

AUNT NORA'S CORNER.

School days are happy days. You may not think so, little folks, while you are stumbling through the mazes of arithmetic and grammar, and trying to fix slippery dates that will go astray, no matter how hard you try to remember them; but, when you have climbed over the hill of years to that eminence when you will consider yourselves "grown up," you will turn and look back wistfully over the little sheltered green valley of childhood, and the dear, familiar school-house, and the old school-friends, and the face of the kind teacher will shine forth in a halo of happy memories that you are quietly and unconsciously gathering now.

The teacher will appear in a new and different aspect. You will then appreciate and understand a little of the devotion and sacrifice that is expended on your education and improvement. Sometimes in the classroom, perhaps, you may have thought your teacher strict or "cross," but when you have grown older you will wonder at the patience and tireless care that even your willfulness and disobedience was not sufficient to exhaust. Out from your heart will come a flood of gratitude mingled with regret for all the little faults and wayward acts that grieved your wise and loving instructor, and every neglect and misdeed of which you were guilty will come accusingly before you, until you would wish that the school days were to be lived over again, so that you might repair your faults and leave a brighter record.

But God gives us just one little life on earth, and every moment of it is precious. You should jewel them all with kindly deeds and blessed, beautiful thoughts as they fly quickly past, and like the little Child Jesus in Nazareth, you will grow, and wax strong, full of wisdom and of grace—a joy and a blessing to all about you.

Be respectful and submissive now to your teachers, little ones, and be guided in everything by their wise counsels, for remember it is always for your good. Now is the only time God gives you for your own. We cannot count on tomorrow it may, not be ours. Now is the time for diligent study and attention to the voice of your teacher. Never mind the idle boys and girls that would draw away with silly whispers from the straight and honest path of duty. These will spend the precious school hours in gossip and giggling, when the teacher's back is turned, and when they leave school to take their place in the world their heads and tongues will go rattling on with the jingling nonsense inside, for their poor brains will be starved and shrivelled up for want of proper training and nourishment. Show your love and affection now for the one that is directing your young mind and heart to God, and imparting to you the precious gifts of knowledge. Do not wait until the years roll on and the kind teacher that has smoothed life's path for you is beyond the reach of your awakened gratitude.

And be kind, dear children, to everyone about you. Kindness is the sunshine of life, and you should strive to scatter it all around, so that wherever you pass you will be remembered for the warm glow and brightness of your presence. Sometimes it just costs a little word, or a gentle tone in our voice, to send some one on their way rejoicing or to make a poor little schoolmate remember us forever with gladness.

Kindness and courtesy towards all are marks of noble natures, and that ugly growth, selfishness, finds it hard to thrive in the same soil with them.

You are all anxious to know the result of the competition. Well, it shall be announced before very long. In the meantime you might keep yourselves in practice for another competition by writing a letter to Aunt Nora.

FATHERS BREBUEF AND LALLIMANT.

In the early history of Canada, Christian heroism stands forth in its grandest phases, and the Christian zeal, the undaunted courage displayed by the holy missionaries while seeking to save the redmen of our forests, furnish material for one of the most thrilling pages in the history of this colony.

But nowhere on this continent did it glow with brighter lustre than on the shores of Lake St. Lawrence, where Father Brebuef and his companion pursued their apostolic labors. At the hands of those to whom they had come as the bearers of the glad tidings of faith, they endured the most horrible torments with that fortitude which religion alone can enkindle in the heart of man.

Gabriel Lallimant, who was of a delicate frame, and his colleague, Jean Brebuef, who was of most commanding mien and colossal strength, left, without regret, the grandeur of Parisian life and the prospect of a brilliant career. They severed the endearing ties of friendship and crossed the wide ocean to save the children of the forest; they left luxury, pleasure, the alluring phantom of fame, to come to a land where they knew naught but privation and sufferings awaited them, and most probably a painful death as their crowning reward. Still, with fearless and zealous delight, they went forth on their labor of love.

Soar our martyred missionaries shall hear their names extolled with gratitude by the grateful thousands who behold the seed sown by them germinating and producing its happy effects all over our fair Canada. They will enjoy a twofold immortality,—their recompense for the genial rays of faith which, by their teaching and sufferings, they diffused over our land.

JUSTINE.
[Aunt Nora is well pleased with Justine's clever composition on a Canadian and Catholic subject. The history of our early martyrs is a thrilling and inspiring study, and while quite as interesting, is far more beneficial to the youthful mind than the ordinary romantic literature filled with impossible heroes and heroines.]

A JESTER'S ESSAY ON FOOLS.

"There never was a character on the great stage of life or the drama so much misunderstood as the one I am endeavoring to portray. It is generally supposed that the clown, or the fool, of the olden time was a low, illiterate buffoon, who delighted to throw his limbs into horrible contortions, to wallow out his tongue and roll his eyes, and, as Shakespeare says, "commit such fantastic tricks before high heaven as to make the angels weep." But such is not the fact. The fool of the ancients was a scholar and a gentleman, when the kings and queens of his country could neither read nor write. Besides this, the clown, or fool, had a higher and a holier province. He was the pioneer of human intelligence and manly independence. It was he who first stood up for the down-trodden rights and privileges of the great human family. You see, the fool was kept by kings, queens and courts to amuse them in their hours of leisure; and it was he who, under the ripple of laughter, dared to tell those wholesome truths in the face of tyrants that greater men would have lost their heads for.

But now Othello's occupation's gone. It is no use being a fool nowadays—it doesn't pay? Five hundred years ago—that was the time to be a fool! In those days fools were great men; but things are altered now, for great men were now fools. In the olden time fools were well paid; but now, like every other trade, profession or business, there is so much opposition, and so many people make fools of themselves for nothing, that the trade is not worth following. Now, Shakespeare says: "Let me play the fool! With mirth and laughter let old hearts grow young again, but the generality of fools are fools because they have no reason. But I am a fool, and I give you a reason for being a fool. Consequently, I am a reasonable fool. But there are so many kinds of fools. There are fools in their own right, and fools in their own wrong. There are fools for nothing and there are fools for interest. Now, I am a fool for interest, that is, I am a fool and I find it to my interest to be a fool. Therefore, being a fool and having an interest, I ought to be considered an interested and an interesting fool. At the same time, I must be a fool for principle, because, if I had no principal, I could have no interest, because interest is derived from principal. And when I show I have an interest, that proves I have a principal; consequently, I am a principled fool. But there are old fools and young fools, satirical fools and drunken fools—who are the worst of all fools. Yes, if I had a voice that would echo from hill to hill, and vibrate through every valley, I would cry aloud without the fear of contradiction, that drunken fools are the worst of all fools—except teetotal fools."

FINNEY NEIRO.
[Well, it is consoling to know that at some time in the history of the world the fool had an honorable history, and although they have degenerated they are still useful, from the fact that they teach the wise to avoid folly.]

DEAR AUNT NORA,—My teacher, dissatisfied with my fruitless efforts to produce a composition on a given subject, told me I might write on whatever subjects I pleased. Delighted with the permission, or punishment, whichever it should be called, I said to myself: now, there is a large field before me and ample scope for my ideas; no fear of them being cramped or confined within the limits of any narrow path or train of thoughts.

So, pen in hand, I calmly wait for the first idea that may come before me. When, lo! ideas and thoughts come rushing on my mind, crowding from every point of the compass, and chasing each other in wild profusion.

Well, we had a geography lesson this morning and I can take my subject from the icy field of the Arctic and awaken an echo where sound was never heard, where the wing of a bird never disturbed a wave of air, nor where human voice was ever greeted with a response. A freezing sensation steals over me and I hasten away from this region of palpable silence.

Beauty there may be, but who can live to admire? Come down South a little, where the unfettered waters play, the billows roar, and surges foam; here all nature teems with life. Anon, I mirror my face on the placid waters and wish to dive through to see if the region below bears any resemblance to this world above. It is pretty much the same, mountains and rocks, hills and valleys, tablelands and chasms and unboundable depths. All at once the idea of a shark or a whale, and I shudder and feel secure on finding that my feet rest on terra firma.

subject for composition, is lost in the midst of the many that present themselves, by giving a proper direction to her wandering ideas.
Yours in bewilderment,
F. C.
[F. C. must not go abroad in search of a subject. Her bright fancy will surely find inspiration in Canadian scenes and Canadian life as well as in the ice-bound Arctic regions, the balmy South or the titled personages of the Old World. Look about you F. C. and when you find your subject, write again to Aunt Nora.]

MONTREAL, Feb. 26, 1897.

DEAR AUNT NORA,—William the Conqueror was born in the year 1025, and was the son of Ralph, and remarkable for his great physical strength. At the death of Edward the Confessor the English Crown was claimed by several princes and dukes. Prince Harold of England, and Duke William, of Normandy, were the most powerful. Harold, being present at the death of Edward, quietly stepped into the vacant throne and was joyfully acknowledged by the whole nation.

William resolved to claim the crown by arms, so having brought together a large army he sailed from St. Valens, in France, and landed at Pevensey, in Sussex, with an army just as numerous. The night before the battle the two armies camped in sight of one another, and waited with impatience for the dawn. As soon as the day dawned the two armies were drawn out in array and awaited the signal for the combat. The two monarchs appeared at the head of their armies: William on horseback and Harold on foot in the centre of the host. The great battle of Hastings followed: long and bloody was the contest. At last the courage of the English failed and victory turned in favor of the Normans. The nation gave up to the power of William, who in consequence was called the conqueror. He established the Curfew, a bell rung at 8 o'clock, warning the Saxons to put out their lights. Being a lover of the hunt he destroyed sixty villages for the use of himself and his huntsman, and named it the New Forest.

One of the most useful acts William did was the completing of the Doomday Book which contained a register of all the lands in the kingdom. He also instituted the Feudal system, which means that the Saxons had to serve the King with military service instead of paying money for the land in the kingdom. William died in the monastery of St. Gervais in the sixty-third year of his age and thirty-first year of his reign, leaving Normandy to his eldest son Robert and England to his second son William.

WM. J. DUNN, Pupil of St. Mary's Boys' School.

A CHANCE FOR A MEDICAL MAN IN A THRIVING LUMBERING DISTRICT.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
KEARNEY, Feb. 20.—Since the completion of the railway from Parry Sound to Ottawa a great change has taken place in this thriving village of Kearney and the surrounding districts, and as a result the coming summer should witness a larger influx of settlers. Sometime ago there was a meeting of the residents, and the necessity of securing a clever young man of the medical profession was discussed.

That there is ample scope for the services of a doctor with a knowledge of surgery has been sadly apparent at frequent intervals, where there is so much lumbering going on, so many hundreds of men employed, and so many accidents happening. He would have a large field to work in, for there is no resident doctor along the line over fifty miles from here in the P. S. direction and about one hundred and fifty miles towards Ottawa.

As Kearney is the centre of this great lumbering district and convenient to the Algonquin Park, where the Gilmour Co. and other firms are engaged in lumbering, it is conceded that if an hospital were built here for general purposes it would be a great boon to the people at large, especially to the lumbermen, who are continually subject to accidents and very often to serious sickness and have to be removed in some cases for a hundred miles or more before attendance can be obtained. Such an hospital in the vicinity of Kearney would meet the requirements of cases that are frequently happening and needing immediate relief.

There is one at Huntsville in the Muskoka district, a private concern, that has all the work it can attend to. It receives a large revenue yearly from lumbermen alone, who pay five dollars a year each, and if injured or taken sick their time there, long or short, is covered by that amount. For any energetic M.D. who wishes to secure in a short time a large practice, there is a wide field open here before him. Further information can be obtained at the TRUE WITNESS, or from Louis Leahy, Kearney P.O., Ont.

Capital Prize.
Since the 23rd December, at the weekly distributions of the Society of Arts, of Canada, 1666 Notre Dame, the capital prize (a collection of the value of \$2,000) has already been won four times. The last time, the 17th February, at Quebec, by Mr. Carlos Santiago Powell, manager of the branch of the Jacques Cartier Bank.

Jones—Sillibub has a medicine which he declares is a sure cure for heart disease.
Smith—Did it cure him?
Jones—Yes, it gave him such a frightful attack of indigestion that he forgot all about his heart.—Harper's Bazaar.
"These berths are for the passengers," said the Pullman porter to the countryman to whom he was exhibiting the new car. "And where are your quarters?" asked the innocent visitor. "In a good, safe bank," returned the porter, with a grin.—Harlem Life.

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RESTORES GRAY HAIR TO ITS NATURAL COLOR. STRENGTHENS AND BEAUTIFIES THE HAIR. CURES DANDRUFF AND ITCHING OF THE SCALP. KEEPS THE HAIR MOIST AND THE HEAD COOL. IS NOT A DYE, BUT RESTORES THE HAIR NATURALLY.

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

For afternoon teas the latest fad is for serving tea cakes of all kinds. Toast served with anchovy paste is also in vogue.

To keep small buttered tea biscuits hot for afternoon tea or late supper, put in a soup plate over a large bowl of boiling water, and it will be surprising how long they will retain the heat.

Custards, creams, or any dishes that are to be frozen or hardened require to be made with an extra amount of sugar and seasoning, for the process of freezing takes out part of the sweetness and flavor.

The following treatment is recommended for neuralgia: Heat a creosote and roll it in a cloth; then wet one side of it, pour over it a teaspoonful of essence of peppermint, lay the face on it and wrap the head in flannel.

Two things always to be remembered when cooking oatmeal are these: it should always be cooked slowly, as it then has a sweeter and better flavor. Oatmeal should not be stirred while cooking, as that tends to make it patty.

To remove the smell of new paint, lay a bunch of hay in the room and sprinkle it with a little chloride of lime; close the room for several hours, and when it is again opened the smell of paint will all be gone.

Matting should be swept with a soft matting brush, plied with the grain of the weave. To catch the flying dust that makes a matting-laid floor one of the most difficult to sweep clean, a newspaper, wet and crushed and pushed before the broom, is recommended.

Before putting towels in the clothes hamper see that they are properly dried. Frequently servants are blamed for clothes becoming mildewed, when upon investigation it will be found that towels from the bathroom have been thrown while damp into the general hamper.

Shot lengths of ingrain or three-ply carpet make convenient rugs for many places. Finish the ends by fringing the carpet out four inches. Coarsely button hole the fringed part with some of the ravellings and tie the fringing into knotted tassels. With the ravellings make tassels and fasten them between the tied tassels.

Perfumed flannels in dainty colors come now for laying in the bottom of drawers, and are particularly nice in drawers where bedding and table linens are kept. They have the appearance of ordinary flannel, and are sold by the yard and cut to fit the drawers, the edges being buttonholed or bound. The flannel emits a delicate perfume and will scent every article in a drawer where it is kept. The perfume is said to be far more enduring than any of the sachets commonly in use.

The latest candle shades for decorating tables are of soft white chiffon. The material is put on very full or accordeon pleated, each edge being finished with a narrow lace ruche or tiny Tom Thumb fringe, also in white. The fulness is drawn in at the top with white baby ribbons and a full bow with ends. Little sprays of paper or muslin flowers to match the table decorations are fastened to these dainty shades when in use. They may be ornamented with green vines or fine leaves if desired.

"Cooked celery" is a dish that is not very much known, but it is, nevertheless, very tempting when properly prepared. One way to fix it is to cut nice tender celery into fine bits, say a cupful of the celery to a pint of milk. Put the celery to cook in just enough water to cover it, and let it simmer almost dry, then, when tender, put the milk over it, having made it hot first, and stir in a tablespoonful of butter, into which has been worked smoothly a teaspoonful of flour. Stir all the time till the flour is cooked. Salt and serve hot.

RECIPES.
RICE BISCUITS.
Mix together a teaspoonful of ground rice, one pound and a half of flour, and three-quarters of a cup of powdered sugar. Into these ingredients rub four ounces of butter and mix all into dough with one egg. Flavor with lemon.

ALMOND CAKE.
Put in a mortar half a pound of ground sweet almonds, and half a pound of powdered lump sugar. After mixing thoroughly together, add sufficient beaten white of egg to make into a soft batter. Flavor with a little rose water. Put the batter onto rice paper, spread on baking tins in cakes two inches across. Ornament each cake with strips of citron, dust powdered sugar over and bake in a steady oven till firm.

PINEAPPLE ICE.
For a small luncheon or dinner for four or six persons, pineapple ice served in a natural pineapple cup is a pretty course. The pineapple is cut off at the top, leaving the stalk as a handle to the cover piece. The inside is scooped out and

used, with perhaps the pulp of another small one, to make the ice. The cup is set in a pail or freezer, with a layer of shaved ice and salt beneath and for a few inches around and is then kept chilled to the last moment. Use the spiky leaves of the second pine to make a bed for the cup to rest upon. The ice is put in just as it is sent to the table to be served by the hostess.

PULLED BREAD.
This thoroughly dried-out bread is commended by physicians and hygienic advisers as more wholesome than the ordinary breads, and some high-class hotels make a specialty of it as a dinner bread. It may be easily made from any long loaf of bread by trimming the outside crusts and cutting or pulling the loaf lengthwise into quarters, then eighths. Break each of these pieces in two, and lay on a clean paper in the warming-oven for several hours. To be served at dinner the bread should be pulled right after breakfast. It is as wholesome as the German zwieback or twice-baked bread, and is preferred by many because not sweet.

A PRETTY SCREEN.

A lady who has spent a considerable time in the Hawaiian Islands brought home with her some fine specimens of the flowering vines of that luxuriantly blooming part of the world. These she had copied and enlarged, the colors of blossom and leaf being exquisitely reproduced, and the paintings mounted as a four-fold screen. The panels are at least seven feet high and two across, giving opportunity for a good showing of the splendid blooms. The frame of the screen is of plain gold sufficiently massive to suit its size, but unadorned, except on the outer panel, where the Hawaiian word "Aloha," the islanders' greeting, "Welcome, I love you," set in heavy raised letters.

Does not this idea suggest some possibility to the summer tourist? With a little taste and ingenuity some beautiful thing might be contrived that would carry the charm of the holiday outing into the heart of your home, and would possess a value that the purchased trifle can never attain.

A POINT TO REMEMBER.

If you wish to purify your blood you should take a medicine which cures blood diseases. The record of cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla proves that this is the best medicine for the blood ever produced. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures the most stubborn cases and it is the medicine for you to take if your blood is impure.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pill; assist digestion, cures headache. 25 cents.

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Mrs. JOSEPH NEWICK, of 63 Soranum Ave., Toronto, writes: "Pyny-pectoral has never failed to cure my children of coughs or a few days. It cured myself of a long-standing cough after several other remedies had failed. It has also proved an excellent cough cure for my family. I prefer it to any other medicine for cough, croup or hoarseness."

H. O. BARRETT, of Little Rock, N. B., writes: "As a cure for cough Pyny-pectoral is the best selling medicine I have; my customers will have no other."

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United States Patent Office.

The following information is furnished to us by Messrs. Marion & Marion, Solicitors of Patents, Temple Building, Montreal:—

There 2,487 different varieties of fire-escapes and ladders to be used in emergencies.

Soda water and other cooling beverages are manufactured according to 27 patented methods.

The steam engines of this country need a lack for valves, 2,465 of these having been patented.

The Patent Office has issued 3,075 patents for inventions, contrivances and discoveries in telegraphy.

The fisherman has at his command 2,667 patented devices for attracting or capturing the tiny tribe.

According to the reports of the Patent Office there are 4,389 different varieties of patented chairs.

The number of patent medicines is not so great as may be supposed, there being 1,332 in the reports.

Harness-making has received the earnest attention of the inventor, there being 7,400 patents in this line.

The erection of fire-proof buildings is encouraged by 455 patents, taken out for materials or methods.

Over 25,000 inventions for the manipulation of metals have been patented in the Government Office.

Butter making is encouraged by 4,435 patents either on devices employed or methods of manufacture.

Woodworking tools have developed 4,235 patents, of which one is an auger which bores a square hole.

The vegetables of the country may be cut or crushed in our kitchens by the aid of 2,035 patent machines.

The art of printing is covered by 5,833 patents, either of machines or special devices employed in the work.

The inventors of artificial stone and the manufacturers of lime and cement have taken out 1,150 patents.

The Surgeons transact business with their patients by the aid of 3,835 patent appliances.

Below will be found the only complete weekly up to date record of patents granted to Canadian inventors, which is prepared especially 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:—

54,928—Henry Kelly, Bishop's College, Lennoxville, P. Q., foot guard.

54,928—The Woodard-Esnouf Co., Richmond, cloth measuring machine.

54,982—Wm. Lord, St. Jacques, grinding mill conduit.

54,984—Hugh S. Wallace, Hamilton, acetylene gas apparatus.

54,985—H. M. Wilcox, Owen Sound, O., cutter head for wood working machine.

54,994—Wm. Jones, New-Westminster, B.C., wood-turning machine.

55,001—P. C. Ogilvie, Montreal, radiator section coupling.

55,013—Thos H. Martin, Peterboro, O., parcel wrappers.

55,014—E. S. Manny, Montreal, steam and hot water boilers.

55,017—J. Belair & N. Bouvier, Montreal, P. Q., mop.

55,087—P. Scott, Montreal, air compressor for use in beer drawing system.

55,089—W. Robinson & G. Call, Toronto, O., feather down machine.

55,040—Geo. H. Broder, Winchester, O., journal bearings.

Are You Nervous?
Horsford's Acid Phosphate
Quiets the nerves and induces sleep.