## OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Little Things. Ave Maria.

Ave Maria. Mr. Longfellow in one of his poems tells a beautiful story of Charles, the great Emperor of Austria and Spain. Before a beleaguered Flemish city the Emperor had pitched his tent, and so long had the seige held out that a bird had built her nest at the top of the roy-al pavilion. The courtiers were in-digrant at such a desceration of the al pavilion. The courtiers were in-dignant at such a desecration of the splendid velvet tent, embroidered with gold and studded with costly jewels. But the haughty Emperor stayed the rude hand that would have destroyed the little home the little home.

"' Let no hand the bird molest,' Said be solemnly, 'nor hurt her.' Adding then, by way of jest: 'Golondrina is my guest-'Tis the wife of some deserter.''

So they left the tent standing ; and until the cruel slege was over-

"So it stood there all alone. Loosely flapping, torn and tattered, Till the brood was fledged and flown, Singing o'er those walls of stone Which the cannon shot had shattered."

It is a kindly act to remember of that stern Emperor, whom men feared rather than loved, and from whom they expected rigorous jastice rather than tender thoughtfulness. Some one says we are all

'Building nests in Fame's great temple, As in spouts the swallows build."

And it is just such gracious acts as these that one would like to have re-membered after death.

was in some new enterprise, he never forgot the little courtesles of life. Once, when preaching to a large audionce, when preaching to a large audi-ence, a tiny child went toddling down the aisle, and before he could be stopped pulled at Father Byan's robe. Stooping, the kindly priest raised the little fellow to his arms and continued htte fellow to nis arms and continued his sermon, holding him, as some one said, "like Saint Anthony holding Our Lord." How much such an act must have impressed all who saw it !

There is a man who by those who know him is always spoken of as "grand," so noble is he in all the sterling qualities which go with those

He is at the head of a large Sunday school, and it had been his habit to visit for a few moments each Sunday visit for a few moments each sunday the classes of the very tiny children, saying a few words to each one; but one Sunday he was compelled to be absent. The following week he was in his place; and as he neared the small children he heard an excited another form small children he heard an excited rustle, saw little faces pering over the benches in eager expectancy, and heard a childish voice whisper: "There he is! There he is! Oh, I was so 'fraid he wouldn't come!" That grand man, whom prominent business men from all over the land welcome and look up to, told this sim-ple anecdote with tears in his kind large even and that child's speech he large eyes ; and that child's speech he thought the greatest compliment he had ever received in his life.

"Only great souls," observes a French writer, "realize how much grandeur there is in being good;" and only Christlike souls realize the greatness of little things. Life is so made up of "trifles light as air ;" and 'tis the little, simple, kindly deeds, the daily thoughtfulness for others, which make the rough places smooth.

" Little things On little wings Bear little souls to heaven."

write by scribbling letters on an old wool card, with the end of a burnt heather stem? Are you more indig-ent than was Lord Kenyon, chief jus-tice of England, who began life as a bootblack and an errand boy? Are you more friendless than John Leyden, the brilliant scholar, who, when a poor, barefooted boy, walked six or eight miles across the Scotch moors to learn to read; who, amid the abjectest penury, haunted Constable's bookstore in Edinburg, and passed hour after

penury, haunted Constable's bookstore in Edinburg, and passed hour after hour perched on a ladder in mid air with some great folio in his hand, for-getful of the scanty meal of bread and water which awaited him in his lowly lodgings 2 lodgings?

write by scribbling letters on an old

Are you more needy than was Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the electric telegraph, who, on the very eve of his triumph, wrote to his mother: "I am crushed for want of mother: "I am crushed for want of means; my stockings all want to see mother, and my hat is hoary from age?" Is your invironment more de-pressing than was that of the great journalist and politician, Thurlow Weed, who cultivated his mind while tending "sap-bush;" who tramped through the snow shoeless, with his feet swaddled in the reamants of a rag carpet, to borrow Carlyle's French Revolution, which he read by the light of "fat pine?" Are you more forlorn than was Henry Wilson in his boyhood, he who for eighteen years foriorn than was henry whise in the boyhood, he who for eighteen years was senator in Congress, and was vice president of the United States? He toiled and druged as a farmer's apprentice from daylight till dark, form the time beyes the years of age from the time he was ten years of age until he was twenty one-spending, as he himself affirmed, but one dollar from the day he was born till he at-tained to manhood-and yet he read during those weary years a thousand borrowed volumes of history, biogra-phy and philosophy.

Proverty did not prevent the poor, scrofulous, melancholy Samuel John-son, who went up to London with but a guines in his pocket, from rising to literary eminence. It did not prevent Schliemann from becoming the first paleontologist of his time; nor Ed-

paleontologist of his time; nor Ed-ward Sugden, a barber's son, from be-coming one of England's greatest lawyers, with an income of one hun-dred thousand dollars a year, and Lord Chancellor of England. It did not keen Samuel Lee of Shoushing

Lord Chancellor of England. If the not keep Samuel Lise, of Shropshire, England, a carpenter's apprentice, from learning the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Arabic, Persic, Hindostance and other languages, and becoming a famed pro-fessor in the University of Cambridge. Poverty could not keep in obscurity Garfield the canal boy; nor Linnæus, the naturalist, in spite of the fact that he had to prosecute his studies while ne had to prosecute his studies while hammering leather and making shoes. Indigence did not hinder Velpeau from becoming the most illustrious figure in French surgery albeit he was a blacksmith's son ; nor Littre, the learned translator of Hippocrates, the learned translator of hipporrates, from rising to eminence amid the most depressing discouragements; nor Professor Moor from making his mark in the world, though, when a young man, he had not money to buy Newton's Principia, and had to copy the whole of that great work with his

the whole of that great work with his own hand. "Chill penury" did not " repress the noble rage " of Jean Richter, but even when in the Paul clutches of a remorseless creditor, he wrote to a friend : " What is poverty that a man should whine under it? It is but the pain of piercing the ears of the maiden, and you hang precious jewels in the wound." To you who are beginning life, what

## THE CATHOLIC RECORD

RORY SLAVIN'S OATH. The Irish Father and How He Avenged His Son's Death.

BY SEUMAS MACMANUS. Rory Slavin's was a neat little cot-tage all but lost in the embrace of the Barnesmore Mountains. Away down below you saw from the door the beauteous Lough Eash, silvered and sparkling, its one little island set as gem and further still, island dotted Donegal Bay, widening its arms and stretching away into the unknown.

It was a splendid summer day, was the 12:h of July, 1820. Rory Slavin and his son, Neil, who had been in the field since morning, weeding their potatoes, were just now finishing their frugal dinner within the cottage.

Neil rose up. "Mother," said he, "I'll sthroll into Donegal to see the Orangemen comin" back from their ' walk.'

"Be wise, Nail avic, an' don't mind goin' next or near Donegal the day. I never knew anything good to come of them party gatherings. Be wise, an' go out with yer poor father to the weedin' agin

"Plaise God, mother, I'll finish the field to morra. I've wrought hard an' didn't take a day to myself since Ais-

didn't take a day to myself since Als-their," he said, looking pleadingly at his father, who was in the act of apply-ing a lighted coal to his pipe. "Och, Nelly, let the boy go in paice. It's the laist we can do is let him take the heelin' of the day to enjoy himself. Nail 'll be wise an' naither make nor meddle with them or their party work. meddle with them or their party work. Go, Nail, avic, but don't stay late. I'll go out and take a turn at the weedin' till evenin.' "

"Well, Nail, alanna, it's too headstrong ye are entirely, an'yer father is little betther. If ye must go ye must, but I warn ye on yer peril not to put yer han'or fut in an party business this day. Let the Orangemen have their day and why shouldn't they? Sure yous have yer own, when the time comes. An' mind, don't let the sun set on ye in Donegal. Go, an' God guard ye !"

God guard ye !" Neil arranged a hasty tollet, and promising to observe his mother's in-junctions strictly, stepped out and went whistling down the lane. Half way down he was met by a pleasant lass, whose sweet little face and eyes, wherein reposed the shadows of night, heamed couly out from under a white beamed coyly out from under a white sunbonnet. Neil's face brightened as sunbonnet. Neil's face brightened as he approached her, and well it might, for this handsome, barefooted country girl was a happy vision to cross the girl was a nappy vision to do have a path of such a fine, strapping young follow just quitting his teens as was Neil. She smilingly pinned to his breast a bunch of geranium blossoms which she held in her hand, his heart welling with pride and pleasure.

" It's pretty as a picture ye look, Nail," said she, laughing, as she smoothed out a wrinkle in his coat caused by the pinning; an' I hope ye'll take good care of yerself, an' not let any of them bouncin' town girls get ye into a snare, an' afther all my trouble with ye, too. Ha, ha !" "Indeed, troth, Maurya, I have no

fear of the bouncin' town girls, as ye call them, snarin' me, for there's nothin' of me to snare but has been snared long ago by a sweet wee lassie with black eyes an' a rouguish mouth' -here Maurya slapped him on the cheek-" that lives in Tawnnawally. Niver mind, Maurya asthore, I'll carry me heart-that is, in case I have the lake, that yer own sweet self hasn't stole it from me ages ago. I'll carry it back whole an' soun', to laive it at To you who are beginning iffe, what though you are a poor man's son, and have felt the gripe of want until, as Daniel Webster said of his condition in youth, your very bones acheed in What though you may be steeped in CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN. though you are a poor man's son, and have felt the gripe of want until, as

fixed features of that upturned countenance speak for themselves. Out of his side has trickled a stream of blood which wound sinuously over the frame upon which the body was stretched, and was still dripping from it. And and was still aripping from it. And the features—ah, yes! the handsome features are those of Neil Slavin. The sun—zee! the sun is still on Sliabh Lhiag! Neil has kept his promise! Did you doubt him, Maurya? If so, approach and upbraid yourself. Neil has feithfully heat his promise! has faithfully kept his promise ! In Slavin's cottage Neil's mother was

busying herself about the fire prepar-

busying herself about the hre prepar-ing a meal against her son's return. "I'll have something warm for the poor boy," she remarked to her hus-band, who sat apart enjoying his pipe. "He took only an excuse of a dinner, he was so taken on with goin' into the town so it's hungry ha'll war." town, so it's hungry he'll be, I'll war-rant ye, when he comes back. It's a wondher but he's comin', Rory ; it's near his time now. It's conthrairy he is when he takes a notion in his head. But shure, the light o' my heart, how would we live widout him. The Lord spare him, it's what I often think ; if ould heart would break."

"Nelly, achors, ye shouldn't be vexin' yerself wid sich-What's that?" and Rory jumped from his seat in terror, as one long, long and loud shrick burst upon his ears, apparently coming from the direction of the bottom of the lane. That shrick was the bursting of Maurya's innocent

body was borne over the threshold which it had a few short hours before quitted full of life and hope, joy and sunshine. Then his mother's senseless body was borne in and laid upon a bed in the inner room. Rory Slavin walked with a firm step after his son's corpse, and with arms folded stood gazing fixedly and stolidly on the lifeless features.

He spoke not a word; neither did he utter moan or sigh. Yet was there that in his strange gaze that made the sympathizing neighbors who thronged the house full for him fourfold !

There was an inquest. There was a verdict of wilful murder returned against a young Orangeman named Willy Baxter. It would appear that Neil Slavin formed one of a crowd of Catholics who had assembled to see the Orange procession enter Donegal, returning from that day's " walk. They turning from that days " walk." They came along gaily, an extended line of stalwart fellows, with colors mounted, flags flying, and bands playing. Upon reaching the group in which Neil was standing the tune which they had been playing was suddenly changed. The front ranks glanced defiantly at the Catholics as the first bar of "Croppies

Lie Down " was thundered boldly out. They never played the second bar-at least not that night, nor for a long time after. The hot Celtic blood mantled in Neil's cheeks, and rushing from the crowd he did a rash and wrong ac

- he put his foot through their big drum. The report of a pistol was indrum. stantly heard, and the next moment Neil Slavin rolled over dead. He had paid for his monstrously imprudent act with his life. A wild act, and a wilder retaliation. But on such days and at such moments Ulster Catholics or Orangemen do not pause to weigh consequences. The day of Neil's funeral arrived.

He was carried to his grave on the shoulders of four companions-strong,

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of the fir and turf that blaze upon the hearth is cleaning up an old gun which Nell was wout to use for poaching purposes. As the light from the fire and reflection from the steel fitfully over his counplay fitfully over his coun-tenance they reveal thereon a fear-fully grim smile. He had finished the cleaning to his satisfaction and now loads and primes the gun with an awful delight. Leveling it in the direction of the door, placing his finger on the trigger, and taking careful iver he'd meet with any misfortune I'd aim, a flash of horrid joy dances in his niver lift my head afther-me poor eyes as he hisses from between her set eyes as he hisses from between her set teetb, "Ah, God ! that I had the murdherer of me son stan'in' there now.

Instantly the door was burst open with such suddenness that it almost caused the finger on the trigger to perform its work. A tall young man, stranger, with a haunted look in his eyes, bounded, panting, into the room. Rory dropped the gun and gazed at him in surprise.

"For the Saviour's sake, hide me, hide me! The polls are on the top o me !"

Rory's eyes bounded in their sockets, a thrill ran through his frame, he moved not for an instant. Then with moved not for an instant. Then with a start he seemed to recall himself. Removing a square flag in one corner of an adjoining room he showed the entrance to a cellar which was used for

the purpose of private distilling. "There," said he pointing down, hide yerself. Ye're safe till they

The door was thrown open once again almost immediately and a band of police thronged in. "Oh, Slavin, is this you? We're afther young Baxter for the murdher. Some of the men thought he run in here; we didn't know yer house." The constraint of the state In another moment the hunted man

The same thrill that we have before recorded, again ran through Rory's frame, but shook it this time with greater force. His features became a deadly white, but he only bowed his head in reply to the sergeant who had spoken and said: "May my son's murdherer meet his punishment. The men only glanced around the

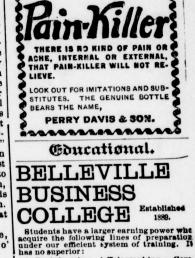
rooms of Rory's dwelling and hurried

off on their way again. The stranger had emerged from his place of concealment, and approached with tears in his eyes to thank Rory, who, placing his hand on the young man's head and looking him full in the eyes for a moment, said in a voice English Jesuit Fathers

"You have murdhered my son. I swore on the five crosses to revenge him. I intended doin' it one way; it was a wicked way. God this night put a betther way in me heart an' in me power. I now pay ye back with your life. Ye can go ; Nail is revenged.

The Orangeman staggered against the wall and put his hands to his head in a dazed way. Presently he recov

ered. "I go," said he. "I leave the miserable counthry this night forever, forever ! I am sure of my life, though



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Only the few are born rich, and the whose parents were wealthy often go to the bad and become poor, when they do not also die young, says the Catholic Columbian. They do not Catholic Columbian. They do not appreciate the value of money. They have not had the discipline of self control, of frugality, of savings accumulated by close economy. They are prodigal. They have not had the adprodigal. vantage of poverty, which to many men has been a stimulus and a safeguard.

The many who are born poor, pro-vided they have a bright mind, a sound body, and a fair education, have advantages in the race of life over their luxurious brothers, who are soft and weak and thriftless.

Poverty no Hindrance.

"There's no chance for me; I'm poor." This is the desponding cry of many a young man, when urged to struggle for the prizes of life-to raise himself out of his lowly condition and make himself useful to his fellow-men. This plea might be admissible, did ex-This plea might be admissible, did ex-perience show that poverty, even the most abject, need keep a man from longing and striving for a respectable and even an honorable place among bis fellows. But what is the fact ? The blographies of eminent men of all ages and all computes ages and all countries prove the con-trary-nay, prove that low birth and Alger. trary—nay, prove that low birth and grinding poverty may both be con-verted to positive blessings by a deter-mined will. They teem with examples showing that the humblest man, if he will but make the most of his abilities, may do much for the griess of out and will but make the most of his abilities, may do much for the glory of God and the good of man; that giant deeds may be performed by seeming pygmies; that there is no social dwarf that may not become a moral Hercules.

You are miserably poor, you say, without a friend to help you. But are

What though you may be steeped in poverty to the very lips, yet in your environment one whit more depressing than that of the heroic souls we have named? But all these men rose superior to their discouragements and converted even the obstacles in their way into stepping-stones to success. Why may not such a triumph be yours? Summon up your manhood, then; shake off your despondency, then ; shake off your despondency, doubts and fears and say : "God helping me, 1 will succeed." Say, with Balzac, in his garret, when told that in literature, which he had chosen for his calling, a man must be either king or hodman, "Very well, I will be king !"--and by steady, unrelent-ing toll, backed by hopefulness and self-trust, victory may be yours.

Happy is he, and he alone safely happy, who gives affection to his fellows, as the sun gives light to the creation. It receives not directly back from single objects what it gives them; but from the *whole*, all that it radiates is returned. It is so with the good man and his race. Persons may not return the reverence and love he Happy is he, and he alone safely not return the reverence and love he lavishes, but humanity will.-W. R.

Horses and Cattle have colic and cramps. Pain Killer will cure them every time. Half a bottle in hot water repeated a few times. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis'. 25c. and 50c. They Drove Pimples Away.—A face cov-ered with pimples is unsightly. It tells of internal irregularities which should long since have been corrected. The liver and kidneys are not performing their functions in the healthy way they should, and these pimples are to let you know that the blood protests. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will drive them all away, and will leave the skin clear and clean. Try them, and there will be another witness to their excellence. You need not cough all night and disturb

you poorer than the carpenter's son, who rose to be Pope Gregory the Seventh, the mightlest of the pontiffs? Are you poorer than Gutenberg, who by the invention of printing revolu-tionized the whole intellectual aspect of society? Are you poorer than was Alexander Murray, the eminent lin-guist, who when a youth, learned to

tend bein back r but sure i needn't ax ye, for when ye got mixed up wid the sprees in the town, Maurya an'her black eyes 'ill be little bother to ye, an' ye won't laive till ye can't help it." "Won't I now? Is that all the thrust ye have in me?"

"What time will ye be back ?" "I'll be at the bottom of the lane afore sun settin'. Look out for me, Maurya, when the sun's on Sliabh Lhiag.

They separated, and Nell went his way with a light heart.

II. The sun was on Sliabh Lhiag. His beams were thrown upon the fairy form of Maurya, who, still barefooted, and her head enveloped in the same

snow white sunbonnet, hastened along the green lane. It was a glorious the green lane. It was a glorious evening. The sun shone its very brightest; Lough Eask flashed its very gliverest; the mountains looked their very grandest, set off with brown and green, dark shade and bright sunshine, the birds sang and twittered, and the air was heavy with perfume stolen from early meadows. Maurya drank in the beauties of the scene, and her innocent heart bounded

with gladness. "The sun's on Sliabh Lhiag, an' I

at it as soon as him." But she didn't succeed. They have reached the end of the lane and turned into it. There are six men, and they seem to bear something in their midst.

"Here's a crowd of them. They're comin' up the lane. God of mercy ! what have they betwixt them?" They approach. They bear a stretch-

which is laid a man-a dead man ! for the awful pallor and rigidly ! Rory has closed the door and by light

when the coffin was lifted on the bear er's shoulders at the wake-house, and ceased not till the last sod was firmly planted above all that was perishable

of Neil Slavin. Immediately after the coffin walked Rory Slavin with the same dread gaze, the same dread expression he wore on the evening he stood by the fresh corpse of his murdered son, still de-picted upon his countenance. They endeavored to rouge him, but gave up the task in despair, and forebodingly shock their heads. Nelly Slavin, whom they left guarded in the cottage, is loud in the expression of her in-tence grief, for which her friends are thankful.

The grave is closed up in silence and the funeral party have turned mournfully away. A very short time after, Rory Slavin, having contrived to elude his friends, returns to the graveyard, and seeking out the newlyclosed grave, goes upon his knees on it before heaven, and calling upon his murdered boy to hear him, he crosses the fingers of one hand over those of

the other, he swears in Gaelic upon these five crosses never, never to rest until he has bitterly revenged the in-nocent blood of his son. "The sun's on Silabh Lhiag, an' I wondher will Nail be as good as his promise !" Don't doubt him, Maurya of the trusting heart—don't doubt him, he will fulfil his compact ! "Ah ! there are heads comin' along at the bushes near the mouth of the lane. Maybe he's in it. Til, run to be at it as soon as him." "The sun's on Silabh Lhiag, an' I hocent blood of his son. A week has passed since the burial of Neil Slavin. Rory has not changed in his manner. He is still possessed of the same strange, calm exterior. But under that calm exterior there is, as his friends fear, a very volcano, which waits but the opportunity to burst on this night Nelly Slavin has been

On this night Nelly Slavin has been taken away, against her will, for the purpose of spending a few hours, in the house of her sister situated up the mountain, in the hope that she may be weaned from dwelling upon the associ-ations that seem to make her great grief more poignant. Rory has absolutely and curtly refused to leave. The shades of night have crept down.

yer town bouncers. Be at the foot of the lane, acushla, when I'm coming back, till we have a sthroll an'a chat." "Och, it's yerself is the ready boy at the blarney! An' what time do ye in-tend bein' back? But sure I needn't ax ye, for when ye got mixed up wild the sprese in the town, Maurya an' her all the party processions-inventions of the divil for wrackin' the souls an' bodies of the young men o' this miser-able counthry an' for scatterin' our homes, an' hold in' us up to disgrace over the face of the airth. The heav-iest curses of a blighted heart light on all such work. For you, may the God that's lookin' down on your action here this night reward ye as ye deserve.

I have brought sorra on yer brow an' gloom in yer heart, an' you have paid me back by heapin' on me head coals that burn me very brain. Ye're re-venged. Farewell. And he was gone into the night. Gone forever .- The Independent.

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