

## Readings and Recitations.

## THE LITTLE GRAVE.

"It's only a little grave," they said,  
 "Only just a child that's dead:"  
 And so they carelessly turned away  
 From the mound which the spade had made that day  
 Ah! they did not know how deep a shade  
 That little grave in one home had made.

True, the coffin was narrow and small,  
 One yard would have served for an ample pall;  
 And one man in his arms could have borne away  
 The rosewood and its freight of clay.  
 But what darling hopes were hid  
 Beneath that little coffin lid.

A weeping mother stood that day  
 With folded hands by that form of clay;  
 And painful, burning tears were hid  
 'Neath the drooding lash and aching lid;  
 And her lip, and cheek, and brow,  
 Were almost as white as her baby's now.

And then some things were but away,  
 The crimson frock, and the wrappings gay;  
 The little sock, and the half worn shoe,  
 The cap with its plume and tassels blue;  
 And an empty crib stands with covers spread,  
 As white as the face of the sinless dead.

'Tis a little grave; but oh! what care!  
 What world-wide hopes are buried there!  
 And ye, perhaps, in coming years,  
 May see, like her through blinding tears,  
 How much of light, how much of joy,  
 Is buried up with an only boy!

## NOBODY'S CHILD.

Only a newsboy under the light  
 Of the lamp-post plying his trade in the rain.  
 Men are too busy to stop to-night,  
 Hurrying home through the sleet and rain.  
 Never since dark a paper sold;  
 Where shall he sleep, or how be fed?  
 He thinks as he shivers there in the cold,  
 While happy children are safe in bed.

Is it strange if he turns about  
 With angry words, then comes to blows,  
 When his little neighbor, just sold out,  
 Tossing his pennies, past him goes?  
 "Stop!"—some one looks at him sweet and mild,  
 And the voice that speaks is a tender one.  
 "You should not strike such a little child,  
 And you should not use such words, my son."

Is it his anger or his fears  
 That have hushed his voice and stopped his arm?  
 "Don't tremble," these are the words he hears;  
 "Do you think that I would do you harm?"  
 "It isn't that," and the hand drops down;  
 "I wouldn't care for kicks and blows;  
 But nobody ever called me son,  
 Because I'm nobody's child, I s'pose."

O men! as ye careless pass along,  
 Remember the love that has cared for you,  
 And blush for the awful shame and wrong  
 Of a world where such a thing could be true.  
 Think what the child at your knee had been  
 If thus on life's lonely billows tossed;  
 And who shall bare the weight of the sin,  
 If one of these "little ones" be lost?

## Teachers' Associations.

The publishers of the JOURNAL will be obliged to Inspectors and Secretaries of Teachers' Associations if they will send for publication programmes of meetings to be held, and brief accounts of meetings held.

WATERLOO.—The annual meeting of the Waterloo County Teachers Association convened in the Berlin Model School on February 7th. The attendance was very large, and a very pleasant and profitable day was spent in discussing such subjects as appertain principally to the work of the teacher. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. J. Suddaby, at nine o'clock, after which Mr. Baehr opened the session with prayer. The Treasurer read his report, which showed a balance on hand of \$32.50. Upon motion of Mr. Weismiller, seconded by Mr. Herner, Messrs. Hagey and Hagedorn were appointed auditors. The Library Committee's report was then read. Moved by Mr. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Hagedorn, that the Secretary and Messrs. Martin and Moyer constitute the Library Committee for the current year. Carried. Moved by Mr. Herner, seconded by Mr. Hagey, that the same Legislation Committee be re-appointed. Carried. Mr. Baehr very practically and thoroughly dealt with the Inflection of the Adjective and Adverb, after which Messrs. Weismiller, Herner, Hagey, Brueckner, and Suddaby followed with some well-timed remarks. Mr. Carscadden, M.A., of the Galt Collegiate Institute, next addressed the Association on the subject of Practical Education. This he termed to be that sort of education that has a direct bearing upon one's profession in after life. Instead of the present school programme being too extensive, he maintained that while a few subjects might be left off, such subjects as Physiology, Bookkeeping, Chemistry, Physical Geography, and Physics should be added, and more attention paid to Composition. Mr. Knowles followed with some remarks, after which the thanks of the Association were tendered to Mr. Carscadden for his very able address. Moved by Mr. Wm. Linton, seconded by Mr. Hagey, that the Rev. Mr. Boyd take up the subject of "Religion in Schools" in the evening, Dr. McLellan being prevented from delivering his lecture on account of sickness. Messrs. Ballantyne, Baehr, Hagedorn, Pendergast, and Brueckner were appointed members of the Nominating Committee. The meeting then adjourned until 1.30. Upon re-assembling, the report of the Committee on Question Drawer was received upon motion of Mr. Ballantyne, seconded by Mr. Baehr. The Rev. Mr. Thompson, M.A., of Ayr, then explained the "Tonic Sol Fa" system of Music. Throughout his address, which extended over about two hours, his remarks were so apt and varied as to elicit repeated applause. He claims many advantages for the system over the present one, and maintains that by its adoption throughout the public schools in Canada, as in England, thousands would easily glide into the kingdom of Music who are at present prevented by the five-barred gate. After some remarks by Mr. Groh, the thanks of the Association were tendered to Mr. Thompson for his very excellent address. Mr. Laird then gave his views on Geography, and how to teach it to junior classes. His method is very practical, and as he teaches altogether from nature it must certainly be very interesting and instructive to the class. His ideas, which were well received, were followed by remarks from Messrs. Knowles and Wm. Linton. Mr. Thomas Cowan, chairman of the Galt School Board, was then called upon and highly entertained the meeting for a considerable time. Mr. Isaac L. Bowman also addressed the meeting for a short time. The thanks of the Association were then presented to the trustees for their attendance, and to Messrs. Cowan and Bowman for their speeches. Mr. Pendergast then read an excellent essay on "The Teacher out of the School." He holds that the teacher will teach much better if he continually and regularly exercises his physical and mental faculties outside of the school-room, and in order to do that successfully he must have a well-arranged time-table and strictly adhere to it. Remarks were made by Messrs. Ballantyne and Herner. Mr. P. E. W. Moyer interested the Association by giving some of his experience while a teacher thirty years ago. The meeting then adjourned until 7.30 p.m. In the evening the Rev. Mr. Boyd delivered a lecture on "Religion in Schools." He maintained that the teacher inculcates more moral principles into the minds of his pupils by his own example than can be done by the study of any text-book intended for that purpose. And further, that such text-book should only be introduced for the study of the older and more advanced pupils. At the close of the lecture he received a hearty vote of thanks for his admirable address. *Second Day.*—After the adoption of the Auditors' Report the Committee on Ventilation read their report. Messrs. Pearce, Groh, Hagey, Pendergast, and Moyer followed with various suggestions, after which the report was received. Mr. Knowles then took up Agricultural Education, and the advice he gave on the best method of raising stock, fertilizing, tilling, and planting the soil, excited the most careful attention of all present. In his opinion half an hour per week should be devoted to teaching the subject in rural schools. A discussion followed in which Messrs. Pearce, Linton, and Groh took part. Mr. Donnenworth next read a carefully prepared essay on "Reviews." He maintains that school work should be reviewed on