

they will do and thinking what kind of presents Santa Claus will bring.

I think I will be ready for Christmas because I thought of it soon enough. I will spare all my money that I gained during the summer to be able to buy a present to surprise Papa and Mamma and some of my companions who are poor. I think that my poor comrades will be happy and will forget their sorrows.

I have the job to feed the turkeys; I will fill the trough of feed so that they might be fat enough to kill one for dinner and to give one to one of the poor families of the parish.

I will try also to be good and do all my duties, that the Infant Child might be pleased with me.

Jean Daneault,
Grade VI, Age 13,
St. Joseph, Man.

It is a very busy time now. The men are working at the threshing so that all may have bread. We are studying hard at school so that we may improve a lot in writing and reading to please our parents and our teacher. I took some things to the club and got prizes for them that will make a little more money for Christmas. I always look forward with great interest to the coming of

Christmas, and do all in my power to make and save money to buy presents for my father, mother, and brothers and sisters, and my best school chums. Papa always gives us some money for helping to dig potatoes, and the harder we work the more money we get. We put our choicest vegetables aside and see that they are not used until the great feast. It is my job to look after the hens, so in the fall I pack lots of eggs in oats in the cellar. I want mamma and my big sister to be able to make lots of things for Christmas. I always keep five or six of the biggest and fattest roosters. We have already started. Time comes I hunt through the catalogue to choose the presents we think are suitable and within my means. I get my big sister to send for my father's and mother's presents because I do not want them to know what I am getting for them. I must not forget to give part of my money for those who have no mammas or papas to look after them, and give them presents, did also send my share for the soldiers. Thus will I make others happy and find my own reward in seeing them happy.

Teddy Fitzmaurice,
Age 10, Grade V,
St. Patrick School,
Ste. Rose du Lac.

THE TWO DORMICE

Part II.

It was a fine day, and Mr. Dormouse, feeling tired of being shut up in the little house so long, thought what a nice change it would be to go for a ramble.

"Good-bye, my dear," he said to his wife. "I am going for a run in the wood. My legs feel quite stiff, and perhaps I shall find an acorn that has been left over since autumn. If I do, I shall bring it home: it will taste fresher than those we still have in the storeroom. I hope you will not feel dull while I am away."

Off ran the little dormouse; but he did not go very far, for his legs were, as he had said, somewhat stiff, and he soon grew tired. Then, there was not an acorn to be found; and every beech-

nut had been carried off by their neighbors, the greedy squirrels. So he made his way slowly home, thinking, as he went, how pleasant it would be to rest for a few days longer beside his little wife in their snug nest.

But when he lifted the curtain that hung before the door, lo! the nest was empty: Mrs. Dormouse was nowhere to be seen! He called and he looked, then he squeaked again louder than before, but still she did not come.

All that night the little fellow watched and listened, hoping she would come back; and all next day he ate only half a beech-nut, so anxious was he for the return of his comrade. But at length, when many days had gone by, he was forced to believe that something had happened to her: that one of the