

loes." One of the Englishmen poked out his head from the window, and remarked: "No use, chappy, to 'itch 'em up; we cannot drive your blooming buffalo; don't know how, you know."

A little fellow four years old observed his grandfather sleeping on the sofa. He ran to his uncle, laughingly remarking: "Do tum until Dak, and 'ou'il hear ganpa purr like anysing." One day when taken to a hippodrome, where there were two rings, he cried out, "'ou teap 'ou eyes on dat one; me teap mi eyes on dis one, an' an' 'ou and me 'ill see the whole ting 'tween us." His uncle was a famous storyteller, and one day the little fellow held up puss in the corner with both hands. "Don't doe 'way Tom; Fed want to tell Tom 'tory; it is a tu (true) 'tory; Mama told Fed 'tory, and not uncle Dak."

J. A. RADFORD.

CURIOUS EPITAPHS.

In a Berlin, Ont., cemetery is the following curious epitaph over the grave of an old lady:

"Dear friends, go home, don't shed no tear,
For in the grave I must lie here;
I must lie here till Christ do come,
I hope I'll have a happy home."

In a Galt cemetery, above the grave of a railway man who was killed in an accident in or near the town, is the simple inscription:

"When the whistle blew, he had to go."—M.

THROUGH MY WINDOW.

By day, a sultry arch of changeless blue,
With sordid house-roofs, and with dusty trees

Breaking its line. Night, the Magician,
flew

Just by, and all is changed—one sees
A sky that shades from crimson into rose
Through delicate gradations—paling thro'
Faint rose to gold, through gold that warm-
ly glows

And melts in green—that, into deepening
blue,

Wherein one pale star trembles, half afraid
To be the first to come. The roof and trees
Are magically touched, in this soft shade,
By some strange charm, at once to pain
and please;

Pencilled against the evening sky they
stand

Clearly defined by Night's transforming
hand.

—LEE WYNDHAM.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

There is now running in *Popular Astronomy* (Prof. Payne, Northfield, Minnesota), a series of articles by Mr. W. F. Denning, F.R.A.S., of England, on "Shooting Stars, How to Observe Them, and What They Teach Us." It would be difficult to imagine how such an interesting subject could be treated in a more instructive, and, at the same time, entertaining manner. The articles are also beautifully illustrated.

Mercury should be visible to the naked eye before sunrise during the middle of December. His place will be R. A. 16h. 04m., and South Declination 18° 38'. Venus reaches her greatest elongation east during the afternoon of December 6th. Mars may soon be seen in the early morning, rising about 4.30 o'clock on the morning of the 6th of December. Mars and Uranus

will be in nearly the same telescopic field, the distance between them at conjunction being only eight minutes of arc. During the same day, Mars will pass within eleven minutes of arc of Alpha Libræ, the well-known double-star. During December, Jupiter will continue to be the most noteworthy planetary object in the skies. Saturn is gradually getting into good position for observation in the early morning hours. His ring-system is opening out and becoming very interesting again. At the end of December, the angle of the plane of the ring to the line of sight will be 14 degrees. Uranus is near Alpha Libræ. On the 1st of December, Neptune may be found on a line between Iota and Epsilon Tauri, and about one-third of the distance from Iota.