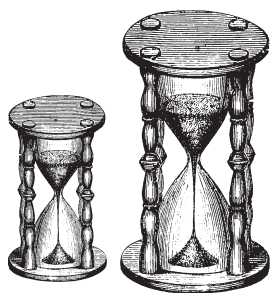


A Gust of Winter Wind in Amaranth

Hourglass Cooking

At a lumber camp in the northeast corner of what would one day be Mulmur Township, Seth Randwick had been successfully meeting the challenges that camp cooks faced in the wilderness. But matters became stressful for him when a company boss showed up unannounced, all the way from Montreal in Lower Canada.

The boss's many demands upset all the employees in what had been a reasonably well-running lumber camp, but Seth's problem was unique. Instead of the flapjacks and syrup Seth served at dawn each day, the company boss requested – commanded really – that Seth serve him an egg boiled in hot water for *precisely* nine minutes. Seth had eggs available because, like most camp cooks, he kept a small flock of laying hens. But as in most camps in the Upper Canada bush at the time, no one had a watch or a clock.



Seth did have both a four-minute and a seven-minute hourglass (admittedly, even rarer items in a lumber camp than clocks!), and although it took him several nervous minutes, he figured out how to use them to time a nine-minute egg.

How can the two hourglasses be used to arrive at precisely nine minutes?

“Today is not Wednesday, is it?”

Sully asked the question above of Perva, who is known for enigmatic replies. True to form she said, “No, but when the day after tomorrow is yesterday, today will be as far from Sunday as today was from Sunday when the day before yesterday was tomorrow.”

Help Sully. What day is it today?



On a mid-December day at a farmhouse near Laurel, someone left a door open just long enough for a gust of wind to spin one of the eight ornaments on a newly decorated tree exactly 180 degrees, thus hiding its number. The numbers on the eight ornaments have a specific relationship. Rather than open the door again and wait for a second gust of wind to spin the errant ornament back around, *use the numbers on the other ornaments to calculate what the hidden number must be.*

A Fortunate Coincidence at the Jolly Morphology Club

On the very day the owner of this former tavern (now linguistic society) near Orangeville discovered that the study of election practices is called *psephology*, he also learned the club was about to be visited by a Scott Act inspector, one of the many government agents in the 19th century empowered to enforce total prohibition in counties like Dufferin. Before the inspector showed up, the owner designed this “ology” challenge and put it on the chalkboard behind the bar.

Although the key words *are* uncommon, the task was straightforward.

Match each key word in section A to its correct definition in section B.

A

campanology
graphology
petrology
hagiology
vexillology
dactylogy

B

- I – the study of oil
- II – the study of flags
- III – the study of meter in poetry
- IV – the study of anger management
- V – the study of line in architecture
- VI – the study of bells and bell ringing
- VII – the study of outdoor recreation
- VIII – the study of character in handwriting
- IX – the study of witchcraft
- X – the study of sign language
- XI – the study of rocks
- XII – the study of saints

The inspector was quite intrigued by the challenge and was pleased to get one key word correct (petrology is the study of rocks).

By how much can you outscore him?



From Caledon East to Creemore

It is a quiet Saturday morning and Max and Penelope are planning to enjoy a ride around the hills in his new car. They have agreed to start in Caledon East and end in Creemore, using only roads Penelope has outlined on a map she has drawn. It is a route she believes offers both safety and interesting winter scenery. On her map Penelope has included towns and villages (represented by a variety of capital letters) and has proposed they set a goal of driving through each community *only once* – without retracing a road already covered. Max is keen to go on the ride but objects to the conditions because he believes they won't work.

“No way, I'm sure!” Max declares.

Penelope looks at him and then at her map. “Sometimes I wonder, Max!” she says. “Let's go! If we start right now we can be in Creemore for lunch.”

To figure out their route the hard way:

Use the outlined roads to determine a route that meets Penelope's condition.

Or to figure it out the easy way:

Use Max's comment to determine the route.

