

THE GLADNESS OF NATURE.

It is a time to be cloudy and sad. When our mother nature laughs around. When even the deep blue heavens look glad.

In the Gloaming.

You are the best thing of your own best, but I do not think your wife promises much happiness as the future of Godfrey Hill. Remember who what he is.

Mrs. Mason. Good-bye, and thank you.

It was nearly dark, and there was a quarter of a mile to walk before home was reached. So Alice hurried through the grove, when the trees had already shut out the lingering daylight.

Two Playmates at the Same Time.

"My dear!" "What will you have, Darius darling?" "Hem—I want to tell you something."

What'll You Take?

"Take a drink?" "No, sir. Excuse my seemingly unnecessary frumness, but if you knew what cause I have to despise whiskey you would not have asked me."

Explosive Bombs.

"How has the bomb made which was used for the assassination of the czar?" This question was asked of a gentleman who is connected with one of the great powder companies of the city.

A Trapper's Life.

Floyd F. Lobb, was for thirty six years a trapper and guide in the Piscoo lake in the north-western corner of Ross county, New York, is now situated. He says when he first reached Piscoo in 1820 it was a vast wilderness.

The Czar Nicholas.

The czar Nicholas, of Russia was a man of hasty temper, but very full of generous impulses. Having on some occasions used harsh language to one of his Colonels, and being reported that he had taken the trouble to hear the czar ordered a review, and publicly embraced him at the head of his regiment.

Gold This Mornin'.

Fairly in the road, a man came and sat down in front of me and turned around and faced me. "Gold, this mornin'," he said.

No Blowing.

An agent of one of the great circus combinations was recently interviewed: It ran in this channel. "How many condensed pins will you wear this summer, and what will be their value?"

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Mistook the Signal.

A well-known engineer on the Union Pacific who has a slight impediment in his speech, had an interview a few days since with his division superintendent.

The Value of Autographs.

The price of autographs is as variable as that of pictures, and the collector who regards them as valuable capital may find himself, or his heirs may find themselves, grievously disappointed with the means brought about by the figures given for others.

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BRIEFS.

- The elevators of St. Paul hold 214,982 bushels of wheat. —Opium kills 3,000,000 Chinese every year. —Weston has walked 55,000 miles since 1869. —There are 70,000 Catholic schools in France. —Louisiana's rice crop is estimated at 250,000 barrels. —There are 175 breweries in Iowa, and 4000 saloons. —Herbert Spencer, the philosopher, is in delicate health. —The population of the United States is in nine States. —The winter pork-packing at Milwaukee was 325,585. —Alexander Hill is 35 years old, and has four children. —Last year the government sold 293,000,000 postage stamps. —Queen Victoria made \$4,000 on stock farming last year. —During the pork packing season, St. Louis put up 474,150 hogs. —There are 3,500 grocers in Philadelphia who employ 6,000 hands. —The weight of the circulating blood is about 100,000 pounds. —A man annually contributes to 124 pounds of carbon. —The public schools of the United States cost \$83,289,000 a year. —The value of the New York hay crop is estimated at \$60,000,000 a year. —The latest population of New York State by the census of 1880 is 5,688,882. —The centenary of George Stephenson, June 9, 1811, is to be celebrated. —There were 160 fires in New York during February, an average of six a day. —Queen Mary II, daughter of James by Anne Hyde, died of small-pox in 1694. —The famous destructive earthquake which occurred at Lisbon was in the year 1755. —There are in this country 729 Universalist churches, with 32,947 members. —Twelve torpedo cutters are to be added to the Russian fleet in Chinese waters. —The revenue of the Sultan of Turkey is \$70,000,000, of which \$55,000,000 goes to the army. —Of 257 women in Burlington, Vt., entitled to vote at the recent election only 16 did so. —A site has been selected on Georgetown heights for a naval observatory, to cost \$83,000. —Mile. Bernhardt's receipts in Boston were \$19,157, as against \$81,807 in New York. —The crown prince of Sweden is to marry the eldest daughter of the grand duke of Baden. —The cost of cremation at the celebrated Washington, Penn., furnace is now placed at \$45. —Mount Ararat, on which the Bible says Noah's ark rested, is 17,112 feet high. —In five cities there are more than half a dozen railway stations. In London there are at least 150. —It is calculated that sixty tons of steel are produced in the manufacture of steel pens. —The colnage at the mints for February amounted to \$5,558,000, of which \$1,705,000 were silver dollars. —Ex-Judge Strong will devote his leisure to literary and scientific studies, and will practice law. —The poor department in Rochester furnishes food and fuel to 700 families at a cost of \$3,390 a month. —Sir Francis Lytton, of England, has left more than \$1,250,000 for the erection of Wesleyan chapels. —A new oil well was sunk recently in Beaver county, Pa., which produces 100 barrels of oil daily. —The land that has been granted by the United States for rail and wagon roads amounts to 128,165,764 acres. —French Canadian farmers have been selling frozen milk in Montreal during the winter at 2 cents a pound. —It is said that postal card writing has diminished in the sale of writing paper \$12,000,000 annually in the United States. —Gen. Robert Toombs, of Georgia, has given a thousand acres of Texas land in founding a university in that state. —It is stated that the new cigar factory just started at Toxa, Pa., will employ about one hundred cigar makers. —The average yield of India corn per acre throughout the United States is 29.2 bushels, of an average value per bushel of 28 cents. —The Oxford University calendar shows a slight increase in the number of undergraduates. There are now 2,882, against 2,814 a year ago. —A stone pitecher used by John Brown during his imprisonment in Charleston, Va., was sold recently at auction in New York for \$2. —The average of the pulse in infancy is 120 per minute; in manhood, 80; at 60 years, 60. The pulse of females is more frequent than that of males. —The late Earl of Seaford was the chief of the Clan Grant, one of the oldest families in Scotland, having an unbroken line of descent for 600 years. —The exports of Swiss products to the United States for 1880 were greater than any other year on record, exceeding 1879, by 100,000,000 francs. —There are 2500 children in Massachusetts under the care of the State, and of these over 2000 are the offspring of criminals. —One of the vaults in Treasury Building, which is about ten feet square and fourteen feet high now contains \$75,000,000 in registered government bonds. —The total number of hogs cut up in Cincinnati during the winter season, from November 1st to March 1st, is 23,425, showing a decrease, compared with last year, of 12,445 head. —There are in Scotland 298 presbyteries, 286 churches and chapels, 210 Catholic schools, and forty religious communities, with an estimated Catholic population of 511,381 souls. —Clark Mills, the sculptor, took a plaster cast of the features of Senator Carpenter after dinner, from which a bust is to be made for the Congressional Statuary Hall. —Washington swords are quoted or valued at \$10,000 apiece, at least in the price set by Serrano, Whyte, of Maryland, in a resolution offered in the Senate, which proposes to purchase one from Washington's nephew, Lewis, for exhibition at the Yorktown Centennial. The New York State Library at Albany, has two of Washington's swords which cost the State \$20,000.