## AUNT NORA'S CORNER.

partment has been placed under the direction of our talented young writer "Babette," who has so long and gener ously contributed to the TRUE WITNESS.

Aunt Nora is always delighted to hear from her girl and boy correspondents, and is very much pleased to find so many taking a keen interest in the prize competition, the rules of which appeared in a recent issue.

The subject chosen, "St. Patrick's will be very easy to add a little more to great speakers at the Catholic Summer the knowledge you already possess.

This is an age, you know, when women niece, are proving themselves quite clever, and are pushing the men, not aside, but forward a little faster; so, if I were a boy. I would like to feel sure that I was keeping | all about the favored town where she reup my end of the beam fairly well, and sides-will she tell us something about not allowing my sisters to possess all the good things just because I was too lazy letter, will she describe the Summer to get up and look about for my own

There are many bright little girls who are kept in the background by their own timidity and lack of confidence in their own merits. To these little mixtures of pride and humility, Aunt Nora would say, "Do your best and leave the judgment of it to others." Now, I wonder if any of my nine-year

old friends can write anything as clever as the two following compositions, which were written by President Cleveland at

Faystville Academy, Sept. 5, 1846.

is divided into seconds, Time minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, they caught or take him as a prisoner. years and centuries. If we expect to Often the gold diggers managed to pass become great and good men, and be respected and esteemed by our friends, we must improve our time when we are young. George Washington improved his time when he was a boy, and he was to cook their supper. Now, all their not sorry when he was at the head of a wood began to get scarce, so Mr. O'Reilly large army fighting for his country. A sent his son out to look for wood. He great many of our great men were poor was no less than 10 minutes away when and had but small means of obtaining an he came running up to his father, sayeducation, but by improving their time ing, "Father, I saw some Indians near when they were young they obtained our camp." His father, on hearing this, their high standing in school. Jackson was a poor boy, but he was placed in school, and by improving his time he Now, Mr. O'Reilly was a brave man found himself a president of the United States, guiding and directing a powerful If we wish to become great and useful in the world we must improve our time in school.

S. G. CLEVELAND.

Fayetville Academy, Sept. 19, 1846. "'Tis education forms the common mind— Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined."

The cow is very useful. If it were not for the cow we could not have no milk to put in our coffee and tea.

Every part of the cow is useful; the skin is tanned into leather, and shoes and boots are made of it. The flesh is good for food and is called beef; their horns are made into buttons, knife-handles and powder-horns. Of milk, butter and cheese is made. There is a glutinous substance by the hoof which is made into glue. Indeed if it were not for the cow we should have to do with out many things which are considered necesaries of life.

S. G. C.

Grover was a boy, and the rough road of up a little way on the hill, because most knowledge has been cleared of a lot of likely they will be there camping. there and brambles and trampled Now," he went on saying. "as soon as smooth by generations of little feet con-the Indians see the smoke they will run for the rough intellectual nuggets of [free my son." earlier days which were often hammered

in rural districts who flock to the little prisoner when he himself (the Indian) brick school-house on the country road, through the thick snows of winter and released. the winds and rains of summer to store their minds with the same mysteries of the same mysteries o tunities only glimmer faintly along life's way, because they have already learned in the hard text book of experience the Then he released the Indian chief, say-value of the knowledge, however limited, ing to him: "If I didn't get my son they have acquired and of its application | back, you would be shot dead." After to the practical needs of life.

Dear me, like most old ladies, Aunt Nora is fond of a nice long chat, and here I am rambling away to the country school-house when I meant all the time

to keep St. Patrick's Church in sight. Well, now, boys and girls, just a part-ing word before I wipe my spectacles and retire. Wake up! and show the readers of the TRUE WITNESS in town and country how you are profiting b your advantage in the class room, and how you can apply the fruits of these

advantages when occasion arises. It's just such efforts as this Prize Competition requires that stirs at times the poet, the artist, the sculptor, or, may hap, the priest, within some little soul and directs it to its true vocation in later

**`** We have very much pleasure in in- | Catholics and weak-kneed Catholics are forming the boys and girls that this de scribbling about the character of the teaching in our Catholic schools, would it not be well for all those who have the guidance and direction of these institutions to take an interest in this column, and point out to their pupils the advantages which it offers.

> PLATTSBURG, N.Y., Jan. 27, 1897. DEAR AUNT NORA, -I read THE TRUE WITNESS every week and see that a num-ber of the school children have sent you letters.

I am sure you will be glad to hear from your little friend so far away. I am still at school and wishing the Church, Montreal," is one with which time to come quickly when I will be you are all more or less familiar, and it able to attend the lectures and hear the School. I am sure you are also wishing

for the next session. Now, boys, bestir yourselves, and do Hoping to see my letter in print, I renot let the girls win all the prizes main, dear Aunt Nora, your loving

AGNES PATERSON.

Aunt Nora's little American niece is welcome to the "Corner." Will she not write s o and tell her Canadian cousins the history of Plattsburg—does she read the Reading Circle Review? In her next School grounds?

MONTREAL, Jan. 27, 1897.

DEAR AUNT NORA,-When my uncle Jack was about 18 years old, he and a few of his companions resolved to go to the California gold mines to try their luck, so one day they started with a party headed by a man named O'Reilly. They had to travel in carts hauled by oxen: because at that time oxen were more useful than horses. Well, they went along through mountains and over rocks, and at last they came to a plain which had awful high grass. This grass would reach over the head of a man sitting on horseback. In this grass there were Indians hiding who were very trouble-some. They would either kill anyone

and took things cool. After a couple of seconds he said to the gold diggers: "Now, boys, get ready to defend yourselves." In a few minutes they were ready and well armed. Soon they heard them coming and in an instant they came flying past the gold diggers only to get a volley of bullets from the men and O'Reilly captured the chief and kept him. After the fight was over, Mr. O'Reilly examined to see if any of the gold diggers were killed. He found out solute sincerity that the wailings of the that everyone was all right, but that his banshee were heard a week before son was missing; so he said: "I know now where my son is; he is captured by Indians." He began thinking awhile, when he was heard to exclaim: "Now, I want two of the bravest men here, and they have to be good runners, so as to get my son." Well, all hands were willing to go but he only wanted two, so he picked out the two which he thought were the bravest. Then he said to them: Now, will you do everything I command you to do," and they said "Yes."
"Well," he said, "one of you take a box of matches and crawl on all-fours until you get past the enemy a good way off and set fire to the grass (in California the grass is terrible dry), while the other Education is imparted in a more palat- will take a revolver and creep behind able and nutritious form now than when the tree where my son is tied. Just go stantly plodding along it, but the same away and the Chief will send an Indian industry and applies trop is necessary to to shoot the prisoner. As soon as you absorb more the polished kernels of learn- see the Indian going to shoot take a ing that are offered today as was required good aim and shoot him instead and

Each got his position; the fire was in by the rod of the wrathful school- started and soon began to burn rapidly. In a few minutes the Indians saw the Aunt Nora's little boys and girls in flames. They began to run and the the city have many comforts and ad- Chief sent an Indian to shoot the vantages that are denied her little friends prisoner. He was about to shoot the was shot instantly and the prisoner was

They were about two hours away Not very long after he said these words he suddenl saw his son coming with the two men he had sent to release him. that the Indians never troubled them again. In a few days they reached their destination.

Wm. Showers, Pupil of St. Mary's School.

[Aunt Nora is glad to hear from Wil liam and invites him to write again. Does William know any Indian stories about Montreal? Will he "read up" and tell Aunt Nora about the battle between the founder of Montreal and the Iroquois on Place d'Armes? How many statues are in St. Marv's Church? How did it receive its beautiful title of Good Counsel? Will William, and Aunt Nora's other young friends remember to write on one side of the paper only?

THE DIFFERENCE.

Small boy: "Pa, what is the difference Now, a word to the Superiors and Pa: "Well, let me see if I can illusheads of our educational establish rents. I trate. You know I am often discouraged. At the present time, when so many non- | and things don't look to me as if they'd | 874 Lagauchetiers St ... Bell Telephone 2458 |

ever go right. Well, at such times I can be said to be a pessimist. But years ago, when I was a young man everything looked bright and rosy, and I was always hopeful. Then I was an optimist. Now, my son, can you understand the difference between a pessimist and an optimist ?"

Small boy: "Oh, yes; one is married and the other isn't."

SLIGHTLY MIXED.

'A pound of tea at one and three, And a pot of raspberry jam;
Two new laid eggs, a dozen pegs,
And a pound of rashers of ham."

I'll say it over all the way, And then I'm sure not to forget, For if I chance to bring things wrong My mother gets in such a pet.

A pound of tea at one and three, And a pot of raspberry jam; I wo new laid eggs, a dozen of pegs, And a pound of rashers of ham.'

There in the hay the children play, They're having such jolly fun; I'll go there, too, that's what I'll do, As soon as my errands are done.

'A pound of tea at one and three, A pot of-er-new laid jam, Two raspberry eggs, with a dozen pegs And a pound of rashers of ham.

There's Teddy White flying his kite, He thinks himself grand, I declare; I'd like to try to fly it sky high, Ever so much higher

Than the old church spire, And then—and—then—but there—

'A pound of three and one at tea. A pot of new laid jam. Two dozen eggs, some raspberry pegs, And a pound of rashers of ham.

Now, here's the shop, outside I'll stop, And run through my orders again; I haven't forgot, no, never a jot--It shows I'm pretty cute, that's plain.

'A pound of three at one and tea, A dozen of raspberry ham, A pot of eggs, with a dozen pegs, And a rasher of new laid ham."

THE CHILDREN.

A dreary place would be this earth, Were there no little people in it; The song of life would lose its mirth, Were there no children to begin it.

No little forms like buds to grow, And make the admiring heart sur-

render: No little hands on breast and brow To keep the thrilling love-chords ten-

The sterner souls would grow more stern, Unfeeling natures more inhuman, A man to stoic coldness turn. And woman would be less than

woman.

Life's song indeed would lose its charm, Were there not babies to begin it, A doleful place this world would be Were there no little people in it.

A respected and entirely serious Irish correspondent of the London Daily News believes in the banshee story. He writes: The statement made with ab-Christmas in the valley of the moving bog in East Kerry by large numbers of people must not be set down to a freak of the Celtic imagination. These cries, which are believed to presage death, reached at least in one instance official ears on the eve of this terrible disaster. I have myself heard the late Archdeacon Whately, who was an Englishman, educated in England, the only son of the celebrated Archbishop of Dublin, say that in an Irish country parish he hear! distinctly, when administering the Holv Communion to a dying person, the wail known as the cry of the banshee.

Ruse for a Raise-He Got It.-Employer-If you are really sick, Johnnie, ou may go home.

Johnnie-I can't sir. I'd worry so much for fear the bizness wouldn't go on in me absince, and dat's wors'n de stomick ake.—New York Evening World.

Prevent sickness and save doctor's bills at this season by keeping your blood rich and pure with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Brown-I'd like to see Cuba become Jenkins-So would I, but there would

be lots of trouble afterward. Brown—How?

Jenkins—Why, the New York papers would never stop fighting about which of them did it.—Philadelphia American.

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PREMATURE BURIAL Occupying the Attention of the English

The Sun, N.Y., in referring to the sub-

ject of premature burial, which is occupying a good deal of attention at present in England, says :--

The English newspapers have of late been giving a good deal of space to a discussion of the extent to which prem attre burials possibly may occur, and of the methods of averting them. Attention has been directed to the subject by the publication of a book one of the authors of which was himself buried alive, while the other had a ghastly ex perience of the kind in his family. The examples of premature interment col-lected by the writers have produced the deeper impression, because particular pains have been taken to authenticate them, and because they are distinguish. ed carefully from the phenomena of disturbance, sometimes observed on opening a coffin, which may have been due to the generation of gases.

Of course, none of the many sensible persons who have discoursed lately upon the matter assumes that premature burial is a frequent occurrence; on the contrary, it is admitted universally to be rare. Yet even if there were only burial is a frequent occurrence to the past year were 25 571, compared with 25,478 for the previous year, or a decrease of 93. The settlers in the because of the year were 16,835, as one in ten thousand interments, the one | compared with 18 617 for the previous case would be attended with circumstances of horror, the mere thought of of the arrivals in 1896 who were paswhich appals the imagination, and suggests the misgiving that oursemi-civilized forefathers may have been wiser than we in respect of their prolonged and assiduous watching of the dead.

At the present day in civilized countries it is, or should be, customary to wait several days after the fact of death has been certified by the medical attendant before the body is committed to the grave, and even before recourse is made to the freezing or embalming process. But can the certificate of a we'l qualified physician as to the fact of death always be accepted as absolutel- trustworthy? That is one of the points upon which the discussion in the London journals smoking a pipe. He went gently up the has turned principally. There seems to ladder, and, stepping in front of him, be grave doubt whether any of the usual said :tests can be looked upon as entirely unering. For instance can a person be pronounced dead because he has ceased pay (it being Friday) and you can continue the state of this can be proposed by the looked upon as entirely unering. It is not the looked upon as entirely unering the looked upon as entirely unering. For instance can a person be pronounced dead because he has ceased pay (it being Friday) and you can continue the looked upon as entirely unering the looked upon a l o breathe? On the contrary, there are sider yoursel! discharged. hundreds of recorded cases where no sign of breath could be detected, yet the patients have lived. Is the complete the foreman came up, and the builder city. stoppage of the heart's action a decisive told him what he had done.

criterion? There are cases where the "Why," said the for man, "that man criterion? There are cases where the hearts of men supposed to be dead have wasn't working for us; he was only askgiven no indication of movement to the ing for a j.b."—Tit Bits. trained ear or touch or even to the steth oscope, and yet it has been proved eventually that life was not extinct. Is the state of the blood a faultless index? Not so. You may open a vein and find the blood congealed, and yet you may business men you meet every day. No discover by and by that you have been operating upon a living subject. Neither remit dy the defects of a false civilireduction of the body's temperature nor the stiffening of the trame is an infal-lible verification. Galvanism may sail color. Sold by all chemists. to produce a muscular reaction, and a bright steel blade, plunged into the tissues, may, when withdrawn, show no signs of oxidation, and yet death may not have been present. Nor, finally, is putrefaction and decomposition an absolutely unmistakable proof of death, for it is well known that portions of the human frame may mortify in the living. The authors of the book which started the discussion contend that, infrequent as are the cases of premature interment,

there are enough of them to call for some changes in the law regarding death certification and the treatment of bodies before burial. They advocate the estab lishment of public mortuaries, where the bodi s could be kept without inconvenience or injury to health till the proofs of death become indisputable. We believe that an experiment of the kind has been tried in Europe, but that, out of many hundreds of bodies com mitted to the mortuary hall, not one came to life. The advocates of the institution would reply that the proportion of premature interments is not one in hundreds but in many thousands. In the absence of such precautionary estab. lishments, which could only be constructed and maintained at considerable cost, it might be expedient to revive the old custom of watching the dead incess antly before hurial, and of not burying until signs of decomposition had appear ed, not sporadically, but over a large part of the surface of the body.

DON'T WAIT FOR THE SICK ROOM.

The experience of physicians and the public proves that taking Scott's Emulsion produces an immediate increase in flesh; it is therefore of the highest value in Wasting Diseases and Consumption.

Men of science from the Royal Dublin Society are now enquiring into the causes and nature of the Kerry bog disaster. One of them hold that it was due Hood's Sarsaparilla has over and over again proved by its cures,

when all other preparations failed, that it is the One True BLOOD Purifier.

to no earthquake shock, and seems to incline to the opinion that the bog and the pent up mountain drainage "burst" together. The tremendous force of the movement is apparent now that the subsidence admits of a closer examination of the scene of the disaster. The mountain is all changed in appearance—per-haps for ever. It is torn into huge gaping fissures. Something had to give way with ten million cubic yards of dense mud tearing down the slope. The overwhelming nature of the calamity was not without its compensations. There is reason to believe that the un fortunate victims died without pain. The mountain, it is said, will now be better drained, and the bog of greater value than before.

IMMIGRATION RETURNS.

A return issued by the Minister of the Interior shows that in taking the twelve months ending December 31st, 1896, as compared with the same period in 1895 there was a decrease of 8 per cent. in the number of immigrant passengers to Canada settling in the Dominion.

The total arrivals in Canada from year. This shows that there were 8,643 sengers to the United States as against 6 854 in 1895. The arrivals at the port of Quebec in 1896 were 15,409, at Halifax 6782, Montreal 2,387 and St. John N.B., 900. The returns for Manitoba, the Northwest and British Columbia show Art School opens Oct lu. " on free the arrivals to be 6,206 for 1896 and 5,371 for 1895.

NEATLY CAUGHT.

A builder in a small town was walking down a street in which he was having some buildings erected, when he ob served one of the men standing on the scaffolding with his hands in his pockets,

The man pocketed the money and

This is the fast age when men live twenty years in ten and are old at forty. business men you meet every day. Nature, however, is always at hand to zation, and offers Luby's Parisian Hair Renewer to bring hair to its original

Break Up a Cold in Time BY USING PYNY-PECTORAL The Quick Cure for COUGHS, COLDS, CROUP, BRON-CHITIS, HOARSENESS, etc. Mrs. Joseph Norwick, of 68 Soragren Ave., Toronto, writes: "Pyny-Pectore has never fuled to care my children of croup after a tow doses. It cured myself of a long-standing cough after several other remed; a had failed. It has also proved an excellent cough cure for my family. I prefer at to surv other modicine for coughs, croup or hoarsoness." H. O. BARHOUR, of Little Rocher, N. B., writes: "As a cure for coughs Provipertoral is the best selling mean ine I have; my cus-tomers will have to other." Large Bottle, 25 Cts. DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., LTD. Proprietors, MONTREAL 

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IRISHMEN IN AMERICA

DOING HONOR TO THE LAND OF THEIR

ADOPTION. Bernard O'Kane writes as follows to the Boston Republic :- The recent death of Hon. Patrick Maguire recalls to mind the many distinguished men of Irish birth who did honor to this country in the councils of the nation, in the neld, the forum, on the bench and at the bar. But it is sad to say that their names have not be nemblazoned on history's page as they should be to teach the rising generation in our public schools that Ireland—down-trodden Ireland—well deserves the ancient title of sainted isle,

"the land of learned men." The late lamented Thos. D'Arcy McGee compiled a small work, entitled "Irish Settlers in America." in which herelates the names of distinguished men, born in Ireland, who came to this country and became famous by their noble acts, deeds and enterprises. Among those he names I select but two for the present. He mentions Charles Thompon, born in Maghera, county Derry, Ire., who drafted the Declaration of Independence and read it to the multitude from the steps of Congress Hall in 1776 in the city of Philadelphia. The other name is known as the Irish schoolmaster. Sullivan by name—"The Limerick School

The latter gentleman settled in Maine, and from his loins sprang a numerous progeny whose descendants proudly best the middle name of Sullivan (S), and grace Beacon Hill in the city of Beston with the aristocracy of Appleton, Amory, Crowningshield, Warren, Sears and many others. I feel a personal ride in recording the name and address of Mr Thompson, as I was reared in the same town of Maghera and went to school there, to the Royal Hibernian school. It was not a free school, though under British patronage. We had not only to pay 2 3 . nd 4 pence per week, but we had to furnish fuel-two peat, sometimer three and four, under our and

during winter weather. Immigration to this country previous to and subsequent to 1798 brought from the north of Ireland a noble class of Irishmen. They were accused of being in sympathy with the United men. There were Catholics and Presbyterians unit d; no such a bybrid as Scotch-Irish, hut of the genuine Celtic blood of the Mac and the O What we most need is. the publication of the names of these distinguished Irishmen in history, in bound books, and in the meantime to give publicity through the press that

such names as Maguire may live for