

THE DAYS THAT WERE AND ARE NOT.

'Tis Spring-time in the forest glade And from each leafy bough The wild-birds sing their song of spring.— But, childhood! Where art thou?

Come with the visions of the past, That bright and joyous train Of happy dreams we dreamed in youth So fleeting and so vain!

Come with the evening's golden light From off the mountain's brow O days of youth! O days of truth— Fair childhood, where art thou?

I seek you in the woodland paths And in the forest shade I seek you in familiar haunts Where we in childhood played.

I hear the fitful breezes sigh— The tall, dark pines among Like mystic voices singing low Of the days when we were young.

And these we seek from youth to age And sadly wonder why The phantoms of our early days From us for ever fly.

J. A. S.

Montreal, April 30th, 1901.

CLEANINGS.

IRISH CENSUS.—The Irish propaganda has produced its effect upon the Irish census returns, many of the forms, much to the disgust of the enumerators, having been filled up in Irish. It is confidently expected that, notwithstanding a great decrease in the population, the result of the census will show a considerable increase in the number of speakers of Irish, the activity of the Gaelic League having produced a very remarkable effect in the country.

THE SULLIVAN TESTIMONIAL.—The proposed testimonial to Mr. T. D. Sullivan, the veteran Irish Nationalist, poet and editor, has now reached a total of over twelve hundred pounds. Subscriptions have come in not only from every county in Ireland, but also from England and Scotland. Mr. Sullivan's services to Ireland have extended over considerably more than half a century, and include many publications, literary and historical, which have done much to keep alive the National spirit in the country. His "God Save Ireland" is recognized as the Irish National Anthem.

A NEW CHURCH.—With impressive ceremonies the handsome new Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, in East Ninetieth street, New York, was consecrated by Archbishop Corrigan on Sunday last. Begun in 1886 and built mainly by small contributions, the church has been completed and paid for largely through the efforts of the Rev. William J. O'Kelly, its rector, who has had charge of the parish from the time it was first organized. Mass was celebrated for the first time in the chapel of the church on December 19, 1887, when the side walls were unplastered and a temporary roof of rough planks afforded little protection to the worshippers. Services have been held within the structure since that time.

A DEVOTED PRIEST.—Rev. Patrick M. Tondy, pastor of St. Jerome's Church, New York, died recently of nervous exhaustion, induced by overwork. His parish was one of the largest and strongest in Greater New York, and Father Tondy is widely known for his intense devotion to his work. His selfishness was absolute. Reserving for himself not even time for sleep, he went about his duties always doing good. The poor of his parish looked upon him as their protector, and their admiration for him amounted almost to worship. He seldom slept more than four hours a day, and often went from early morning until late at night with nothing more than a cup of coffee with which to sustain himself.

CHINA'S BILL.—John Chinaman is just now facing the outcome of his outburst of fanatical hatred against Europeans in general in June and July last, when he tried to massacre the inhabitants of the legations, says an exchange. It is announced that the little bill presented by the European Governments amounts to £62,000,000, which is made up in the following manner: Russia, £18,000,000; Germany, £14,000,000; France, £8,000,000; Japan, £6,000,000; United States, £5,000,000; Great Britain, £4,800,000; Belgium, £1,168,000; Italy, Austria, and Spain, £6,000,000. It will be observed that in the above Great Britain's is almost the smallest claim, and, as might have been imagined, Russia's the largest. We wonder if the British claim includes compensation for the destruction of the English Catholic churches, schools, etc., or whether, as usual, the Protestant missionary will reap all the cash benefit out of the late disturbances in the Celestial Kingdom?

Household Notes.

LITTLE THINGS.—If we wish to make those about us happy, we must consider their tastes, consult their feelings, think of their comfort, in a word, it means effacement to a certain extent, says a writer. Little things make up the web of our life at home. Little things make us happy and little things make us miserable. A word, a hint, a look, has power to transmit us with joy or sting us with anguish. If we would make our homes what they should be, we must attend faithfully to the little things which make them so. If we make this rule, how pleasant will be our homes, how proper our habits, how beautiful our lives! How

easy and graceful will become our home manners, how elegant and appropriate our home language, how pure and lovely our home characters. Home excellences are the ones we should covet. Home morality and religion are the best. Home love and worth only are real and lasting. Home virtue is for the skies.

SPRING CLEANING.—Most men and some women labor under the hallucination that the only way to "clean house" is to upset everything in general and make the entire household utterly uncomfortable, says a writer in the "Catholic News." No greater mistake can be made. This does not apply to families who go away for the summer and do not return until their dwellings are fully prepared for the winter by a corps of servants and made ready for their reception. This chat is to the women who manage their own households. The best way to do house-cleaning will begin at the top of the house and do the entire floor before attacking the next one, or, if too many of the rooms are occupied to permit this, they may be done singly and with very little fuss or bustle. As a beginning, all pictures and hangings should first be taken down and thoroughly dusted and put out of the way until wanted. Every article should be removed from the room before taking up the carpet; the floor should be carefully swept and every portion of the room dusted. If papering is not to be done the walls and ceilings should be dusted, every inch of the surface. This may be done first with a soft brush and gone over a second time with a cloth. Warm water with a dash of ammonia is good for wood work, whether painted or oiled. Too much ammonia will injure paint or varnish, but a very little removes all dirt and finger marks, and if properly washed the surface becomes clean and glossy. Wash only a small space at once and dry it with a dry flannel; rub dry and continue the rubbing until it shines and proceed until all is done. Use soap or strong washing powders or using a brush destroys the gloss on paint if it does not remove it altogether. It should not be left wet any length of time, but be done quickly, as soaking paint does it a great injury. The sashes of windows should be done the same as the other painted portions, leaving the glass to the last. Very little water is needed for this, and ammonia may be used in the water in larger quantity. The cloth should be wrung out and rubbed over the glass until all specks are removed, and then the glass should be polished with camellia, or glass powder may be rubbed on and then polished off. Floors should be scrubbed with a brush and plenty of clean water, soda, soap or washing powder. All wardrobes, closets, drawers, everything should be dusted out, dusted and cleaned. Mattresses and pillows should be beaten, dusted and sunned. Upholstered furniture should be treated in the same manner; in fact, everything in the room, all beds, chairs, tables, should be thoroughly cleaned and door airing. Any woodwork about upholstered furniture should be rubbed with a flannel cloth and some good oil polish. Furniture cared for in this manner will keep its look of newness as long as it is treated thus. As of us have some time to spare, what appeared to be a well-ordered house, where everything was bright and apparently free from dust, and yet it had that stuffy odor which suggests anything but cleanliness. Why is this? It is simply caused by superficial cleaning. The carpets have been taken out and cleaned, but they have been returned to unwashed floors. Having always been covered with carpet the floors do not look dirty, so they have been swept only. The cracks and corners have not been dusted out thoroughly, and the scrubbing, which is most important, has been neglected. Furniture and bedding have only been dusted on the surface; they have not been beaten out, and they contain dust which has been accumulating for years. How can such a house be other than ill-smelling? After a room has been cleaned it is best to rearrange until the next day, doors and windows should be left open for at least twenty-four hours, that everything may be pure and completely dried. After that there will be no danger of dampness or ill smells in your room or anything unwholesome or unpleasant emanating from the house in this manner destroys the germs of moths which lurk everywhere. These general rules apply to all parts of the house. Bric-a-brac and all frail articles should be put away with care, gas globes should be taken down and chandeliers dusted and covered until the cleaning is complete. It is well before beginning to take up hall and stair carpets. While their absence detracts from the appearance of the house it does not affect the general comfort of its inmates, and it is as well to have them out of the way while the work is going on, also getting them in readiness for the finish. The hall and stair carpets should be the last thing done. The cellar is as important as the drawing-room and should come in for a general overhauling, while a weekly sweeping and airing should not be neglected. If house-cleaning is done in this way the male members of the family need hardly know that it is going on, and without that usual attendance of turmoil things do not get misplaced, and the rooms can so quickly be put to rights when all the articles are at hand and anxious searching for things lost does not cause waste of time. The custom so general in England is becoming more popular here every year. That is, using rugs instead of carpets. This makes it possible to keep rooms clean without such frequent general upsetting.

A SIMPLE REMEDY.—A Russian chemist is responsible, according to a scientific journal, for the discovery of an easy and not disagreeable way to get rid of mice. This is by use of oil of peppermint. Wads of cotton saturated with the oil are used to plug up the holes by which they appear, a process that will at once drive the vermin away, their dislike to the smell of peppermint being strong. If they should return later, a repetition of the treatment will banish them again. It is not stated whether the remedy acts equally upon rats, but the experiment could be made, although, as has already been said, chloride of lime put plentifully in rat-holes is usually successful in driving them from the premises.

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ELEPHANT KILLS A KEEPER. The report comes from Peru, Ind., that "Big Charley," a monster elephant, killed his keeper, Henry Huffman, formerly with the La Pearl Circus, a resident of Columbus, Ohio. The killing was witnessed by several showmen at the winter quarters of Wallace's circus. In the early morning "Big Charley" made an attempt to kill Alex. Morris, but failed. He was not taken to task and chastised as usual for the assault, and seemingly he considered that he could take further privileges. When Henry Huffman took the herd of elephants to the Mississinewa River to bathe, he met his death. As soon as the water was reached "Big Charley" wrapped his trunk about Huffman and hurled him into the stream. Huffman was uninjured and returned to the elephant and spoke reproachfully. "Why, Charley, I did not think that of you," he said. "Ain't you ashamed of yourself?" Huffman had not gone a step nearer before the animal roared, and grabbing him, threw him into the water, forced him to the bottom and then stood upon him, drowning him and crushing the body. "Big Charley" then started up the road roaring, while all the other elephants followed, and the entire herd raced for quite a distance, causing a panic. The news of the killing soon reached the secretary of the show, Mr. Cory, who in the absence of Mr. Wallace, ordered the big elephant killed. Apples containing strychnine were sent for and some thrown in front of the big elephant,

who ate one. He was then shot a dozen times and in about half an hour showed signs of approaching death. He lay down and groaned loudly. He was shot again several times and died in agony. The keepers then quickly rounded up and captured the other elephants. "Big Charley" was 43 years old, and weighed three tons. In his lifetime he has killed four men. He was valued at \$10,000. Henry Huffman was well known in the show business, and previous to joining the La Pearl Circus worked in the zoos in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, and Central Park, New York City. He had had charge of "Big Charley" for seven years. COUNTRY ROADS. Farmers of Wabash County, Indiana, according to the New York "Post," are building good roads by co-operation and at much reduced cost. They have an agreement among themselves on road-building, each owner of land abutting on a highway to be improved pledging in work or cash \$1.50 per each acre within half a mile of the road. Payment may be made within three years, and the burden thus distributed is hardly felt. The work is done in full seasons, and gravel roads have replaced the old mud highways over many miles of territory. On the completion of a road the task of maintaining it is assumed by the county authorities.—Toronto Globe.

Vol. L, N Honor to Sir William Uninterrupted

THE HOTEL DIEU. Tuesday morning, in expectation of that occasion being a completion of a years during which I am Hingston, M.I. interruptedly come hospital. Nothing was could in any way the unique and very oration, or have ad honor of which Sir recipient. In the surgical a fore breakfast the presented Sir William address in French. his forty years of t erous service in a veritable apostleship that asylum of suffer with all the enfeebled and with all the li could give and all solution which his position could bring impossible to count persons whom he restored to health, hearts of so many w diseased or cripple sons or daughters, particularly," the a "You have rendered are invaluable by g instruction in the are you know so sent, and in forms ive. When we go o struggle for istence we shall lessons of kind devotedness, which for you the af patients and the gratitude of yo others may boast seated, in other lan great masters in th we are able to point and with undimin master who to-day forty years of inv the Hotel Dieu." Sir William Hings "My young friends, to-day another pro sity. During the fo I have been connecte pital I was never mit mv labor here poor health until th gripe, as you know me at the beginni and showed the inf presence more than session. I hope it in the years that I continue to instruct of the lessons y here. I have endeav my ability permitte your duty in all cir to your patients and especially to that sent by your pre, and last, and yourselves. You are