

It became a disorganized and angry mob from which he was glad to escape. His official report of the disgraceful affair ended the work of his campaign, and also ended his career, for his government dismissed him from the service.

Though the third invasion was in the end more inglorious, not to say more absurd, than either the first or the second, yet it had been much the most formidable in the beginning. The British lost more men in the three brief engagements of that dark morning than they lost at Queenston Heights. There was a battle prevented that day, rather than a battle won; but it was bravely done, and the twenty-eighth of November, 1812, is an important date in the annals of the war.

It is but fair to add that when the United States militiamen refused to cross the Niagara, they were quite within their rights in doing so. They were not enrolled for foreign service; they were there to defend their own country from invasion. Many of them, no doubt, like General Van Rensselaer himself, had been opposed to the war from the beginning, and would have been glad to see it stopped. They had no quarrel with their Canadian neighbours, and saw no good reason why they should be called upon to take aggressive action. They would leave that service to the regular soldiers, who had no choice in the matter.

School teachers declare that children have no intelligent comprehension of grammatical rules till they are at least twelve years old. The conversation of Hetty, who is eight, reported in the *Lutheran*, tends to confirm the statement.

Hetty's uncle, who is a school teacher, met her on the street one beautiful May-day, and asked her if she was going out with the Maying party.

"No, I ain't going."

"O my dear," said her uncle, "you must not say 'I ain't going.' You must say, 'I am not going,' and he proceeded to give her a little lesson in grammar: "You are not going. He is not going. We are not going. You are not going. They are not going. Now, can you say all that, Hetty?"

"Of course I can," she replied, making a courtesy. "There ain't nobody going."—*Youth's Companion*

A subscriber, in sending subscription in advance, says: "I could not do without the REVIEW. I get my money back through the lessons on botany and nature-study. Wishing you every success. G.R.R."

BOTANY FOR NOVEMBER.

L. A. DeWOLFE.

Plants have now practically completed their preparation for winter. What preparation have they made?

Look at the buds on, say the beech and the elder. Note the scaly covering. What is it for? Take off the scales from the beech bud. See next year's leaves packed away for their winter sleep. Their white, downy covering probably serves two purposes: (1) protection against sudden changes of temperature during the winter, and (2) to avoid quick evaporation of water after the young leaves come out next spring. Did you ever notice that many young leaves were downy; though smooth when older?

What is packed away in the elder buds? Examine them. Masses of stamens are easily visible.

From these two buds, therefore, we learn that the tree has already made preparation for next year's seed formation; and strength to produce these seeds is assured by the supply of young leaves which are to feed the tree during its growing season.

What preparation have the grasses made for winter? Their stems are not so hardy as those of trees. Consequently, they are willing to sacrifice these parts; but not before they have stored in their roots sufficient plant food to start next spring's growth.

Just as the bud scales protected the young leaves and flowers from sudden changes in temperature, so the ground and the snow protect these roots from similar changes. To be sure, they freeze and thaw, but slowly doing so does not injure them.

Possible the most noticeable winter preparation is the falling of the leaves. Why do trees shed their leaves, and how? If a growing branch be broken from a tree, the leaves on that branch wither. This proves that the leaves give off water. Can the tree afford to lose much water in winter, when its roots cannot get a good supply? Then, would it not be wise to retain the small amount it has? This is done in most cases by throwing away the leaves, and thus preventing evaporation. The scar left by the fallen leaf is sealed by a layer of cork. [The teacher would do well to investigate this healing process in plants.]

Our evergreen trees do not lose all their leaves in winter. How, then, do they prevent too much