. The papers are then all put in a box or something, well shaken and passed around, and each person in the circle takes one of each kind, and is required to write a rhyme answering the question and containing the word. After all are written, the question, word and rhyme are read for the amusement of the company. For example here are some of the results of the game, as played by the party of which our correspondent was a member.

Word.—"Cricket."

Question.—"Does he know much?"

1. Yes, indeed, at school he is as smart as a cricket,

And is always ready in the morning waiting for the wicket.

W.—"Another."

Q.—"What is the height of impudence?"

2. 'Tis the height of impudence, we think, To joggle another while taking a drink.

W.—"Still."

Q.—"What time does the moon rise to-night?"

3. 'Twas night, at nine when all was still, When the moon shone bright all over the hill.

And so on, but space will not allow me to give any more. The game is sometimes varied by the whole company using the same word and question.

Now my dear nephews and nieces try it at some of your parties, and write a full report of the result to Minnie May.

To Our Readers.

Write, one and all, dear readers, kind And let us know what's in your mind, Tell us of your household cares And what you use for kitchen wares. Send us all your best receipts With which you make up all your treats For the neighbors when they call, And spread out in the dining hall. Write us how you wash and iron, And how you do your weekly dryin', How you furnish out your home, How you starch your husband's linen, And renovate the underpinnen. What you do for the children's colic, And if you ever let 'em frolic. Remember, all, this rule to-night, Whate'er you do, be sure do right.

PUZZLES.

137—ENIGMA.

O'er lawns I rove and often climb the hill, And change my color often as you will; The courtier vain, philosopher and beau I often please, yet by strict rule I go Midst ladies fair; at routs and balls I'm seen, Yet with the cottage maid trip o'er the green. With British tar, on top-sail yard I shine, Or with the collier sink into the mine; Where armies march I constantly attend, Aye, and each soldier owns me as his friend; The greatest kings and princes bend to me, Yet I serve all with great humility; I aid both priest and statesman, philosopher and clown, Granddam and infant, rich and poor in country and in town.

PUZZLE BOY.

138—GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 12 letters:— My 12, 8, 3, 2 is a river in Africa. My 11, 3, 10, 11, 8 a range of mountains in Asia. My 1, 4, 9, 10, 4, 12 capital of one of the Eastern States.

My 11, 9, 8, 11 one of the Grand Divisions. My 4, 7, 8, 4 one of the United States. My 4, 1, 2 a river in Siberia. My 7, 11, 12, 12, 8, 1, 11, 3 a town in Missouri. My 7, 2, 3, 2, 12, 11 an island on the coast of Africa. My 11, 10, 7, 2, 12, 9 a town in Greece. My 10, 8, 10, 8, 6, 11, 6, 11 a lake in South America. My 11, 10, 3, 11, 12, 10, 8, 6 an ocean. My whole is one of the political divisions of Asia.

139—CROSS WORD ENIGMA.

My 1st is in month, but not in day. My 2nd is in oats, but not in hay. My 3rd is in gulf, but not in bay. My 4th is in ant, but not in bug. My 5th is in carpet, but not in rug. My 6th is in glass, but not in mug. My 7th is in dinner, but not in meal. My 8th is in tin, but not in steel. My 9th is in walrus, also in seal. You will do pretty well if you get the whole. They are scattered about from pole to pole.

LOUISA HALL.

140—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of nineteen letters:— My 16, 5, 2, 14, 2 is a diadem. My 8, 2, 3, 7, 10, 4 means to trade. My 17, 11, 1, 4, 6 is a kind of clay. My 19, 15, 11, 12, 9 18 is to shun. And my 15, 1, 19, 13, 3 is clear. Whole I am a celebrated authoress.

KITTY LOWE.

141—REVERSIONS.

- 1. Reverse a preposition and form a denial.
- 2. To depart, and a king of olden time.
- 3. A Spanish gentleman and of a movement of the head.
- 4. Temper and penalty.
- 5. The measure of sounds and to send out.
- 6. Troublesome animals and luminous body.
- 7. Part of the verb "to be," and a period of time.
- 8. A promise to pay and a governor of Connecticut for nineteen years.

142—GEOGRAPHICAL REBUS.



143—CHARADE.

Cut off my head, and singular I am, Cut off my tail and plural I appear; Cut off both head and tail, and strange to say, Although the middle's left, there's nothing there. My first's a rolling sea, My last's a flowing river, And in their mingled depths I sport and play, Parent of sweetest sounds, though mute for ever.

MYRA.

144—PUZZLE.

My head is more valuable than any treasure; it is often preferred to even the finest gold, and yet those who thus profess to prize me first attack me with cold steel, and then crush me to death between heavy stones. I am belabored with a thousand strokes, and made to pass through the ordeal of both fire and water, and yet, in spite of it all, I give life to those who thus cause my death.

MAGGIE JOHNSTONE.

145—ENIGMA.

I consist of 14 letters. My whole is a fragrant flower. I went to pick wild 1, 5, 7, 9, 2, 6, 14, 11, 10, 8, 3, 13, and found it blooming in the field where they grew. The 7, 12, 1, 3, 1 made the 9, 8, 7 very 13, 2, 14, 3, 5; and I did not care if the 6, 11, 8, 9, 7, 1 hurt my fingers. I 13, 9, 2 a sheep or 5, 2, 12 come and 6, 11, 12, 2, 1, 14 some of 8, 5, 1 leaves. A boy with a sly look (who 11, 12, 6, 1 bird's nests) came by with a 6, 9, 11, 7, 12, 2. He had also a 6, 12, 2, and 9, 11, 10, 12, 2, and aimed at the 6, 11, 4, 9, 13, 5, of a robin through the 6, 9,

7, 13. I was 13, 12, 7, 10, 8, 14, 11 than I can tell that he hit 8, 5. Then I took my 10, 12, 13, 4, 1 and 6, 14, 7, 11, 8, 4, 1 and went home.

146—Find two words in the English language of eight letters each, one of one syllable and the other of five syllables.

W. BROUGHTON.

147—SQUARE WORD.

Fill the blank with the words constituting the square word.

Come out and see this brilliant — said a — in the — one evening to —.

Answers to October Puzzles.

In the first decapitation last No. "strong man" should have been "stony mass." 128—Frock, Rock. 2, Cup, Up. 3, Bawl, Awl. 4, Plight, Light. 5, Bring, Ring. 6, Pledge, Ledge, Edge. 7, Block, Lock. 8, Shoe, Hoe. 9, Hill, Ill. 10, Part, Art. 11, Chair, Hair, Air. 12, Bark, Ark. 13, Bell, Ell. 129—Thebes, Rome, Venice, Cairo, Nineveh, Berlin. 130—Gold, Old. 2, Brave, Rave. 3, Gone, One. 4, Story, Tory. 5, Pearl, Earl. 6, Cloud, Loud. 7, Gray, Ray. 8, Bary, Air, Swinging, Winging. 131—"When the cat's away the mice will play." 132—German. Emery, Repe, Mrs. Ay (assout instead of accent), N. 133—Provincial Exhibition in London. 134—Tread, Read, 'Ead. 2, Trill, Rill, Ill. 135—A River. 136—Napoleon Bonaparte.

Names of Those Who Have Sent Correct Answers to October Puzzles.

Cynthia Creeper, *Minnie Hyde, Charles Emery, Harry W. Husband, P. G. Keyes, W. Broughton, Jane Shore, William Frost, Maude Lynn, Francis Blake, John West, John Williams, Fred James, Sarah Phillips, Lucy Mills, Eleanor North, Maggie Johnstone, Eva Spenser, Stephen Froman, William Shore, Edward Miller, Jennie Nord, Francis Graham, Nellie McIntyre, Lucy Priddy, T. Evans, B. Garnell, T. Shoebottom, John Scott, Francis Smith, James Long, Mary Adams, Jennie McKay, Florence Matthews, Lizzie Preston, J. H. Brenton, Effie Jackson.

Humorous.

We know a editor who offers to "take corn, wheat, rye, turnips, oysters, grindstones, rat-tail files, or anything else one can eat," in payment of subscriptions to his paper. There is nothing stuck up about that man either.

Chromos being about "played out," a Kansas paper offers a handsome young woman as a premium for the biggest lot of new subscribers, and now the Kansas girls are changing their tune and singing "I want to be a premium."

For a printer's wife, Em; for a sport's wife, Betty; for a lawyer's wife, Sue; for a teamster's wife, Carrie; for a fisherman's wife, Netty; for a shoemaker's wife, Peggy; for a carpet-dealer's wife, Mattie; for an auctioneer's wife, Biddy; for a chemist's wife Ann Eliza; for an engineer's wife, Bridget.

A thick-headed squire being worsted by Sidney Smith in an argument, took his revenge by exclaiming: "If I had a son who was an idiot I would make him a parson." "Very likely," replied Sidney, "but I see your father was of a different opinion."

A rheumatic old gentleman, whose son was careless about shutting the front door after him, called out to him one cold day, when he had left the door swinging wide, "See here, young man, you leave that door open too much!" "Do I?" was the response. "Then how much open shall I leave it?" "I mean you leave it open too often!" thundered the gentleman. "Oh! well, how often shall I leave it open?" politely inquired the son. The father did not dare trust himself to reply.

Independent Voter (to defeated candidate)—"The baby has got a new tooth, but the old lady is laid up with a cold in her head."

Defeated Candidate (gruffly)—"Well, what of it? What do I care?"

Independent Voter—"Well, before the election you used to take me aside and ask me how my family was coming on, and I've been hunting you all over town to tell you, and that's the way you talk to me! But it don't make any difference. I voted for the other candidate anyhow."

AN UNLUCKY LOT.—A man picked up a purse in the street one day, and advertised the fact. In ten days he was visited by sixty-one men, women, boys and girls, all claiming to have lost money. The sum found was but eleven dollars; but of each visitor who called, the finder asked: "So you lost fifty dollars, did you?" Nine-tenths of the applicants promptly replied, "Yes, sir." "Ah," said he, "yours was another purse."