

AUNT NORA'S CORNER.

It is the duty of Aunt Nora's correspondents to keep up this good work, and she is sure each and every one of them understands the meaning of that beautiful word, duty.

Lillie Cox, Katie Clark, M. Scullion, Maggie O'Brien and others are invited to write again.

Now, about the competition! Of course you are all working hard to win the prize, and Aunt Nora wishes she could peep in and see some of her studious and ambitious little friends working away with puckered, thoughtful brows over the facts and figures of the subject.

Now, as I said before, Aunt Nora's boys and girls of to-day are the men and women of the future, and now is the time for them to decide what kind of men and women they mean to be.

How very beautiful the trees are these February mornings! Every bough and twig shines with a sparkling coat of ice.

I must tell you of a letter that was written by a dear little girl to her grandmama last Christmas. She was only eight years old, but she was a bright and clever child and attended the Convent school.

Now, when the tempter comes to one of Aunt Nora's boys in the form of some Johnny or Tommy of his acquaintance who induces him to smoke or chew nasty tobacco when the school is out of sight, or who tries to persuade him that

slang is the proper style of language, because it sounds smart, and calls him a "Sisay" if he does not use it, let Aunt Nora's little friend show this Johnny or Tommy that he knows another kind of smartness that makes gentlemen, while the slang, tobacco and dime novel kind fills prisons, refuges and asylums.

Habits once formed are not easily broken. Bit by bit we must unravel the cord we have twined around us, and which daily cuts deeper into our flesh.

THE FORCE OF HABIT. "How shall I a habit break?" As you did that habit make. As you gathered, you must lose, As you yielded, now refuse;

But remember, as we try, Lighter every test goes by; Wading in, the stream grows deep Towards the centre's downward sweep.

PARTNERS. A sturdy little figure it was trudging bravely with a pail of water. So many times had it passed our gate that morning that curiosity prompted us to further acquaintance.

The round face under the broad hat was turned towards us. It was freckled, flushed and perspiring, but cheery withal.

It was not a well-considered compliment, and the little water carrier did not consider it one at all; but there was a look of surprise in her gray eyes, and an almost indignant tone in her voice as she answered:

WHY DOGS CHASE CATS. The Greeks explained in the following why dogs chase cats and cats mice: Once upon a time the Dogs had a lawsuit, and because they were of roving habits, they gave their documents into the keeping of the Cats, who were stay-at-homes.

ENJOYMENT. We are inclined to think that young people, especially, give too much thought as to how they can be "happy." To enjoy life seems to them the acme of all endeavor. But life is earnest, and its aims should be high; and when we live as we may, we shall perhaps give less thought to enjoyment, but we shall enjoy more.

A DAINY TOILET SET. A dainty bureau set for a young girl's room, consisting of cover, a set of mats, and a stand cloth to match, is of white linen, embroidered with a morning glory design, showing leaves, flowers, the long slender bud, and tendrils.

TO CLEAN EMBROIDERIES. Worsted and soft cotton embroideries are best cleaned in "bran-water baths." Add one quart of fresh bran to three quarts of water and let it boil for half

an hour, then strain and pour the boilings into two basins. Add cold water to the larger quantity of boilings to make it lukewarm, put in the embroidery, and rub it well with your fingers till clean.

THE LITTLE GIRL THAT GREW UP. She was sitting up straight in a straight-backed chair. There wasn't a snarl in her shining hair; There wasn't a speck on her dainty dress, And her ray face was full of distress.

When I drew near to this maiden fair, She suddenly rumped her shining hair, And dropping down "in a heap" on the floor

"Now, what is the matter, my pretty maid?" "I'm all grown up," she dolefully said, "And I'm lonesome—as lonesome as lonesome can be—

"There's Little Boy Blue, who used to creep Under our haystack and fall asleep. He isn't my friend since mother dear 'Did up' my hair in this twist so queer.

"And the dog and the fiddle, they left me, too, When the baby into a woman grew. The dish has hidden away with the spoon, And the cow has staid at the back of the moon.

"The little old woman who swept the sky Is caught in her cobwebs high and dry, and Jack and his beanstalk I cannot find Since I began to improve my mind.

"I wouldn't be scared—not a single mite— If the bugaboo I should meet to night. The boggy man I'd be glad to see, But they'll never—no, never—come back to me.

"I watched in the garden last night at dark A fairy favor to find—but, hark! My mother is calling—don't you hear?— 'Young ladies don't sit on the floor, my dear.'"

RECIPES.

Marbled Veal—Trim all the ribs and tough parts from a boiled pickled tongue, chop and pound to a paste. Have one quart of cold roasted or boiled veal chopped and pounded to a paste. Mix two tablespoonfuls of butter and a fourth of a salt-spoon of pepper with the tongue, and with the veal mix three tablespoonfuls of butter, one teaspoonful of salt and one-fourth of a teaspoonful of pepper.

Tea Biscuit—One pint of milk, one tablespoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of butter or lard, two eggs, one tablespoonful of sugar, three pints of flour, one-half of a compressed yeast cake. Sift the milk and add the shortening and sugar and salt to cool. When cold add the salt, sugar and yeast, mix and add one-half the flour; heat for a few minutes. Cover and let rise. When light add the eggs well beaten and the balance of the flour. Knead lightly and continuously for 15 minutes, or until elastic. Cover and let stand in a warm place until very light; then roll out in a sheet about an inch thick; cut in biscuits with a cutter, let stand half an hour and bake in a quick oven 15 minutes.

Stewed Onions—In peeling onions be careful not to cut the top and bottom too closely or the onion will not keep whole. Boil ten small onions in salted water until tender. Drain and put to simmer in a cup of hot milk or cream or half and half. Season with one teaspoonful of salt and one-fourth tea-spoonful of pepper.

PRESERVING THE FURNITURE. The fortnightly polishing of furniture figured as a prominent item on the old-fashioned programme of housework, when furniture was valued, perhaps, more for its lasting qualities than for decorative effect. A half-hearted dusting, with now and then a wiping with a damp cloth, is the extent of the efforts of most domestics, and when scratches, stains and breaks occur the article is relegated to the storehouse or auction room, or else left to grow more and more unsightly and shabby until it becomes utterly useless.

Furnace and steam heat are to a large degree responsible for the cracking and warping of the lighter kinds of furniture, especially bamboo. And to counteract the ill effects of the same, they should be rubbed regularly with equal parts of linseed oil and turpentine, applied with a flannel and then rubbed with a soft cloth. Bamboo is also improved by an occasional wash with cold water, but should be thoroughly dried afterward.

Any of the natural woods that are not varnished can be polished in the same way, but varnished surfaces should be washed with water in which tea leaves have been steeped for half an hour. This will make them much brighter than if washed with soap and water,

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and unlike the latter, it will not remove the gloss. When the varnished furniture becomes scratched, the spots should be gone over with a camel's hair brush and shellac varnish until they disappear. Nothing should be allowed to touch the places until the application is thoroughly dry.

Mahogany, rosewood or black walnut should be rubbed with linseed oil or crude petroleum, a very little being put on at a time, and rubbed in thoroughly until the surface shines like a mirror. If the rubbing is done once every two weeks, it is not at all difficult to get a good shine in a short time, but the first application may require longer.

If a small splinter of wood is knocked off a bureau or a chair, glue it on again with a little liquid glue, and if the edges show white color them with paint to match the rest of the wood. When this is dry, varnish, and the break will hardly be perceptible. If the broken piece is large and where it is likely to be hit and knocked off again, in addition to the glue secure it in position with small brads.

Leather trimmings, which have such a persistent way of separating themselves from wood, may be securely fastened by means of a paste made of melted India rubber mixed with shellac varnish. The leather itself can be made to look almost like new by being washed with warm milk. This is especially good for leather seats or lounge coverings.

HOW TO CLEAN A MACKINTOSH

A dirty mackintosh should be spread out flat on a table, and scrubbed all over with a nailbrush, using cold soft water and yellow soap. When all the dirt is off, dip the cloak in several lots of clean cold water, but do not wring it out. Shake well and hang it up in the open air if possible, to dry. Failing this, let it hang in a room, but on no account put it near a fire. Hot water must never be used, and if there are any very hard stains or grease marks which will not yield to the soap alone rub a little turpentine on them.

PATENT REPORT.

Below will be found the only complete weekly up to date record of patents granted to Canadian inventors, which is prepared specially for this paper by Messrs. Marion & Marion, solicitors of patents and experts, head office, Temple Building, Montreal, from whom all information may be readily obtained:

- CANADIAN PATENTS. 54,618—J. B. Garand, Hochelaga, wheel hub. 54,775—Wm. D. McCaully, Elmore, cultivator. 54,758—Samuel Vessot, Joliette, grinder. AMERICAN PATENTS: 576,336—Charles L. Benedict, Amherst, hand stamp holder. 576,308—Thomas L. Fortune, Clinton, portable cotmopede and bed pan. 576,218—Isaac Moore, Toronto, memorandum book. 576,147—M. Patterson, Almonte, bicycle ball bearing. 576,479—Olaf L. Stadig, Connors Station shears or scissors sharpener. 576,484—Robert Sward, Brandon, stove-pipe joint.

"Why do they say the coat is dyed when it is changed from brown to black, I wonder?" said Tot. "Don't you see?" said Doc. "It means the old color doesn't live any more. The brown is dead. Always come to me when you want to know anything."

"Dear me!" remarked one girl, "her part must be very displeased with her engagement to that musician. It is even worse than I thought." "On what do you base your opinion?" "They used to refer to him as a violinist. Now they say that he plays the fiddle."—Washington Star.

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CATHOLIC WORKINGMEN.

A MOVEMENT TO HOLD AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE PROMOTER OF THE PROJECT SEEKS THE APPROVAL OF HIS HOLINESS.

The Roman correspondent of the Liverpool Catholic Times says: "The Holy Father on Friday last accorded a long audience to M. Leon Harmel, the great French economist. He has been for some days in Rome, and has already delivered a number of conferences on the practical solution of the social question in accordance with the ideas of Leo XIII. M. Harmel is reticent with regard to his interview with the Sovereign Pontiff. But I believe it will be no indiscretion for me to state that M. Harmel's chief motive in seeking an audience was to intercede at the Holy Father in the holding of an International Catholic Workingmen's Congress. M. Harmel hopes therefrom great advantages both to capitalists and labourers, and his idea would be to hold the congress either at Milan or Turin. Coming out from the audience with the Holy Father, he was radiant with satisfaction at the reception given to his project."

Referring to this correspondence, the Catholic Times, in the course of a leading article, says:

His object is, no doubt, to win recruits for the Church, first of all, amongst Continental workingmen. The field which is open to him and his fellow-Catholics is extensive, and they can scarcely fail to win many to their ranks. In Italy and France the vast majority of the toilers were brought up as Catholics, and numbers of them became indifferent to religion only because the erroneous notion was spread amongst them that Catholicism enforced the necessity of a narrow political conservatism inconsistent with the rights of labour. That mischievous notion is being dissipated by workingmen's societies in every quarter of Europe, and it may be safely assumed that it would not long survive such a Congress as that which M. Harmel is promoting. When in the name of the Catholic workingmen of the world a programme is drawn up defining the rights and duties of the employer, asserting the legitimate claim of the employee, denouncing the militarism of the principal nations and the heavy imposts it necessitates, and otherwise offering light and leading to those who are struggling for social justice, it seems to us that not only will the workers who are now outside the fold rally to their side as advocates of a common cause and acknowledge the immense superiority of the Catholic Church over every other religious denomination, but against its justice to the workers there will be established a safeguard which corporations as well as individuals, no matter how potent, must take heed. The weight of Catholic opinion thus focused will have a decisive effect in the settlement of labour disputes, for both masters and men must recognize that claims based upon and governed by Catholic principles are fair to both sides, and that to oppose them would be to engage in a struggle wherein defeat would be certain.

An Englishman and an Irishman were one day holding an argument respecting the nationality of various great men who had lived and died. The Irishman had successfully claimed each one mentioned as a countryman of his own. till at length the Englishman, somewhat nettled, enquired "How about Shakespeare? Was he an Irishman?" To which he received the reply: "Well, I can't say that he was altogether, but, at all events, he had the abilities of one."—London Household Words.

"Here's the very picture of you, sir!" cried the delighted nurse, dancing the first edition smartly up and down, "a perfect image of you, sir, even to the little scar on your chin—did you notice the scar on his chin?" The editor of the Jayville Clarinet laid his finger thoughtfully upon his brow. "We consider him, then," he said, in a grave, professional tone, "as a marked copy."—Pittsburg Leader.

"Well why didn't you arrest the man?" asked the equire, as the constable came into the office alone. "I—I didn't like to do it on account of his family," said the officer, standing on one foot, with the other crossed over it. "What! You are getting a little too considerate for this business." "I dunno what you call it, but I know that when I went after him the old man, his daughter and two sons met me at the door, and said if I tried to come in they would beat my head off."—Cincinnati Enquirer

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