Nancy Hannigan's Suitors

BY SEUMAS MACMANUS.

Nancy Hannigan was the one daughter of Seumas and Nelly Hannigan. Nancy, as she grew up, developed such an attractive appearance that she was dubbed "the flower of Dhrimore." Ere yet Nancy was mature she had to go the way of the young women, and young men, too, of our Donegal seaboard-she had to go over the mountains to hire with the Scotch planters who owned the big, rich farms by the valley of the Finn. Nancy, being of such tender years, so inexperienced of the world, and, still worse, possessing the fatality of exceptional beauty, Seumas and Nellie were loath to let her go. But, despite a little fishing and a little tilling want gave an occasional knock | Mrs. Neilson's warning, so she reat Seumas door, as at the doors of piled, tartly: his neighbors-so, perforce, poor Nancy must face the world.

and warning, the only commodities done up in a red handkerchief, and here?' her father's and mother's blessing. syes and peep up over the shoulder of Barnesmore Mountain, on a Friday | Nancy flung the churn scrubber at fiery Nancy, your sweet lips must market in Strabane next day wait-

Several big rough farmers and some the back of his bent head, saying: rougher farmers' wives had come up and viewed Nancy at every angle of observation, quizzed, questioned and ties and then priced her, and haggled quitted her, giving their opinion that while. she was too delicate for a girl's work in the Laigan, which included boiled roots, feeding cows and pigs, milking, churning and butter making. social status than the farmer's wife, came up, and, raising her glasses, blisthers behind it." viewed Nancy calmly and critically, and then trotted her through the usual and trying catechism. Mrs. Neilson, it turned out, did not require agreed as mistress and maid, and Mrs.

before had seen any one so exquisitely laugh. dressed, drove them home in a buggy. and when this had been done to the and the tricks ye do be up to." satisfaction of both, she led Nancy "Nancy, agrah, I wish the next dressed as ever, read a book by the basket of a morning ?" window. Though he glanced at too modest or too much absorbed in the book to raise his eyes a second time. Two virtues ever possessed by Nancy were docility and respectfulness, but under Mrs. Neilson's lecturing tongue she had much ado to keep! time moved within her. "For, you know," the good Mrs. Neilson tried to impress upon her, "you girls who come here from those wild mountains have to be taught the proprieties necessary to young women, and which. I fear are sadly left out in your bringing up." Nancy flushed. "Your parents, it seems to me, dear, allow you to grow wild, with the result that you come over the mountains into our country so hoydenish that it takes much of our time and trouble to civilize you and to teach you Christian-like conduct." Here Nancy gave her head a most indignant little toss, which was quite lost upon her mentor, who was either so absorbed with her own discourse that she didn't see it, or else, seeing it, took it as a matter of course. "And now, one thing in particular I want to impress on you is to warn you against giving our Tommy any encouragemnt." Nancy looked at Mrs. Neilson in amazement. "Tommy is my eldest boy- and sadly differs from Alexander here," indicating the young man who read-and who blushed ir response to the implied compliment-"sadly different. I'm sorry to say, from Alexander. Tommy is a harum-scarum, of whom we never could make anything, for he couldn't be got to mind his books. Tommy will go to the other side of the parish after a pretty face, and the only objection I can yet find with you is that I'm positive you won't be with me twenty-four hours till that boy's courting you." With her hands under her apron Nancy dropped a sarcastic courtesy, and said: "I'm sure I'm very thankful to ye, ma'am." "Now, mind, you give that boy no encouragement. My heart's with him," and she gave a faint sigh; "and, indeed, but that I have the comfort and consolation of possessing my own wise good Alexander, I think it would be quite broken long ago. Now, you have got your warning dear." Nancy dropped a haughty courtesy, "and mind you keep that boy at arm's

length; for, emphatically, I'll not tol-

erate my servant girls courting with!

my son."

flashed a look at Mrs. Neilson. Sh. felt that she would like to deliver herself of a piece of her mind, but poor Nancy likewise felt that if she spoke she would say something hot and hasty, for which she would certainly be sorry afterward. So wisely she restrained herself. A hot blush overspread her cheeks, she thanked her mistress bitterly, and whisked from her presence.

"Heigho!" Nancy sighed, as she scrubbed a big plunge churn in the dairy later on the same day.

"Heigho!" was echoed back, as from a breast weighed with trouble, Nancy, startled, looked up, and be-

held a rakish, dashing fellow seated on one of the milk crocks which stood on the table. He was laughing heartily at the start he had given

Nancy had been more than half inchined to laugh at first, his countenance was so humorous and his manner so catching. But she remembered

ye, doesn't it, or not?'

"By George, it does. Seems to me of indignation. With a very large store of advice like's as if I'd known you, Nancy, for the last fifty years."

"Weil, the quicker ye get rid o' that | that's beautiful!" her mother could afford to be liberal notion the better. Who are ye, or ward her in admiration and attempted with, a very small store of clothes, what are ye, or what's yer business | to lay his arm around her waist.

Nancy. That's coming I lank down to been prepared for, and with the back Nancy took the road with the other business at once. Well, I'm Tommy, of it she drew him a sounding smack poor boys and girls just before the Im a harum-scarum good-for-nothing along the mouth, which stopped him sun began to rub the mists off his at least, so the old woman says, and in mingled amazement and pain. she should know, and my business When he got his breath again here is to court you."

morning, and trudged thirty-six miles him by way of reply to his auda- soothe what your wicked hand has before bedtime, and stood the Rabble city, and Tommy caught it deftly. He made smart," and he made a dash at dismounted from his position, and, ap- her. proaching Nancy, returned the brush Bu: Nancy, clutching at a butter ing for some one to come and hire her. with a mock bow, then turned to her spade, struck out, and hit him a

your distressed mind by punishing gallant Alexander to a dead stop.

cross-questioned her, putting her him across the head a smart whack of through her indignation, still stood at through the catechism of her abili- the brush, causing him to jump up bay watching the brave fellow nurse with her-trying to beat her down 5 herself and the churn, rubbing and out the door, crying back to the shillings in the half year's wage-and scratching the back of his head the kitchen maid directions about dinner.

"That's for yer impertence," Nancy alarm. said, when he quieted.

"On you duck! Shouldn't I like wrestling with tubs and rots and to be thrashed every day ever I'd rise by just such a vision as your

Finally, an imposing old lady of gen- voke me to go to practicin' my wrist erous girth, and evidently of higher on ye again ye'll maybe find it's little, of the vision's about it-or, at least, it's the sort of vision that laives

> "Nancy, avourneen, it's I knows that; for already there's a blister on my heart the size o' your shoe - the size o my own shoe, I mean."

"Be off, I say, or I'll rise them the a pot wrestler, but a dairy maid, and, size o' your head-an' that's big Nancy's price suiting her, they quickly enough-on the ribs of ye. Be off, I

"An' I can't go, I tell ye!" ac-Neilson's son, a bashful young man, companied by such a travesty on an than whom Nancy vowed she never ogle that Nancy was compelled to

"It wasn"t enough for yer mother Mrs Neilson took much pains show- to warn me against ye, I suppose, and ing Nancy her work next morning, tell me the sort of villain ye were,

to the parlor, and, sinking into an time you find my mother preaching easy chair, began to read her a homily against courtin', I wish you'd just upon the conduct she expected of all only ask her quietly if she never did females under her roof. This bash- it herself, and did she get the man ful and nice young man, as primly sent down from heaven in a hand-

"Go ask her yourself, ye rascal, Nancy as she came in, he was either Aren't you every bit as big an' as ugly as me to do the business?" "Ah-h-h, Nancy, avillish!"

"Begone, for the common nuisance ye are!" And by means of a very vigorous assault on him with the scrubbing brush, Nancy whacked him a rebellious spirit that for the first out of the door and shut it in his

> As she got at her work again he was sending a parting salute through

"Yes, Nancy, darling, I'm gone gone to patch together, as best I can, lift, now protected her hand with her the smithereens of a smashed heart. With that cruel brush of yours you've made very small pieces of it. If] can get it into any sort of presentable order I'll be back for another coort to-morrow. Till then, adieu!" "Then the divil go with ye!" Nan-

cy shouted. "A purty boy indeed ye are," she went on, smilingly, soliloquizing as she wrought. "A purty boy, troth, small wondher yer own mother had to warn me against ye. If ye come to keep me from work the morra, I'm afeard it isn't the scrubbin' brush I'll be usin' on ye. No, I'll be afther takin' to ye somethin' a trifle weightier-somethin' that'll make ye

larn yer place an' keep it-" "He's been interfering with you.

see, the rascal that he is." It was Alexander, the bashful, who surprised Nancy this time. Only Nancy noted that, though solemn enough, he did not look quite so bashful as he had done in his mother's

"Ha, ha, ha," Nancy laughed. "Not a bit of interference, only just cracka joke to keep me from feelin long afther home. Intherferin' Hagh! not him! He wouldn't intherfere with a mouse, I do believe. It's the gay heart, an' the light wan, he has, God bless him!"

"And so," Alexander said, moving closer up to Nancy, and looking into her blue eyes sympathetically, "and so you are feeling 'long' and lonesome after home?"

said, in a tone which, being interpreted, meant-"A great deal."

"Well, now, Nancy, my dear," and he laid a hand gently on her shoulder. 'Nancy, my dear, we must do our best to be kind to you and keep the feeling of 'long' away from you."

Nancy was touched by the feeling expression of such real sympathy She cast down her eyes as she said: Nanc; tossed her head again, and "I'm sure I must be forever obliged | ing Jeweler.

to ye, sir, for yer good-heartedness to the stranger."

"My dear Nancy," here he sat him on the edge of the churn and looked across into Nancy's pretty face "don't say stranger. You're not to feel strange here. You're not to make strange with any one-except, of course, the villain Tommy; by all means, you must make strange with that fellow. You must observe mother's good advice regarding him. But you are not to feel strange with me, for instance," and he laid a hand affectionately on Nancy's head.

"I'm forever obliged," Nancy said, in the thankfulness of her heart. tinued, jocosely wagging a forefinger at her, "I shouldn't like a young girl with such a beautiful head of hair,' here he stroked it, "and such eyes," | meat. "Hello, Nancy!" he said, when he and he gazed into their depths, "to feel strange with me."

A puzzled look overspread Nancy's countenance.

"And," Alexander went on, "I should certainly not like such lips to tell it to me." He wound this up by a playful attempt to chuck Nan-"Indeed, an' my name comes glib to cy under the chin. Nancy, slipping back, drew herself up in an attitude

"What!" he said, surprised. "And the pose of a Greek goddess, by all He stepped to-

Instantly Nancy's little hand shot "That's right now. I like that up more rapidly than he could have

"Well, upon my solemn word, you

sounding rap squarely on the nose, "Perhaps you would like to ease making blood spurt and bringing the

He clapped both hands to his nose. Nancy, without any delay, drew Nancy who could not help smiling with a yell and execute a good imi- his nose. And at that instant Mrs. tation of an Indian war-dance around Neilson's voice was beard, just with-Alexander threw up his hands in

> "Nancy, upon my soul, I'm undone!" Rapidly his eye ran around the dairy, but few hiding places were there. His glances fell upon the big churn. He whisped off the lid and jumped in while he whispered:

within the churn. at the ludicrous denouncement-and with mayonnaise. it is more than probable laughter, and right hearty laughter, would have claimed her, had not Mrs. Neilson then come sailing in.

"Well, little girl, are you standing idle? Why aren't you at work. Don't commence to mope, thinking of home what I'm paying you extravagant wages for. Besides, you were never quarter so well at home, away in those wild mountains, as what you are here, with plenty to eat, and not too much to do-only, you must always keep your hands going. What are you working at now! What! And you O, dear! What are servant girls useful for now except to get in one's way? Have you given it the second scalding yet? No; What's this to do! What's this to do! Is the kettle boiled? Here, stand out of my way! Old woman as I am, I'm as good as half a dozen of the sort of girls going now-a-days. Out of my way! Out of my way! prey observe how I scald a churn-for I'll venture my word you have to be taught it. Paugh! Deary me, it's roasting! and Mrs. Neilson, letting go the kettle she had essayed to apron, and bore off to the churn, the steaming and hissing kettle.

She rested it on the rim of the

"Now, observe, my girl-What? do you think it is only for your amusement I do this, that you stand grinning? Nancy drew as long a face as she could assume. "Observe, you first pass the water round the edge of the lid this way, and-" "01 011 011"

out the bowels of the churn, the lid serve immediately. shot up in the face of the screaming Mrs. Neilson, a dripping human head | cold chopped potatoes with one pint dashed after, forth jumped a man, and, at a bound, leaping clear over the prostrate form of his mother, the wise, the studious, the good and bashful, and well-scalded Alexander, burst, screaming, through the door.

Largest Emerald In the World. A vase cut from a single emerald has been preserved in a cathedral in Genoa, Italy, 600 years. Its dimensions are: Diameter, 121/2 inches; height, 5% inches. Every precaution is used to insure safekeeping. Several locks must be opened to reach it, and the key of each lock is in the possession of a different man. It is publicly exhibited very rarely, and then only by order of the senate. A precautionary decree was passed in 1476 forbidding all per- ply the surroundings favorable for the sons to approach the priceless treasure growth and spread of the rust. The authorities the uncle ungraciously "Ach, not much-not much!" she too closely. An antiquarian advances the theory that it was one of the gifts made Solomon by the Queen of Sheba, and has written a book to prove his assumption. It is difficult in these matter of fact days to believe so large an emerald had ever been found, and it would be interesting to hear the verdict of a gem expert after he had carefully examined the vase.- Manufactur-

About the House.

FROGS' LEGS.

Strip the glove-like covering from frog's hind leg, and what an exquisitely pure, delicate, rose-tinged, almost transparent flesh is revealed, the most beautiful of all meats, save perhaps the breast of a young grouse or "For you know, Nancy," he con- quail. The most fastidious stomach certainly could not be offended at the sight of such delicate, opalescent

And then the flavor of it when cooked. Take the most delicious fresh fish and the breast of a young chicken, combine their flavors equally, and soaping discolors the gems, and also you have the frog's hind legs, the piece in many cases looseus them from de resistance of the epicure's dainty their setting.

er description fits it. Once tasted earth and stone with which the watthe slightest suggestion of uncleanli- coated with them. fastidious invalid.

drying and charring the inside. While cost. cooking season lightly with a dressing of salt, pepper and melted butter, and just before serving squeeze a few drops of lemon juice on each morsel. Serve immediately when cook- household which call for the display of ed with buttered toast and creamed potato. Allow a half dozen at least for each person.

SERVING CANNED VEGETABLES.

Tomato Salad .- Remove the seeds from whole tomatoes. Place on ice. When very cold fill with shredded water cress, adding a little mayonnaise, serve on lettuce leaves surrounded by cracked ice. Finely chopped celery may be substituted for the cress.

Tomato Salad .- To one pint can of tomatoes, add a sprig of parsley, a slice of onion, six cloves and salt and ous complaint. When direction is pepper, cook, covered, twenty minu- needed she delivers it in such a gentle utes; then strain through a fine sieve "In troth," said Nancy, "if ye pro- Ere his head disappeared he paused, and return to the stove. Soak two tablespoonfuls of gelatine in two ta- flicted with work that is from "sun to-"Nancy, Nancy, I'm your friend blespoonfuls of cold water for half sun" or that is "never done." She from this day-if you say nothing." an hour; rub smooth, pour into the does not moralize much, perhaps, but Then the head disappeared and the hot tomato; remove from the fire, stir by some means she manages to aclid was pulled down to its position smooth and add two tablespoonfuls of complish a great deal of work and lemon juice. Pour into a wet mold and have plenty of time at her command. Poor Nancy was swayed between in- let stand eight hours; cut in dice; lay It is by means of that same cheerfuldignation, amazement and laughter on a bed of lettuce leaves and serve ness or disposition. There is less de-

Tomato sauce is excellent served one can of tomatoes, one slice of onion and four cloves fifteen minutes and now," and Mrs. Neilson fussed around then rub through a fine strainer. the dairy. "You know that's not Place two tablespoonfuls of butter in al a frying pan, when hot add the same til smooth and brown. Add the tomatoes, cook five minutes, and season with salt and pepper. Sliced cold lamb quired, and cold or tepid water can be canned whole may be heated, seasoned with pepper, salt and butter, and served effectively on very hot and perfectly made buttered toast. Stewed tomatoes and cold tongue are the ingredients in one scallop.

> Creamed Corn.-Rub one can of corn through a colander and cook in a double boiler twenty-five minutes. Seatwo well beaten eggs.

> minutes a can of corn in two cupfuls of boiling water. Rub the corn through a sieve. Add two cupfuls of hot milk to the corn and one tablespoonful of butter and one of flour; pepper and salt. Complete with a garnish of whipped cream.

en eggs, add four tablespoonfuls of rich milk, pepper and salt, one half cupful of corn chopped fine. Use a very An unearthly yell ascended from hot frying pan, brown carefully, roll,

Corn and Potatoes.-Mix a cupful of of corn, fry.

Corn Fritters .- Mix one level teaspoonful of baking powder with onehalf cupful of flour; add one-half cupful of milk, two cupfuls of corn, grated, two eggs, a tablespoonful of melted butter, pepper and celery salt. 'Drop by spoonfuls into boiling lard."

THE CARNATION RUST.

Concerning this new rust, which seems to have been imported from Europe in 1891, Prof. B. D. Halstead recently said: The conditions are quite different from the open garden, for heat and moisture and a more or less confined air in the greenhouse supspray from the hose in watering, for gave up. But he bated to do so. It example, is one of the best means of seems impossible to correct that wrong carrying the spores from a diseased to impression. The bey was right. Yet a healthy plant.

The experiments that have been made with this disease are somewhat limited, but they go to show that preventive measures are better than attempted cures. From the fact that the carnation is largely an indoor | flection of its rivera

plant and propagated by cuttings, it goes without saying that the stock should be healthy from which the cuttings are taken, and no rusted plants should be introduced into a house previously free from rust. Une rusted plant under the circumstances of greenhouse growth may be ample to inoculate a whole bed, and this accounts for the sudden outbreak of the rust in houses hundreds or thousands of miles apart.

HINTS FOR HOUSEWIVES.

To glaze pastry, brush over with yolk of egg just before putting in the

To destroy moss on trees, paint with whitewa h made of quick ime and wood ashes.

Rings set with valuable stones should always be taken off when washing the hands, for the constant

To keep a kettle clean put a clean oysier shell or large marble in Racy biend of fish and fowl-no oth- side. These attract all particles of this food becomes a favorite dish for er is impregna ed, and thus save the the most refined palates. There is not inside or the kettle from bec ming

ness, of rankness, of "low degree," A delicious orange drink is made as about it. It is a morsel fit to tempt follows: Slice three oranges and a the appetite of the most delicate and lemon into a jug with two ounces of sugar candy. Pour over this a quart Frogs' legs should be broiled over of boiling water; stir at intervals till a quick fire, quick enough to brown cold. This will make an excellent them crisply on the outside, without drink for your children at a small

THE CHEERFUL WOMAN.

There are emergencies in every a statesman's skill. The cheer ul woman is pre-em nent on such occasions. She conquers the grim uncle or the dyspepsic cousin with her infective cheeriulness and her servants recognize her as their friend and ally in matters that are essential to their wellare. The length of time she keeps her servants is a source of wonderment to her less fortunate . riends, but the secret of it is her own winsome disposition. Sha soo hes the tired with a word of kind commendation where ano her might make a querulalbeit firm manner that it has no sting of reproof.

This gen. le, tactful woman is not aflag in executing her commands, and she possesses the gift of "timing her turns" so that sometimes it seems as with fried chicken, roast mutton, if the "lairies did help her." And the mutton hash, lobster chops, etc. Cook fairies of gentle breeding and of kind

heart do help her. Heaven bless the cheerful woman!

CARE OF BRUSHES.

The best way to clean hair brushes. amount of flour, stir constantly un- is with spirits of ammonia, as its effect is immediate. No rubbing is reif heated in this sauce will form a used as success ully as warm. Take a tempting dish. Again, pour this hot tablespoonful of ammonia to a quart haven't finished with the churn yet? sauce around toasted bread and serve of water; dip the bristles without weta poached egg on each slice. A tomato ting the back, and in a moment the grease is removed; then rinse in cold water, shake well and dry in the air, but not in the sun. Soap and soda soften the bristles, and do not get them so thoroughly clean.

A FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

It is well to keep a bottle of amson with salt, pepper, one tablespoon- monia handy at all times, as it is one ful of floured butter and one cup of of the very best of fire extinguishers. cream, or modify this by stirring in In case it is not possible to get close enough to the fire to pour it on, throw Corn Soup .- Simmer for twenty-five the bottle so that it will break in the

Born Equal, but Not Free.

"Here is a curious error," said the schoolboy as he laid down his "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and turned to the encyclopedia. The author uses the ex-Corn Omelet .- To three well beat- pression, 'All men are born free and equal." "Well, what is the matter with

that?" inquired the schoolboy's uncle. "Why, the quotation should be, 'All men are born equal.' There is no 'free'

"Do you mean to tell me that Jefferson did not write 'free and equal' in the Declaration?"

"That's what be didn't."

"I'll bet you"-

"Don't do it, uncle. Remember, you have a family to support, and they will need all your money. The word 'free' does not occur there. See?' And he placed the big book before his misguided relative.

"Oh, I know better! I will get a copy of the constitution in one of my old books. I have heard that quoted so often I know what I am talking

"You have heard it quoted wrong every time you heard the 'free' in it."

After they had found the good and reliable old book and all the rest of the people will go on indefinitely making a "free" and inaccurate quotation --Chicago Post.

Argentina, now the Argentine Republic, owes its name to the silvery re-