

Uncle Tom's Department.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES.—How often I wish on these bright June mornings that I could turn myself into a fairy godmother. "What would I do then," do you ask? Why print ever so many more of the dear little letters, bright stories and tangled puzzles which every day are dropped into Uncle Tom's great mail bags. My heart almost aches sometimes when I have to put aside so many clever, amusing and affectionate letters and good puzzles which cannot possibly be crowded into our department. Still, my dear little folks are too sensible to be vexed at Uncle Tom when he cannot possibly help himself. You must know I try to be fair in my treatment of each of my correspondents. I was very much delighted to receive so many answers to puzzles for May, and a great many had all correct; so you see the competition is strong. But a word of warning. I am sorry to have some careless little people who forget the rules which have often previously appeared; namely, to write puzzles or anything for publication on one side of the paper only, and that all answers must be in not later than the 20th, and, worse still, I have been told about some who appear to be dishonorable. I will not believe that a single boy who reads this paper ever wilfully cheats another boy; but I fear that some lads forget the notice given, that all puzzles sent are to be strictly original, and not expect and receive credit (as one did last month) for old puzzles. The rebuses were better this month; Miss E. Ryan was again to the front with a pretty good one, but the prize is awarded to Miss Annie Hammond, of Delaware, Ont. Now, all try and make it out.

UNCLE TOM.

PUZZLES.

No. 1.—ANAGRAM.

Rthee si on kols wveerho eeahdtw dna dneetd
tbu one adde malb si rhtee reeht si on idieesrf
wsoveerh ddeeenf tbu sha noe cnavta rhiac.

SARAH HENDERSON.

No. 2.—WORD SQUARE.

- (a)—Name of an Egyptian bird.
(b)—To profit.
(c)—A dot.
(d)—A luminous body in the heavens.

S. H.

No. 3.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

Initials and finals read downwards give two English rivers.

- 1—Height.
2—A French town.
3—A sea.
4—A town mentioned in the Bible.
5—A German river.
6—An Irish river.

MAGGIE MILLER.

No. 4.—WORD HALF SQUARE.

- 1—A city in Canada.
2—A demonstrative pronoun.
3—A verb in the past tense.
4—To make request.
5—A pronoun.
6—A vowel.

A. E. BOLTON.

No. 5.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

(1) A Slave. (2) A territory of the United States. (3) A county of Scotland. (4) A country of N. A. (5) A town of Russia where a celebrated battle was fought. (6) A county of Scotland. My initials and finals read downwards will name two cities of Europe.

H. W. MACKENZIE.

No. 6.—DECAPITATION.

Whole I am the offspring of fish. Behead me and I am to wager. Behead again and I am the bristle of barley, &c. Transpose and I am pale. Behead and I am a useful article.

HERBERT W. MACKENZIE.

No. 7.—DIAMOND PUZZLE.

A consonant; a small animal; clever; a flavoring essence; a wildest; taken away; to reject; a small insect; a consonant.

EMILY J. WILSON.

No. 8.—INCOMPLETE SENTENCES.

Fill the first blank with the right word and the second blank with the same word beheaded and curtailed.

- (1) Experience was the most — teacher I — had.
(2) Sam went so near the — that they caught his — and he was thrown down.
(3) We noticed that the — of the exhibitor's coat was nearly pulled off by his favorite trained —
(4) He spoke from the — and every one gave — to his words.
(5) They lived on a — farm and were much in the open —

E. E. RYAN.

No. 9.—RIDDLE.

People all desire to have me,
Lads and lassies, grave and gay;
Everybody seeks and courts me,
No one wishes me away.
Tell me what's my name and size,
You see me here before your eyes.

CHAS. FINCH.

No. 10.—PUZZLE.

Whole I am a thin piece of metal. Behead and I am drawing near the close. Behead again and I am the past tense of my next. Transpose and I am something every person does. Transpose again and I am the dried leaves of a shrub.

FRED MILLS.



Illustrated Rebus No. 10, won by W. H. GOULD,
Oshawa, Ont.

Answers to May Puzzles.

- 1—Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime;
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

- 2—Spark, park, ark.

3—ANVIL
NEAT
VAT
IT
L

- 4—In ten there are three letters, and in twice three there are ten.

- 5—Firkin.

- 6—Old black Joe.

- 7—Mush-room.

- 8—Ash, elm, pine, fig, larch, linden, maple.

- 9—Good books are more than gold to those who understand them.

- 10—Tobacco.

- 11—Chatham.

Names of Those who have Sent Correct Answers to May Puzzles.

H. B. Herrington, John Clark, Annie Bowman, Richard E. Osborne, Clara Gregory, George W. Mills, Sarah Henderson, Annie Thompson, Frank B. Doud, Amy M. Lancaster, Mark Dearing, T. W. Purser, Maggie Francis Elliott, Esther Louisa Ryan, Charles Finch, Morley S. Pettit, Laney McMullin, Walter E. Laing, Charlie S. Husband,

Fred Porte, Addie V. Morse, H. S. Lovering, Jr., Samuel Albright, Fred Mills, Hannah Lehman, George A. Kingston, Lillie Stem, James F. Peck, C. G. Keys, Jr., Penimah J. Capstick, A. Philips, Emily Van Sickle, Calvin W. Finch, A. J. Taylor, Minnie Iegart, James A. Key, W. Hull, C. Gertie Heck, Albert E. Bolton, Euphemia Smith, W. H. Bateman, George Guest, Robert W. W. Purdy, Carrie Van Norman, Minnie G. Gibson, Maggie Miller, Benj. F. Stewart, Charles E. Stevens, Nellie McQueen, Robt. Wilson, R. H. Truesdale, Robt. Wilson, Lillie A. R. Hardy, Ida Clemens, H. W. Mackenzie, Lucy Grey, Agnes E. Willson, Geo. Guest.

Humorous.

A gentleman whose custom was to entertain very often a circle of friends, observed that one of them was in the habit of eating something before grace was asked, and determined to cure him. Upon a repetition of the offence he said: "For what we are about to receive, and for what James Taylor has already received, the Lord make us truly thankful."

In the counting-room of an Irishman the following notice is stuck up in a conspicuous place: "Persons having no business in this office will please get through with it as soon as possible, and leave."

One of our wholesale drapery houses has a new clerk, whose father from the country went in to see him the other day, and was surprised to learn that all the salesmen had nicknames. He asked the floor-walker why his son was called "Jury." "Oh," was the reply, "he is always sitting on cases."

"When I was once in danger from a tiger," said an old East India veteran, "I tried sitting down and staring at him, as I had no weapon." "How did it work?" eagerly asked a bystander. Perfectly; the tiger didn't even offer to touch me." "Strange, very strange! How do you account for it?" "Well, sometimes I've thought it was because I sat down on a high branch of a very tall tree."

Minnie May's Department.

MY DEAR NIECES.—It is a long time since we have had a talk about fashions, and as this is just the time for making new and renovating old summer dresses, suppose we take a glance at the styles, in order that we may have some idea how to go to work.

The fashions seem as varied as ever. Among the latest thin woolen goods are French bunting and nun's veiling, which appear in all delicate tints, as light blue, shell pink, cream, etc., and are pretty and effective, trimmed profusely with puffs and ruffles, the latter edged with some pretty soft lace, as Spanish or Duchesse.

White dresses of lawn, mull, pique, nain-sook, in fact all washing materials, trimmed with embroideries, laces, or the goods itself, will be favored by the young ladies during the coming summer. A pretty and becoming style of making nun's veiling, muslins, etc., is to trim the skirt nearly to the waist with deep ruffles, or alternate ruffles and puffs, and a short panier overskirt or polonaise.

For more substantial wear there is nothing to equal a good cashmere, especially black, it being suitable at all times of the year, and upon almost every occasion, and is very economical, as it can be re-modelled a number of times. We saw a pretty black cashmere a few days ago; the skirt was trimmed with kilting, and around the bottom of the polonaise was a pattern worked in jet beads or bugles; a very handsome fringe made of the beads edged the front of the polonaise; the front of the waist and sleeves were also worked with beads, all of the trimmings being made by hand. Now, girls, if you want to have a very handsome dress for little money and have the time (for that, as well as patience, is required) you can do so by taking a pretty braiding pattern, or embroidery, if