

# THE PUZZLER

No. 748.—Double Acrostic.

My final, read downward, form the name of a town in England, and the initials for what it is noted:

1. A winged monster. 2. A girl's name.
3. To plough. 4. A spirit. 5. A dye. 6. A province in Germany. 7. An apparatus. 8. A band.

No. 749.—Hidden Things.

Within the name of what great poet will you find concealed a weapon? Within the weapon, a fruit? Within the fruit, part of the head?

No. 750.—Illustrated Rebus.



1. TAKINGS



2. LABOR COMES



3. THE NOR IS TAKEN

—Country Gentlemen.

No. 751.—Word Changes.

The object is to change one word into another by substituting one letter only, each time you make a word, using as few words as possible.

Example: Read to book, in three words between. Read—road, rood, rook—book.

In the same way change: 1. Sad to joy in three. 2. Word to book in three. 3. Man to boy in three. 4. Put turf on fire in three.

No. 752.—Backward and Forward.

1. Read forward, I am a time of feasting and joy; read backward, I am a mechanical power.

2. Forward, a little article found in every workbasket; backward, folds or doublings of thread.

3. Forward, an enlarged root; backward, to repulse.

4. Forward, dress; backward, to boast.

5. Forward, a dull color; backward, a poet.

6. Forward, a popular sport; backward, to whip severely.

7. Forward, to subsist; backward, wrongdoing.

8. Forward, a blow with the hand; backward, vulgar associates.

9. Forward, guardianship; backward, to sketch.

10. Forward, a planet; backward, rodents.

No. 753.—Three Squares.

1. Something used on a farm. 2. A continent. 3. A little stream of water. 4. Something interesting.

5. An anthem. 6. A fruit. 7. The skin bone. 8. To dispossess by legal process. 9. Paps.

1. A month. 2. A mountain range between Europe and Asia. 3. "To trap." 4. The plural of a measure for cloth.

No. 754.—A Geographical Word Puzzle.

A lake in the north of England famed for its picturesque scenery.

4, 5, 8, 6, often seen in a park.

7, 2, 3, 4, not matter.

6, 10, 5, 4, bends before the wind.

9, 2, 3, 4, an outer covering.

9, 5, 2, 3, seen on your horse. To restrain.

6, 2, 4, 8, 9, does not go on foot.

3, 5, 10, 4, necessarily.

1, 2, 4, 5, 9, less narrow.

7, 2, 8, 3, appearance, manner.

1, 5, 8, 4, of quick growth.

No. 755.—Anagrams.

(Celebrated men.)

1. A Cid is able. 2. O, I give C. C. sure map. 3. Rend Aztec honor. 4. Seen G. W. go on right. 5. No slim bravo I. 6. I wist well a great old man.

No. 756.—Beholdments.

1. Behold motion round a circle and have the act of unfolding.

2. Behold to pant and have a serpent.

3. Behold one of the climatic divisions of the earth and have a unit.

## EDUCATION OF A SINGER.

When to Begin Training a Girl's Voice. Women Teachers—How to Practice.

The age at which a girl should begin the study of music is the earliest at which her parents can bring it before her intelligence. A good musical training, both in its literary sense and in actual manual dexterity, should be a necessary adjunct in the education of a singer. But the age at which a girl's voice should begin training or cultivation is another matter. This should not be until the character of the voice is assured and secured by physical conditions. The Italian school of voice production and cultivation is, for various reasons and especially for its results, the accepted school of vocal training. Many excellent graduates of this system are now in America, and competent instruction is therefore obtainable almost universally. The rates of tuition are in most cases reasonable, as the knowledge imparted is the attainment of a long apprenticeship to a profession, and the value of the training received incalculable to any one purposing to use the voice either in public and professional work or in home and social singing.

The writer of the foregoing proceeds to tell in *The Ladies' Home Journal* that he thinks, given an equity of skill, women teachers are rather better in the earlier training—the voice production and breathing exercises—for women pupils than are men. After these principles have been grasped and the pupil has gained enough control of the voice to show she understands what has been imparted to her, perhaps a man teacher is able to control his pupils better, to secure better work from them. However, at present the woman singing teacher is in the ascendant.

Any competent instructor will advise a pupil to practice only for short intervals, but to repeat these intervals as frequently as physical strength and conditions will permit. Beyond this it is quite impossible to lay down any rules regarding the length of time for practice. It is well that a pupil should not practice for a longer time than 15 minutes, but these periods may recur after five or ten minutes of relaxation. The amount of time required and allowed for practice must depend upon so many conditions that exact rules are impossible. One pupil may acquire in 90 minutes what another would take four hours to attain.

One should practice with some interest in what is to be done, with the determination to conquer some difficulty, to acquire further ease, with some hope of actual and immediate gain, not merely to get rid of time, to get through with a necessary evil. In placing or posing the voice, in all the preliminary work and in the preparatory studies, the student should practice in a soft voice. This is to avoid the muscular strain and effort so noticeable and inevitable in beginners, and to accustom the singer to using the mezzo voice—or half voice. Advanced pupils may use a larger and rounder tone in their studies, and practice their songs as they are written, with their various degrees of piano and forte.

### Fashions in Gloves.

The latest thing in an evening glove from Paris is a 20 button suede. That is the longest made this season, and even if a woman wears a gown with no sleeves in it she does not wear a longer glove, but leaves the fleshy part of her arm exposed. This glove has two bands of jeweled trimming, one at the wrist, and the other finishes it at the top. A drawing string is run in at the top, which keeps the glove from slipping down. Another glove much worn by Frenchwomen who are obliged to wear long sleeves in the evening is the eight buttoned suede without any opening.

Still another style for evening wear, reported in the *New York Sun*, and one very becoming to plump white arms, is finished at the top with a plaited frill of fine lace set on with pearl trimming. It is much used by chronic opera goers. Suede is the thing for evening wear, though a few economically disposed women buy glace. This is an English fashion. Now in France the women wear gloves to cover their hands, while in England and America they usually wear them to shape the hand. No well dressed Frenchwomen would ever be caught anywhere in glace duds. They always wear suede on all occasions. At present there is a great demand for glace gloves in America, but the various shades of red that have been so stylish for two years past are quite out of date. Soft neutral tones are used for the street. They go with everything, don't show soil and are easily cleaned. The street gloves have two buttons, which clamp instead of buttoning, just as the fastenings on men's gloves do. They hold very securely, never come off and rarely get out of order.

### A Toilet Cushion.

Embroidery-executed on a square 4 1/2 inches large of cream canvas in flat, cross, box stitch, and drawn work in three shades of green floeselle silk, affords a pretty cover for a toilet cushion. Pointed scallops worked over three threads each time secure the outer edges. The middle star of buttonhole and box



TOILET CUSHION WITH WORKED COVER.

stitches is made with the darkest shade of silk, the flat stitches with the medium shade, and cross stitch points and drawn work in lightest shade. The cushion, 5 1/2 inches large and stuffed with wool, is covered first with red or pale green silk. A piece of the silk 8 1/2 inches wide and 59 inches long is gathered round the cushion and arranged in puffs at the corners.

## FOR SOUND MONEY.

CLEVELAND'S STRONG ARGUMENT FOR 100 CENT DOLLARS.

We Twice Failed to Establish Bimetallic Currency When the Metals Were Near Each Other in Value—Attempt at Free Coinage Now Would Result in Silver Monometallism and in Great Financial Distress.

President Cleveland, in his message to congress, reviews at considerable length the history of our greenbacks, the great need of retiring them and the urgent need of changes in our banking and currency laws to give us a sufficient, safe and elastic currency. His recommendations agree substantially not only with those of Secretary Carlisle and Comptroller Eccles, but with those of many eminent authorities on this subject. They should be, and we hope have been, read by all good and patriotic citizens. We, however, propose now to call renewed attention to his excellent discussion of the free coinage question. It is one of the most convincing arguments ever made against cheap silver dollars. We reproduce below the greater part of this discussion:

While I have endeavored to make a plain statement of the disordered condition of our currency and the present dangers menacing our prosperity, and to suggest a way which leads to a safer financial system, I have constantly had in mind the fact that many of my countrymen, whose sincerity I do not doubt, insist that the cure for the ills now threatening us may be found in the simple and simple remedy of the free coinage of silver.

Were there infinitely stronger reasons than can be adduced for hoping that such action would secure for us a bimetallic currency moving on lines of parity, an experiment so novel and hazardous as that proposed might well stagger those who believe that stability is an imperative condition of sound money. No government, no human contrivance or act of legislation, has ever been able to hold the two metals together in free coinage at a ratio appreciably different from that which is established in the markets of the world.

Those who believe that our independent free coinage of silver at an artificial ratio with gold of 16 to 1 would restore the parity between the metals, and consequently between the coins, oppose an unsupported and improbable theory to the general belief and practice of other nations, and to the teaching of the wisest statesmen and economists of the world, both in the past and present, and, what is far more conclusive, they run counter to our own actual experiences.

Twice in our earlier history our lawmakers in attempting to establish a bimetallic currency undertook free coinage upon a ratio which accidentally varied from the actual relative values of the two metals not more than 3 per cent. In both cases, notwithstanding greater difficulties and cost of transportation than now exist, the coins, whose intrinsic worth was undervalued in the ratio, gradually and surely disappeared from our circulation and went to other countries where their real value was better recognized.

Acts of congress were impotent to create equality where natural causes decreed even a slight inequality. Twice in our recent history we have signally failed to raise by legislation the value of silver. Under an act of congress passed in 1878 the government was required for more than 12 years to expend annually at least \$24,000,000 in the purchase of silver bullion for coinage. The act of July 14, 1890, in a still bolder effort increased the amount of silver the government was compelled to purchase, and forced it to become the buyer annually of 54,000,000 ounces, or practically the entire product of our mines. Under both laws silver rapidly and steadily declined in value. The prophecy and the expressed hope and expectation of those in the congress who led in the passage of the last mentioned act, that it would re-establish and maintain the former parity between the two metals, are still fresh in our memory.

In the light of these experiences, which accord with the experiences of other nations, there is certainly no secure ground for the belief that an act of congress could now bridge an inequality of 50 per cent between gold and silver at our present ratio, nor is there the least possibility that our country, which has less than one-seventh of the silver money in the world, could by its action alone raise not only our own but all silver to its last ratio with gold. Our attempt to accomplish this by the free coinage of silver at a ratio differing widely from actual relative values would be the signal for the complete departure of gold from our circulation, the immediate and large contraction of our circulating medium, and a shrinkage in the real value and monetary efficiency of all other forms of currency as they settled to the level of silver monometallism. Every one who receives a fixed salary and every worker for wages would find the dollar in his hand ruthlessly scaled down to the point of bitter disappointment if not to pinching privation.

A change in our standard to silver monometallism would also bring on a collapse of the entire system of credit which, when based on a standard which is recognized and adopted by the world of business, is many times more potent and useful than the entire volume of currency and is safely capable of almost indefinite expansion to meet the growth of trade and enterprise.

In a self invited struggle through darkness and uncertainty our humiliation would be increased by the consciousness that we had parted company with all the enlightened and progressive nations of the world, and were desperately and hopelessly striving to meet the stress of modern commerce and competition with a debased and unsuitable currency and in competition with the few weak and laggard nations which have

silver alone as their standard of value.

All history warns us against rash experiments which threaten violent changes in our monetary standard and the degradation of our currency. The past is full of lessons teaching not only the economic dangers, but the national immorality that follows in the train of such experiments. I will not believe that the American people can be persuaded after sober deliberation to jeopardize their nation's prestige and proud standing by encouraging financial nostrums, nor that they will yield to the false allurements of cheap money, when they realize that it must result in the weakening of that financial integrity and rectitude which thus far in our history have been so devotedly cherished as one of the traits of true Americanism.

Our country's indebtedness, whether owing by the government or existing between individuals, has been contracted with reference to our present standard. To decree by act of congress that these debts shall be payable in less valuable dollars than those within the contemplation and intention of the parties when contracted would operate to transfer, by the fiat of law, and without consent, an amount of property and a volume of rights and interests almost incalculable.

Those who advocate a blind and headlong plunge to free coinage in the name of bimetalism and professing the belief, contrary to all experience, that we could thus establish a double standard and a concurrent circulation of both metals in our coinage, are certainly reckoning from a cloudy standpoint. Our present standard of value is the standard of the civilized world and permits the only bimetalism now possible, or at least that is within the independent reach of any single nation, however powerful that nation may be.

There is a vast difference between a standard of value and a currency for monetary use. The standard must necessarily be fixed and certain. The currency may be in diverse forms and of various kinds. No silver standard country has a gold currency in circulation, but an enlightened and wise system of finance secures the benefits of both gold and silver as currency and circulating medium by keeping the standard stable and all other currency at par with it. Such a system and such a standard also give free scope for the use and expansion of safe and conservative credit, so indispensable to broad and growing commercial transactions and so well substituted for the actual use of money. If a fixed and stable standard is maintained such as the magnitude and safety of our commercial transactions and business require, the use of money itself is conveniently minimized. Every dollar of fixed and stable value has through the agency of confident credit an astonishing capacity of multiplying itself in financial work. Every unstable and fluctuating dollar falls as a basis of credit, and its use begets gambling speculation and undermines the foundations of honest enterprise.

I have ventured to express myself on this subject with earnestness and plainness of speech because I cannot rid myself of the belief that there lurks in the proposition for the free coinage of silver, so strongly approved and so enthusiastically advocated by a multitude of my countrymen, a serious menace to our prosperity and an insidious temptation of our people to wander from the allegiance they owe to public and private integrity. It is because I do not distrust the good faith and sincerity of those who press this scheme that I have imperfectly but with zeal submitted my thoughts upon this momentous subject. I cannot refrain from begging them to re-examine their views and beliefs in the light of patriotic reason and familiar experience, and to weigh again and again the consequences of such legislation as their efforts have invited. Even the continued agitation of the subject adds greatly to the difficulties of a dangerous financial situation already forced upon us.

### Three Children Sliding on the Ice.



United States Currency Statistics.

The Reform club has just issued what promises to prove one of the most valuable reference pamphlets in its series—"United States Currency Statistics." It is designed to meet the needs of those who wish to have at hand, in compact form, the most reliable statistics available upon currency topics. It consists of 32 pages, crowded with just those statistics to which students of currency questions have most occasion to refer.

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The pamphlet can be obtained for 5 cents from the Reform club, 52 William street, New York city.

### A New Plague.

Just as the Georgia free silver people are in the midst of their calamity grows the price of cotton comes up to plague them.

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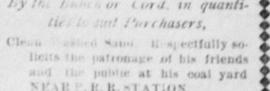
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