

LADIES' DIARY RIDDLE – AN ANSWER

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The answer to the Riddle that Faith Eckler asked about so long ago is an Oven. I kid you not.

You can see the original riddle at <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433075875975;q1=%22In%20the%20morn%20when%20I%20rise%22;start=1;size=25;page=search;seq=190;num=84> (attached). The answer given the following year (in the attached file P_P_2465-016.jpg) (obtained from the British Library) is Oven. I have no idea why an oven fits any of the descriptions in the riddle.

The Ladies Diary.

NEW ENIGMAS to be answered in next Year's Diary.

I. Enigma, by Miss ELIZA HURST.

In the morn when I rise, I open my eyes,
Tho' I sleep not a wink in the night;
If I wake e'er to noon, I still lie 'till noon,
And pay no regard to the light.

I have loss, I have gain, I have pleasure and pain,
And am punish'd with many a stripe;
To diminish my woe, I burn friend and foe,
And the evening I close with a pipe.

I travel abroad, and ne'er miss the road,
Unless I am met by a stranger;
If you come in my way, as you very well may,
You will always be subject to danger.

I am chaste, I am young, I am lusty and strong,
And my habit oft change in a day;
To court I ne'er go, am no lady or beau,
Yet as frail and fantastic as they.

I live but short time and die in my prime,
Lamented by all who possess me;
If I add any more to what's gone before,
I fear you will easily guess me.

II. Enigma, by MYSTICUS.

Ye tuneful nymphs on whom Apollo deigns
To smile propitious and reward your strains,
Descend awhile from your exalted state,
And hear attentive what I shall relate.

Where plamy songsters strain their little throats,
And fill th' air with their harmonious notes;
Where lowing kine and bleating flocks repair
From Phoebus' ray, to taste the noontide air;
Such blissful scenes my parent long enjoy'd,
No cares e'er troubled and no pleasures cloy'd;
'Till cruel man with rage relentless steel'd,
By blows repeated forc'd him soon to yield.
Proud of the conquest he pursues with ire,
His limbs he tears and burns his head with fire;
He binds his body with a massive chain,
And, unrelenting, drags him o'er the plain.
So stern Achilles triumph'd o'er the corse
Of god-like Hector, feeling no remorse.
From such heart-renting woes I being date,
And owe my birth to his untimely fate.
In galling bands my infant days are pass'd,
With numerous brethren, but get free at last;

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CHRONOLOGICAL NOTES, &c. in 1783.

Dominical Letter	-	-	-	E	Shrove-Tuesday	-	-	March 4.
Golden Number	-	-	-	17	Easter Day	-	-	Apr. 20.
Epaet	-	-	-	26	Whit-Sunday	-	-	June 8.
Cycle of the Sun	-	-	-	28	Trinity-Sunday	-	-	June 15.
Roman Indiction	-	-	-	1	Advent-Sunday	-	-	Nov. 30.

ECLIPSES, &c.

THERE happen 6 eclipses this year, viz. 4 of the sun, and 2 of the moon; of which those of the moon only will be visible here.—
I. The sun eclipsed March 3d, at a quarter past 7 in the morning, invisible.—II. The moon is eclipsed, visible, March 18th, in the evening; begins 31 m. past 7; beginning of total darkness 8 h. 32 m.; end of total darkness 10 h. 14 m.; end of the eclipse a quarter past 11; digits eclipsed 21d. 27m.—III. The sun eclipsed April 1st, at 50 m. past 8 evening, invisible.—IV. Sun eclipsed August 27th, at half past 10 at night, invisible.—V. Moon eclipsed, visible, September the 10th, at night; eclipse begins 9 h. 44 m.; beginning of total darkness 10 h. 44 m.; end of total darkness 12 h. 26 m.; end of the eclipse 25 m. past 1 next morning; digits eclipsed 21d. 20m.—VI. Sun eclipsed September 26th, at 26m. past noon, invisible.

VENUS is an even. star from Jan. 4 to Oct. 22; and then a morn. star to the end.

JUPITER is a morn. star to July 20; and then an even. star to the year's end.

ANSWERS to the ENIGMAS.

1. Oven.	4. Time.	7. Tear.	10. Enigma.
2. Gardener.	5. Haystack.	8. Period.	11. Thimble.
3. Grapes.	6. Ladder.	9. Heart.	Pr. Pen.

Forfake