

A Corner for Junior Readers

SOME OF DENNY'S OUT-OF-SCHOOL DOINGS.

(By Annie Margaret Pike)

Chapter I.

DENIS

When Opportunity knocked, Denis Donnelly not only said "Come in," but also made the best of speed to open the door.

That was his way when he was not in school. In school-hours he was like John, or Raymond, or Henry, or Alexander, or Francis, or any other twelve year old boy you might name. He got through the tedium as best he could; it never occurred to him to call school an opportunity.

He lived in Dublin and attended Dr. Blank's school in the Rathdrum Road, but although he crossed over from one side of the road to the other every school day, and could easily have read the motto which was conspicuous on the front of the school-house, he did not so much as glance at it.

"Ora & Labora." The words went unnoticed by Denny though he laboured over his "Principia Latina," and his much blotted exercise book, and his weary construing of two half-pages of Caesar a week. No doubt if he had seen it he would have considered "labora" an appropriate word indeed.

"To have a good time," was Denny's own private motto.

Denny had bright red hair, and merry blue eyes, and more freckles than could be counted in a month of Sundays. His sister, Kathleen, who was older than he, said his nose was in the ascendant. Denny took all the teasing he got about his fiery locks and his turned-up nose, in the most good-natured manner possible, up to a certain point. His school-fellows soon learned where to stop, for "Donnelly Minor," as they still called him although his brother Robert had left school, could be disagreeable when his anger was aroused.

However, such episodes need not come into our story.

The family income was not a large one. Kathleen, as well as Denis, was at school, and the two sets of school fees had to be met every quarter.

Robert was now an articled pupil in the office of Messrs. McQuarrie & Kilner, Architects, who never took a less premium than one hundred pounds with any pupil, so it is not to be wondered at that the work of the Donnelly home was done with the help of only one servant.

She (her name was Bridget Doyle) was a fine up-standing country girl who went to early mass at Mount Argus Chapel before breakfast every Sunday morning "rain or shine."

She used to aver to her mistress that Father Charles, one of the oldest of the priests there, was "not a man at all, Ma'am dear, but just a walking saint."

On certain days wagonette loads of crippled children, as well as ailing people for miles around, would gather to receive his blessing, and a sprinkling of holy water from his hand.

Naturally then when Bridget's eyes were sore, she wished to attend one of these gatherings.

It was when Denny was about ten, and she took him with her. But Denny, not being a Roman Catholic, was left seated part way down the Chapel when she herself went up to kneel at the altar rails.

Father Charles had evidently noticed that the two were in company, for when he was sprinkling holy water on Bridget's eyes, he asked about the boy, and on her replying that he was not belonging to the true church, the aged priest took more holy water in his hand and threw it in the direction of Denis, saying sorrowfully, "Ah! Poor child, poor child!"

Bridget loved all the three young Donnellys, but Denis was her especial favourite. No one whom Father Charles had honoured with his notice could fail to be a favorite with her.

"Indade thin, Masther Dinny was a bad-tempered child until that day," she would say in relating the circumstance, "and now ye couldn't find a better-hearted crature betune this and Galway."

Denis, the favorite, might go into the kitchen at times when no one else dared to brave the "lenth an' breath" of Bridget's tongue, to use her own phrase for what she gave to all whom she considered to be intruders.

(To be Continued)

VANCOUVER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

1409 BEACH AVENUE Vancouver, B.C.

J. LOCKINGTON, Principal

The number of Daily Boarders and Day Boys received is limited to 20 to 25, the Sons of Gentlemen in Business and Professional life.

The entrance ages of 9 and 10 are best for the steady progress through the Three Years-Interesting Courses for the second Year High School Subjects: Divinity, Mathematics, English, French, Latin, Canadian History, Literature, and Drawing.

V. G. S. having been for Twelve Years a Junior High School, its Boy-Scholars have won and are still winning—"Growing Efficiency Records" for good character, scholarship, and sportsmanship.

Large School and Playgrounds: Drill and Games.

Corner Broughton and Beach.

Phone: Seymour 8701.

KINDRED

What vexes thee, O Sea? hast thou a heart
Within that grey, light-shifting breast of thine:
A lonely heart, in yearning like to mine?
Dost live apart,
A spirit manacled to stern Remorse,
And walled for ever in thy shaking waves?
Hark, 'tis thy voice
In agony re-echoes thro' those caves,
Comfortless, hoarse.

Behold, there is no movement in the pines;
Far towers their shaggy grandeur toward the blue:
No sable-suited zephyr murmurs through
Their serried lines,
Below their purple talons grip the rock
Touched by the tireless sequence of the tides,
Whose waves, like weary hands, for ever knock
Where Rest abides.

But ah! like me, they sigh and knock in vain,
They shall not learn the secret of the veiled:
Nor do they know again their offspring rain,
That, heaven scaled,
Have darkened down the golden lapse of day,
To fill the fainting brooks with fuller song
Which, born in laughing mood, re-seek the sea
With silenced tongue.

—J. D. STUART