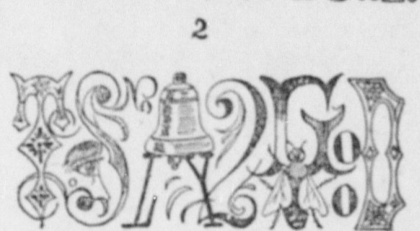
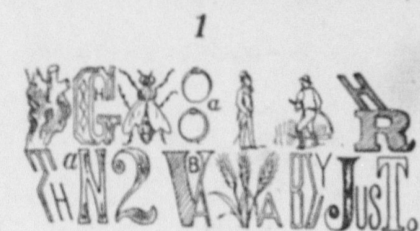


THE PUZZLER

No. 1.—Charade. I wander o'er the land of dikes, Of slow canals and cleanly streets, And wonder as each figure quaint My unaccustomed vision meets— I speculate at what near time The sea its barriers shall burst And overwhelm the fertile land, Which is, as you must know, my first.

If, in a generation past, In old arithmetics you reckoned, Among the "tables" measure there You surely would have found my second. Should not America be proud That such a one she claims as son? A statesman, poet, Christian man, The gracious whole combined in one.

No. 2.—Illustrated Rebuses.



1 Country Gentleman.

No. 3.—Anagram.

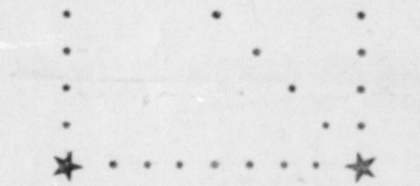
Zeno, a would be poet of the olden times, This said was marked and seized and jailed for making rhymes.

A jury true, on his appeal, did sit betimes To find where his offense came in the list of crimes.

A disputation marked the opening of the case, Some said they in his lines no sense could trace. Others declared that ages hence a brighter race Of men would in his lines find beauty, thought and grace.

The jury all, with faces set as adamant, A verdict gave that pleased both wise and ignorant. They said: "This charged that Zeno's rhyme is merest rant; Our verdict found is this: Zeno can write, ZENO CAN'T."

No. 4.—Double Hollow Triangle.



The hypothenuse of nine, the name of Arthur's far famed sword. The upper row, one who interprets the meaning. The lower row, ever upward. The left side, a species of rose, the sweet biter. The right side, marked by red letters. The hypothenuse, the left side, the upper row and the lower row all begin with the same letter. The right side begins and ends with the same letter.

No. 5.—Half Squares.

My initials, read downward, form the name of a town in Germany. 1. A cavalry soldier. 2. A boy's name. 3. A girl's name. 4. Part of the leg. 5. A color. 6. A prefix equivalent to in or on. 7. A consonant.

1. Affording food. 2. The pineapple. 3. To toss. 4. To reverse. 5. A song. 6. In like manner. 7. A letter.

No. 6.—A Cage of Birds.

Find the names of birds hidden in the following sentences: 1. I cannot see my neighbor's wall, owing to the height of the trees.

2. Whenever I walk down Whitechapel I candidly confess to a slight feeling of fear. 3. Did you hear a dog howling last night?

4. If ever you should meet an ogre, be sure you treat him with great respect. 5. Does Philip love Rebecca, do you think?

6. If we could find the El Dorado, do you think we should be any the happier? 7. If you are not quick, I tell you, you will lose your train.

8. Here is one parsnip, eleven potatoes and three turnips. 9. What an ugly cur Lewis has with him.

10. Is that action either just or kind?

Odd Epitaphs.

Here lies the body of John Mound, Lost at sea and never found.

Here lies the body of Jonathan Stout, Who went in the water and never came out; Supposed to be floating about.

Here lie the bodies of two sisters dear, One's buried in Ireland; the other lies here.

Key to the Puzzler. No. 757.—Riddle: The letter B. No. 758.—Numbered Charade: Ward-robe. No. 759.—Changes: Tone, bone, cone, zone, lone, none, done.

FARM FIELD AND GARDEN

RENTING LAND.

A Term of Years Is Beneficial to Both Owner and Tenant.

In nearly every section local rates, regulations and terms have been established for those who rent or work land on shares; hence there is no need to discuss that point. It is far better for all parties concerned that the contract should extend over a term of years, no matter whether the land be devoted to trucking, grain raising or dairying.

It is a fact that unless the tenant is thoroughly conversant with the actual fertility and capabilities of the soil mistakes of a serious nature will occur, such as sowing field after field to a crop the soil of which is not adapted for it. Of course these mistakes need not or should not occur after one or two years of cultivation—that is, if the manager is an observing man. It is a fact that the successful farmer is the one who studies the character of his land as closely as he does the habits and condition of his domestic animals and knows almost to a certainty what crops this or that field will produce and what kinds of fertilizers can be applied to the best advantage. All these important matters the newcomer has to learn; hence the advantage of a long lease.

The owner is also benefited, as the workman considers it more of a permanent home. The fences and buildings are kept in better repair and minor improvements and conveniences added that in a one or two year lease would not have been made. Landowners are also more kind and interested in a long term tenant than one who migrates yearly, and this yearly moving is destructive to household effects and farming implements of any farmer. The New England Homestead, authority for the foregoing, also advises as follows:

Put the terms of the lease in black and white, no matter how well acquainted the parties may be. Half a day spent in jotting down the important portions of the contract is time well spent and often prevents what might otherwise lead to serious dispute and misunderstanding.

Good Garden Soil.

What is or what is not good garden soil is often a great question. Very few people understand that good soil is one in which the atmosphere can freely circulate. The earth must not allow the air to circulate to such an extent as to lose its moisture, but it must have an abundance of small spaces which will contain small quantities of air before plants will thrive. We sometimes speak of "air plants," but in truth all plants are air plants, no matter whether growing on rocks or trees or whether growing in the earth. Air is of far more consequence to the roots than to the leaves. When, therefore, we have a stiff clay earth to deal with, we make a good soil by applying sand or vegetable matter, which when it roots will leave small spaces in which air may be collected.

It is for the same reason that we crush hard clods, for a hard clod has no air spaces. When broken to pieces—pulverizing is the technical term—we simply give the chance for atmospheric air to spread throughout the whole mass. For the same reason what is known as a wet soil is a bad soil because water drives out the air. There is no air in earth which is water tight. It has been noted in Meehan's Monthly that the use of a hole in the bottom of a flowerpot is not so much to allow the escape of water as it is to permit fresher air to flow in the spaces of the earth when the water leaves it. In the language of gardening, a good soil is one which is perfectly "aerated."

The Care of Honey.

Honey has a great affinity for moisture, and if comb honey is stored in a damp atmosphere it will absorb the moisture through the slightly porous capings and become thin and watery. The bulk of the honey will be so increased that it will burst the cells and ooze out. The honey may become so thinned that fermentation will set in. Cold is also detrimental to comb honey, causing it to candy in the cells. When comb honey is first taken from the hives, it should be stored in a hot, dry atmosphere. A room in the southwest corner of a building where it will become very hot in the afternoon is a good place to store comb honey, as a correspondent in The Country Gentleman explains. The heat continues the ripening process, and if there are any unsealed cells of honey the honey in them becomes thicker and riper instead of thinner.

Down cellar is where the ordinary purchaser of comb honey is almost sure to put it. No place could be more undesirable. Dryness and warmth are the requisites for keeping comb honey. As ordinarily kept comb honey will candy before spring, but by keeping it in a warm atmosphere it will not candy and will really improve with time.

Potato Scab.

A bulletin from the New Jersey station, New Brunswick, tells about many experiments which were carried on last season to determine the effect upon potatoes of lime, sulphur, manure, corrosive sublimate, kaimit and sulphate of copper as causing or preventing scab. The result, in a word, is that four of sulphur, costing from 2 to 3 cents a pound, is, all things considered, the best remedy for scab and soil rot as well that the experiments suggest, and the suggestion is emphatic and convincing. Further trials show that sulphured potatoes have superior keeping qualities. In one series of experiments the sulphur "kept off the scab almost completely when the standard remedy, corrosive sublimate, tested in four strengths, failed absolutely to show any less scab than the untreated plots."

'TWOULD BE A PICNIC FOR THE SILVER BARONS, BUT—



—'Twould be a hard grind on Uncle Sam, and it would be at the expense of farmers and wage earners.

CHEAP MONEY CHEATS LABOR.

Experience of This and Other Countries With Depreciated Currency.

Undoubtedly thousands of wage earners believe that somehow they would be benefited by cheap money. The most modern form of cheap money, as it exists in their childish minds, is the 50 cent silver dollar, made of this value by coining it at a ratio of 10 to 1 with gold. Such persons are either incapable of reasoning or they have never really applied their reasoning powers to this question. Neither have they learned the lessons of history in regard to cheap money and wages. A pamphlet entitled "Quality of Money and Wages" has just been published by the Reform club, which is intended to teach the lessons of history and to facilitate clear thinking on this important question. Its author, Mr. Frank L. McVey, first demonstrates in the simplest way that a depreciating currency must injure the wage earner. Here is the way he begins his discussion:

"The operators in our mills and factories, together with those engaged in day labor of other kinds, constitute a great creditor class. They are creditors in the sense that they advance labor. At the end of a day or a week the amount due them for services performed is greater than that owing to any other class. But in the majority of cases the wage earner is dependent upon his daily or weekly earnings, so that the vital question with him is as to their immediate purchasing power.

"What a laborer really works for are the things which he consumes. Everything that goes to make goods cheaper tends to increase the real as compared with the nominal wages of the workman, for he is then getting more goods for the same money. On the other hand, every tendency to make things dearer tends to decrease in a corresponding degree the real wages of the people. 'Wages are high or low according to the abundance of necessities, comforts or luxuries obtainable for them.'"

Mr. McVey proceeds carefully to inquire into the relations between money, prices and wages. Here is another of his statements:

"The prices of what wage earners have to buy respond far more promptly to changes in the quality of money than do wages—the prices at which labor is sold. Hence whenever money is getting better, though nominal wages may tend to decrease, wage earners are constantly getting more goods in exchange for the money they actually get for their labor, and whenever money is getting poorer, though nominal wages may tend to increase, wage earners are constantly getting less of the necessities and comforts of life in return for the wages they receive. Appreciation of the dollar in which wages are paid and consequently lower prices are therefore constantly and certainly to the advantage of the wage earner. Depreciation of the dollar and consequently higher prices are always and certainly to his disadvantage."

After reaching conclusions from theoretical reasoning he studies the experience of most of the leading countries of the world. He finds that not only are wages nearly always lower in silver than in gold standard countries, but that there is abundant reason why such should be the case. To cite one instance he shows by statistics and diagrams that our wage earners during our civil war suffered a great loss in wages due to the depreciation of our currency. In 1865 a day's labor purchased only four-fifths as much as it purchased in 1860. Wages had risen only about 48, while prices had risen 90 per cent since 1861. This notwithstanding that the withdrawal of one-fourth of our best workers to serve as soldiers greatly lessened the competition among laborers and that both before and since our greenback inflation period both nominal and real wages have been advancing from year to year.

Mr. McVey closes with the following impartial statement: "The only fair and just currency to all parties is a stable one. Under such a currency the conditions of the future are more easily ascertainable, legitimate enterprise more confidently entered upon and progress more sure. Wage earners have no right to state for an appreciation of a currency. Neither have they any reason to submit to depreciation by others."

CHEAP MONEY DELUSION.

False Doctrines Spread Abroad by Demagogues in Times of Depression.

The cheap money delusion only flourishes in time of depression. These are not times of depression, nor is there that prospect ahead. In time of depression demagogues can always find a constituency for the wretched delusion that to make good times it is only necessary for the government to set a lot of printing presses at work turning out paper money or to set all the mints at work coining silver dollars. Somehow or other the idea prevails among the dupes of the demagogue that when the government has printed or coined money it is going to make a present of it to the people. Nobody gets money in that way.

Money has to circulate before it can get into people's pockets and to make it circulate there must be business, trading, commercial activity, the investing of capital, the opening of new enterprises, and before there can be such commercial and financial activity there must be confidence in the future that legislation will not destroy the value of investments made. There must be an assurance that when a dollar is let out for use it will come back whole and not clipped of half its value. In no other way can people get money in their pockets. No government has attempted such a foolish thing as to give the people money, and the mere manufacture of money at the mints would do nobody any good.—St. Joseph Herald.

Steadily Losing Ground.

The Hon. Tom L. Johnson of Ohio, who has taken the trouble to inform himself on the currency feeling in the west, recently expressed the following opinion:

"I look for a short, sharp fight between the forces of cheap money and sound money and the utter defeat of the silverites. Free silver people never had the strength they boast of. It is a good deal of noise, it is true, but when it comes to counting noses, they are generally in the minority. The fact is, each successive congress since the Fifty-first shows a great falling off of free silver followers. In the Fifty-second congress there was a tie vote in the popular house on the Bland bill, and this was the zenith of the silver craze. Its nadir is in the future. The improvement in business conditions is not calculated to support the claims of the silverites. They have based their agitation mainly on discontent springing largely from the unemployed class, and now that these are becoming fewer every day the silver followers grow beautifully less."

Silver Would Replace Gold.

Question.—Would there be more money in the country with the free coinage of silver?

Answer.—There would at first be very much less, owing to the withdrawal of gold. After values became adjusted to the silver basis silver would be coined here as it is in Mexico. There would be no demand for silver on account of its coinage, nor would it then go up in price, because silver bullion would be worth the same after coinage as before, just as gold is now. Men would sow and reap and buy and sell as they do now. Whoever got a silver dollar would have to work for it as he must now work. Our stock of money would be less efficient because we would not have the standard of the leading civilized nations, and our money would have its price in gold, fluctuating from day to day, as is now the case with the money of Mexico, Japan, China and other countries. To understand the result we have but to study the conditions found among the silver using nations.—R. Weissinger in "What Is Money?"

Mistaking Effect For Cause.

The fall in the price of silver is to be explained in the same way as the fall in the price of wheat and cotton by an enormous increase of production. While demonetization may have to some extent influenced the price of silver, yet the fall in price was the cause of demonetization, and not its result.—R. Weissinger in "What Is Money?"

Where Silver Is Well Thought Of.

First Church Member—What are the charges agin Deacon Jones? Second Church Member—Slandering the parson. Said he was as good as gold.—Harper's Bazar.

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