

PUZZLE PAGES.

CONTRIBUTIONS are also invited for this Department, but we would point out that a preference will be given in all cases to Puzzles of a local character. A specially bound volume of the Almanac will be presented to each contributor.

In order to create a spirit of emulation among such of our readers as take an interest in this Department, we have decided on offering a Prize of Half a Guinea to whoever solves correctly the largest number of the Puzzles in this issue. Each list must be accompanied with a Coupon, but any number of Lists may be sent in (from time to time during the year) provided that a Coupon accompanies each.

(1)

By L. F. Donnellan, Tubbercurry.

(First solver wins a beautifully bound volume of songs and poems.)

I'm often asked why don't I roam.
To countries far away;
And not to spend my life at home
Working for small pay.
In answer I will freely speak,
For roaming I detest,
I'd rather stay in Ireland,
'Tis the land that I love best.

Sure, 'tis the home of sage and saint
A land of purity;
Where warriors bold, in days of old
Did shed their blood to set her free.
Still she remains, in captive chains,
And by foreign laws oppressed,
The day's not far when freedom star
Will shine o'er the land that I love best.

Her picturesque hills and mountains,
I love them one and all;
From Galway's coast to Dublin,
From Cork to Donegal.
And all the scenes within her shores,
I love them in my breast,
And, oh, I could not part them
Those scenes that I love best.

Let others sing their golden praise,
Of great riches they attain,
In the vast and wealthy cities
Beyond the raging main.
But where's the good in all the wealth,
When your heart keeps sorley pressed,
Thinking on your native land
The land that you love best.

For here among the purple heath,
In dear old Innisfail,
A wafting sweet salubrious breeze,
You surely can inhale.

The Irish exile longs for it
Nostalgia burns his breast
That he wishes to be back again
In the land that he loves best.

And now to find the answer,
My first means to behold,
A number is my second part,
Which I know you'll soon unfold,
An Irish river is my last,
Transpose, your skill to test
Whole is the cause, why I don't roam
From the land that I love best.

(2)

By "Moy Boy" to the bards of North
Connaught,
A muslin find, then bear in mind,
My next's a Christian name,
Beneath the Ox Mountains ground, my
whole doth stand—
Please find it bards of fame.

(3)

By "Moy Boy" to R. J. Milne.
What's always behind, is first bear in mind,
What's round my second will name,
What comes from a sore for third you'll
explore
In whole you'll have a bird of game.

(4)

By "a well-wisher" to Miss L. G. Mulhern
Croghan, Boyle.
Ah, first is here, I'm next my dear,
Always throughout the last,
This short charade, that I have made,
Is at my third part classed.
The parts combine, then you'll define,
What I wish each girl and boy,
May it bring you peace and happiness,
And fill your heart with joy.

(5)

By "Sligionian" to M. Benson, Buninadden.

A verb and Hebrew measure,
Commingle at your leisure,
And then you may pen down,
A noted Irish town.

(6)

Diamond Square by Sligionian to Miss L. L.

A letter first, and then you must,
Go find a deed for second,
A Munster town, for third, pen down,
Not very important reckoned.
An ancient place for fourth you'll trace,
That's famed in Irish history,
Your opinion next, don't get perplexed,
For seventh part means dexterity.
A nondescript bring up the rere,
You've nothing more to do,
But go and solve this diamond square,
That I have sent to you.

(7)

By "Puzzler" to the Bards.

1 A useful article here you'll see
2 A Christian name this will be,
3 To emit a bellowing noise,
4 When danger's near 'tis given boys.
5 Avoid the last he's not your friend,
My five words square I now will end.

(8)

By "Sligionian," to James Geraghty,
Rathmoyle, Castlerea.

The initials down reveals a science,
In which great numbers place reliance,
1 A pretty bird this will be,
2 A common dish here you'll see
3 An animal that is well known,
4 A slimy fish here is shown.
5 This will surely be a snare,
6 And then a weight I do declare
7 A tree undoubtedly you'll find,
8 A stone you'll quickly bring to mind,
9 A metal here you must pen down,
10 And then a noted English town.

(9)

Transposition by L. F. D.

I am a Christian name for man,
But mix it through and fro,
And then I'm sure you'll quickly scan,
A spot in dear Sligo.

(10)

By L. F. D., Tubbercurry, to the solvers
of North Connaught.

If ever you go to Ulster,
In first you'll surely be,
My next's adjoining Munster,
A place beloved to me;
From one two third did start,
The parts you'll easily guess.
I wish whole from my heart,
Many years of bright success.

(11)

By "Dinny Doyle" to "Ahasky"

My first is seen in everything you see.
My next is where, and echo answers
where.
My whole is truly known to you and me,
For it is here, and really everywhere.

(12)

By Willie Gallagher, Tubbercurry, to
Mr. John O'Hara, N. T. Drimina.

My first is a substance that's light,
My next's a mechanical power,
My whole may be found, where the bottle
goes round,
That enlivens the Christmas hour.

(13)

By "A Female Pedagogue" to Mr. D. J.
Gallagher, N. T. Masshill.

My 1, 2, 8 oft times meets a bitter fate,
When trying to make whole a real
success,
With a dainty 6, 7, 3 - 3 4, 5, 6, and near
you see
Ah! D. J. would you have her were she
less?
'Tis 9's you'll surely be, if you join that
whole with me,
And what a happy time we'll then enjoy
Our wheels shall go together in all sorts
and kinds of weather,
On our morning trip to work my
darling boy

(14)

By Miss Lizzie Rogers, Cloonacool, to
M. C. Dromore West.

Your smiles M. C. are first to me.
Whene'er I glance 'neath the bright
glances
Of love; my next is full for thee,
Which stronger grows as time advances.
Oh! dearest Michael blooming fair,
You are before my view incessant,
And are my total I declare
So charming, youthful gay and pleasant

(15)

By J. J. L., to "Sweet One" Grange,
Co Sligo.

They say my first is very bright,
And what they say is true;
But only in my second can
My first be seen by you
My second would without my first,
Be far from being bright;
My whole is what the working man
Welcomes with great delight.

(16)

To J. G. Ballymote, by a Friend
My first, loud chattering, through the air
Bounded 'mid tree tops high,
Then saw his image, mirrored, where
My second murmured by.

Taking it for a friend, he strayed
T'wards where the stream did roll,
And was the sort of fool that's made
The first day of my who e.

(17)

By Mac, Sligo, to Miss Conway, Grange.
Behold a beast, and you will find
A larger beast is left behind,
This is wonderful you'll say
A greater wonder I'll display,
Behold this large beast; and then
Instead of one, you'll find I'm ten.

(18)

By Mac, Sligo, to Miss Keenan,
Ballymote.

The first and chiefest in richest I'm seen,
Although I in poverty always have been
And although I'm in rags, I am yet on a
throne.
And without me a monarch could ne'er
own a crown.

(19)

By Ballaghaderreen, to P Kilfeatehr,
N S, Knocknarea, Sligo.

I am in the fire but not in the flame;
I belong to the master, but not to the
dame;
I belong to the church, but not to the
steeple;
I belong to the parson, but not to the
people.

(20)

By Lizzie, Ballymote, to J Allingham
Glencar.

Through thy short and shadowy span,
I am with thee, child of man;
With thee still, from first to last.
In pain and pleasure, feast and fast;
At thy cradle and thy death,
Thine earliest wail and dying breath.
Seek thou not to shun or save,
On the earth or in the grave;
The worm and I, the worm and I,
In the grave together lie.

(21)

By Lizzie, Ballymote, to Purty Boy,
Strandhill.

I know a word, with letters three-
Add two, and fewer there will be.

(22)

By Punster, Mullaghmore, to Shawn,
Bundoran.

A ring and a wing, with three fourths of a
fog
Will bring to your view, sir, an obstinate
dog.

(23)

By Jennie, Strokestown, to Tony G,
Sligo.

Ti true I have both face and hands,
And move before your eyes;
Yet when I go, my body stands;
And when I stand, I lie.

(24)

By K C, Crossmolina, to James J P,
Ballina

He went to the wood and caught it,
Hh sate him down and sought it,
Because he could not find it,
Home with him he brought it.

(25)

By K C, Crossmolina, to P J Doherty,
Carha, Bonniclon, Co Mayo.

There's a word composed of three letters
alone

Which readr backwards and forwards the
same;

It exposes the sentiment warm from the
heart,

And to beauty lays principal claim.

(26)

By Peggy, Ballina, to Jimmy, Enniscrone.

I'm not what I was, but quite the reverse.

I am what I was; which is very perverse;
From morning till night I do nothing but
fret,

Because I am not what I never was yet.

(27)

By Peggy, Ballina, to Harry Naughton,
Dromore West

I am small, I am slender—as light as a fly.
And yet all the strength of your fingers
defy;

For, weak as you think me, such power
have I,

I can tie such a knot as you cannot untie
Though if any knew how, there are many
would try.

(28)

By Andy, Mohill, to Mary, Ballymote

In a garden was laid,

A most beautiful maid,

As ever was seen in the morn,

She was made a wife

The first day of her life,

And died before she was born.

(29)

By Pedagogue, Ballaghaderreen, to
Sweet Marie.

There is a noun of plural number,

Foe to peace and tranquil slumber ;

But add to it the letter S,

And wondrous metamorphosis !

Plural is plural now no more,

And sweet what bitter was before.

(30)

By Miss S. A. D., Castlereagh, to P. J.
Dolan, Aughnasurn, Boyle.

No rose can boast a livelier hue

Than I can when my birth is new,

18.

Of shorter life than that sweet flower,

I bloom and fade within an hour ;

Like Marplot, eager to reveal

The secret I would fain conceal,

(31)

By Katie, Boyle, to Peter M'Gowan,
Rosses Point, Sligo.

A sailor launched a ship of force,

A cargo put therein, of course,

No goods had he he wished to sell ;

Each wind did serve his turn so well ;

No pirate dreaded to no harbour bound ;

His strongest wish that he might run
aground.

(32)

By Katie, Bunninadden, to Bluebeard
Ballymose.

I'm very small, I'm very tall, in ariou
forms I'm seen ;

I'm like a man, I'm like a fan, or may-
pole on the green.

I follow you, you follow me ; but still we
keep together,

Though seldom you my form can see, in
wet or gloomy weather.

(33)

By Nellie, Sligo, to W. H., Sligo.

I have but one eye, and that without
sight,

Yet it helps me whatever I do ;

I am sharp without wits, without senses

I m bright,

The fortune of some, and of some the
delight,

And I doubt not I'm useful to you.

(34)

By Nellie, Sligo, to J. G. F., Drumcliffe.

Green am I in spring, late in eummer
yellow,

In the autumn red, when the days grow
mellow,

You may on me read, you may on me
write,

Green, red, yellow, though am I, I am
always white.

Wrinkle not my face, let me live in
clover ;

Look but handle not ; yes, you may turn
me over.

Weather Signs.

Rain—When remarkable clearness of atmosphere exists, especially near the horizon, so that distant objects, such as hills, become unusually visible, or well defined; when the sky at sunset is of a pale yellow; when the clouds are of a dark Indian red.

Wind—When the sky at sunset is of a bright yellow.

Wind and Rain—When the sky is orange or copper colour; when the sky has a sickly greenish hue; when the sky has gaudy unusual hues, with hard, definitely outlined clouds.

Bad Weather—When the sky is red in the morning; when the sun appears pale or colourless, or goes down into a bank of clouds.

Fair Weather—When sea birds fly out early and far to seaward.

Fine Weather—With a rosy sky at sunset; if the sun sets with the sky in the background slightly purple, the sky towards the zenith being bright blue.

Stormy Weather—When sea birds hang about the land or fly inland.

A grey sky in the morning indicates the likelihood of a fine day.

If the sun rises red, with blackish beams in a haze, rain may be expected; if the western sky is red wind may be looked for.

If the clouds at sunrise break up and move off to the west as the sun's elevation increases, a fine day is likely to follow.

If at sunrise rays seem to emanate from the sun's disc being concealed by clouds rain is indicated and may be looked for.

If in summer the sun rises obscured by a mist which disperses about three hours afterwards, two or three days of hot and calm weather may be expected.

The value of a red sky at sunrise as a weather forecast depends somewhat on the season. In summer such a sky betokens only occasional showers, but in winter the rainfall may be expected to be steady and prolonged.

If the sun sets in a clear sky, with its outline sharp and of a deep salmon colour, in summer a very fine and hot day will succeed, but in winter a frost.

If the sun sets in thick clouds, and the eastern horizon is red or copper coloured rain may be expected; but if it sets in a white haze so that its disc can scarcely be discerned, wind may be expected.

If at sunset the eastern sky is very red

wind may be expected; and if the redness reaches to the south-east, rain also.

When clouds tinged on their upper edge with pink or copper-coloured hue, are situated to the eastward at sunset or to the westward at sunrise, wind or rain may be expected in about 48 hours—seldom much sooner.

How to read the Barometer.

Improved weather—When a gradual continuous rise of the Mercury occurs with a falling thermometer.

Threatening unsettled weather—With an alternate rising and falling of mercury.

Very fine weather—With a continued steadiness of the mercury with dry air.

Settled weather—Slow rise of the mercury.

Unsettled weather—With a rapid rise of the mercury.

Stormy weather with rain—With a rapid and considerable fall of the mercury.

Snow—If the mercury falls when the thermometer is low.

Heavy gales from N—Soon after the first rise of mercury from a very low point.

Winds from S or S W—If the mercury suddenly rising, the thermometer also rises.

A violent storm from the N W or N—If the mercury falls suddenly when the wind is due W.

N W, N or N E winds, or less wind, or less rain, or less snow—If the mercury having been at its usual height, 29.95, is steady or rising, while the thermometer falls and the air becomes drier.

Wind and rain from S E, S and S W—If the mercury falls, while the thermometer rises and the air becomes damp.

A violent storm from N W, N or N E—When the mercury falls suddenly with a west wind.

Less wind or a change to N, or less wet—

When the mercury rises, after having been some time below average height.

Strong wind or heavy squalls from N W, N or N E—With the first rise of the mercury after it has been very low.

Much wind, rain, hail, or snow, with or without lightning—When the mercury falls considerably.

If the thermometer be low (for the season) the wind will be N; if high, from S.

Increasing storm—If mercury falls during a high wind from S W, S S W, W or S.

Violent but short—If the fall be rapid.

Less violent but longer—If fall be slow.

Varieties of Clouds.

HEIGHT IN FEET	NAME	DESCRIPTION	CHARACTER
Sea-level to 3000	Stratus ...	Elevated fog, so-called ...	Dry and Wet
4,500 to 6,000 ...	Cumulus ...	Rounded Heap ...	Wet
4,500 to 24,000 ...	Cumulo-nimbus...	Tower-like clouds with round top and flat bases...	Wet
6,400 ...	Strato-Cumulus...	Rolls of dark cloud ...	Dry
6,400 ...	Nimbus ...	Masses of formless cloud...	Wet
10,000 to 21,000	Cirro-cumulus ...	Fleecy cloud mackerel sky. ...	Dry
27,000 ...	Cirro-stratus ...	Line whitish veil, giving halo round sun and moon	Wet
27,000 ...	Cirrus ...	Isolated feathery white clouds ...	Dry

Speed and Pressure of the Wind.

	Miles per hour	Pressure in lbs. per sq. foot		Miles per hour	Pressure in lbs. per sq. foot
Calm ...	3	.60	Moderate gale ...	40	7.795
Light air ...	8	.344	Fresh ...	48	11.364
.. breeze ...	13	.861	Strong ...	65	21.115
Gentle ...	18	1.624	Whole ...	70	24.6
Moderate breeze ...	23	2.316	Storm ...	75	28.085
Fresh ...	28	3.939	Hurricane... ..	90	40.345
Strong ...	34	5.707	Do ...	100	49.2

Moonlight Nights.

When the moon is 4 days old, it shines till about	10 P.M.
5	11
6	12
7	1 A.M.
15 Full moon rises about	6 P.M.
16	7 ..
17	8 ..
18	10 ..
19	11 ..
20	12 ..

Conversion of Thermometer Degrees.

Fahrenheit to Centigrade subtract 32, multiply by 5 and divide by 9
 Centigrade to Fahrenheit, multiply by 9 divide by 5 and add 32

Composition of Air.

Nitrogen	77.95 parts
Oxygen	20.61 ..
Water	1.40 ..
Carbonic Acid Gas	0.04 ..

Storm Warnings.

The system of storm warnings now so largely employed all round our coasts was the invention of Admiral Fitzroy. They are made by means of cones. When the cone points upwards it is known as the "North Cone" and shows that a gale is probable from northward. When the cone points downwards it is known as the "South Cone" and shows that a gale is probable from southward. At night when the cones cannot be seen the night equivalents to the north and south cones are hoisted—three lights in a triangle point upwards for north, and point downwards for south.

Wettest Months.

In Ireland the wettest months in the year are usually October and December; the driest, May and June.

An 'inch of rain' means a gallon of water spread over 277½ square inches or nearly 2 square feet; it represents 100 tons of water on an acre. The average yearly rainfall in the British Isles is 4 inches.

What o'clock it is all over the World.—12 noon at LONDON is at—

	H. M.		H. M.		H. M.
Adelaide	.. 9 14 PM	Florence	.. 0 45 PM	Philadelphia	.. 6 59 AM
Amsterdam	.. 12 20 PM	Glasgow	... 11 43 AM	Quebec	.. 7 15 AM
Auckland (N Z)	11 39 PM	Hobart, Tasm'nia	9 49 PM	Rio Janeiro	.. 9 7 AM
Berlin	.. 0 54 PM	Jerusalem	.. 2 21 PM	Rome	... 0 50 PM
Bombay	.. 4 51 PM	Lisbon	.. 11 23 AM	Rotterdam	... 0 18 PM
Boston U S	.. 7 16 AM	Madras	.. 5 21 PM	San Francisco	3 52 AM
Brisbane	.. 10 12 PM	Madrid	.. 11 45 AM	St. Petersburg	2 1 PM
Brussels	.. 0 17 PM	Malta	.. 0 58 PM	Shanghai	.. 8 0 PM
Calcutta	.. 5 53 PM	Melbourne	.. 9 40 PM	Stockholm	.. 1 12 PM
Cape Good Hope	1 15 PM	Moscow	.. 2 30 PM	Suez	.. 2 10 PM
Chicago	.. 6 10 AM	New York	... 7 4 AM	Sydney	... 10 5 PM
Dublin	.. 11 35 AM	Paris	.. 0 9 PM	Vienna	... 1 6 PM
Edinburgh	... 11 48 AM	Pekin	.. 7 46 PM	Washington	... 6 51 AM

Population of the World—By Continents.

	Inhabitants			Inhabitants	
	Number	per sq. mile		Number	per sq. mile
Africa	.. 205,825,000	17.8	Oceania	.. 4,310,000	1.2
America N.	.. 72,500,000	9.1	Europe	.. 331,972,000	88.3
Do S.	.. 28,400,000	4.1	Polar Regions	.. 82,000	00.6
Asia	.. 795,581,000	46.2			
			Total	1,438,680,000	27.4

Population according to Race.

Aryan	..	Europe—part of Asia	..	545,500,000
Mongolian or Tatarian	..	Asia	..	620,000,000
Semitic	..	North Africa and Arabia	..	65,000,000
Negro	..	Central Africa	..	150,000,000
Hottentot and Bush	..	South Africa	..	150,000
Malay and Polynesian	..	Australasia and Polynesia	..	25,000,000
American Indian	..	North and South America	..	15,000,000

The Religions of the World.

Christianity	477,080,158	Confucianism	256,000,000	Hinduism	190,000,000
M'ham'edism	176,834,372	Buddhism	147,900,000	Polytheism	117,681,669
Taoism	43,000,000	Shintoism	14,000,000	Judaism	7,186,000

Christianity.

R Catholics	230,866,533	Abyssinia, Ch of	3,000,000	Nestorians	80,000
Protestants	143,237,625	Coptics	120,000	Jacobites	70,000
Greek Church	98,016,000	Armenians	1,690,000		

English-speaking Religious Communities of the World.

Episcopalians	29,200,000	Presbyterians	12,250,000	Freethinkers	5,250,000
Methodists	18,650,000	Baptists	9,230,000	Lutherans	2,800,000
R Catholics	15,500,000	Congr'gation'ists	6,150,000	Unitarians	2,600,000
Minor Sects	5,500,000	Unclassified	17,000,000	Total	124,130,000

In the United Kingdom.

Protestants	30,100,000	R Catholics	6,500,000	Jews	100,000
		Unclassified	500,000		

The surface of the earth consists of 33,600,000,000 acres and on these there is a population of nearly 1,439,000,000 persons. This is about 23½ acres to each person.