

Young People's Department.

SAMUEL GUNN.

WHEN Bishop Seabury, the first Bishop of America, returned to Connecticut after his consecration in Scotland, a young man named Samuel Gunn presented himself for confirmation. This was shortly after the people of the United States gained their independence and the Church, as being the Church of England, was much despised. But there were some who were very true to it in all its trouble, and one of them was Samuel Gunn. He lived in a place called Waterbury, now one of the biggest towns of Connecticut, then but a little country spot. There was no clergyman there and the Bishop appointed Mr. Gunn a lay-reader, a position which he faithfully filled for over ten years. He worked on his farm through the week, and then on Sunday read the service. A little family of children was then growing up around him and he thought it best to go into the new country that was being opened up in the west. This was not a very long distance because emigration to new territory was only then beginning and the western part of New York State was then considered a very long way off. To this Mr. Gunn went and took up his residence at Windham on the far side of the river Hudson in one of the beautiful valleys of the Catskill Mountains. Here also there was no clergyman and no church, but this zealous man gathered his neighbours around him from time to time and read the service. He never faltered from the Church's practices and ways. A young clergyman sometimes used to visit that neighborhood and he always received a warm welcome in the house of Mr. Gunn. This young clergyman was very zealous and preached in school houses, log cabins, court houses or any place that he could find, and find-

ing none, would preach under the trees of the forest.

In time Windham grew and became quite prosperous and was formed into a parish, with a resident clergyman and then the heart of Mr. Gunn was gladdened; but misfortunes came to him and he was obliged to give up his home and move off still further to the west, this time to the state of Ohio. He travelled in a large emigrants' waggon with a cover to it. In this waggon the family lived and had their meals. It was their home while they were on the road. While travelling in this way through the deep forest one of his little children fell out of the

waggon and was crushed under the wheel. With his own hands the weeping father dug a grave and laid the little body in it, there to rest till the resurrection day.

With a heavy heart for the little one that had to be left behind, the bereaved parents journeyed on, and in the month of November, in the midst of the hazy Indian summer, they arrived on the banks of the Ohio. It was then a solitary river flowing through a land known only to the Indian and the hunter. Here they made a raft and floated down the river till they came close to the hills of Kentucky, where there was a little settlement called Portsmouth. Here Mr. Gunn took up his new home on a small clearing in the forest. He had no neighbours near him, but he and his family used to have service every Sunday. Soon



THE LITTLE GRAVE IN THE FOREST.

he moved into Portsmouth which had become a prosperous village, and found to his delight that there were many people here, who, like himself, were attached to the Prayer Book and the Church. He also heard with great joy that Ohio had been formed into a diocese and that the young clergyman who used to visit him when he lived at Windham was its bishop. This was Bishop Philander Chase, one of