

Poetry.

THE TASK.

Subject—"A Work-Basket."

I scarcely know where to begin my strange task at, Since Jack, my Pegasus, is rather too wild...

Select Gale.

THE VALUE OF A PIN.

When in Paris lately, I spent a very pleasant evening in the society of some of its most distinguished men. One of our countrymen had invited us to a capital becheurs' dinner-party...

Hoemen and a detachment of municipal guards for sometimes governments fear great more, even after they have breathed their last. I listened with deep emotion to the speeches delivered by some of the popular orators of the time; and at last, when all was over, I made my way home, still having my companion with me...

when departing for his grave in St. Helena, entrusted him with six millions without guarantee or receipt; how Lafitte married his daughter to the Prince de la Moskowa, the eldest son of the illustrious Marshal Ney; how he was elected deputy and became one of the most influential members of the House...

confidence, and I have no doubt are strictly true. That is certainly shutting ones eyes, to unpleasant truths, or does the bear seek to excite the sympathy by make-believe grief? or has he a Roman idea of dying, covering his face with his paws as Cesar did with his mantle? As wonderful as that of bruin, is the SAGACITY OF THE INDIAN.

they regard stealing from strangers as perfectly legitimate and honorable, and that man who has been most successful in this is the most highly honored by his tribe. Indeed, a young man who has not made one or more of these expeditions into Mexico is held in but little repute. I was told by an old chief of the Northern Camanches, that he was the father of four sons, who, he said, were as fine young men as could be found; that they were a great source of comfort to him in his old age, and could steal more horses than any other young men in his band.

A Picture of our Country.

America, as she now stands, is a striking fact. The Western clearings, the immense farms of the Mississippi Valley, the Lake trade, the foreign immigration, toiling Africa chained to the car of commerce, gorgeous and reckless New York, and sudden San Francisco, excite imagination; by all that they imply and foreshadow. They represent many ideas, and embody many a wonderful and moving story...

CAPT. MARCY'S EXPLORATIONS.

Who has not a friend among the army officers, and their families, on the frontiers of Texas and Arkansas? Who has not thought of such a friend as lost in a dim region that has no possible geography?—a vast wilderness made up of forests that begin and end nowhere, deserts that have no outlines, rivers that run every way and never get in the sea, and fantastic mountains that are visible improbabilities?...

THE AMAZONS OF THE PRAIRIES.

"It is when mounted that the Camanche exhibits himself to the best advantage. Here he is at home, and his skill in various manoeuvres which he makes available in battle, such as throwing himself, entirely upon one side of his horse, and discharging his arrows with great rapidity toward the opposite side, from beneath the animal's neck, while he is at full speed, is truly astonishing.

RAPACITY OF THE BEAR.

"Several anecdotes which were related to me by our guide, concerning the habits of the black bear, would seem to entitle him to a higher position in the scale of animal instinct and sagacity than that of almost any other quadruped. For instance, he says that before making his bed to lie down, the animal invariably goes several hundred yards with the wind, at a distance from his track. Should an enemy now come upon his track, he must approach him with the wind; and with the bear's keen sense of smell, he is almost certain to be made aware of his presence, and has time to escape before he is himself seen.

FAITHFULNESS TO DUTY.

"An incident which was related to me as occurring with one of these guides a few years since, forcibly illustrates their character. The officer having charge of the party to which he was attached sent him out to examine a trail he had met with on the prairie, for the purpose of ascertaining where it would lead to. The guide, after following it as far as he supposed he would be required to do, returned and reported that it led off into the prairie to no particular place, so far as he could discover. He was told that this was not satisfactory, and directed to take the trail again, and to follow it until he gained the required information. He accordingly went out the second time, but did not return that day for the next and the party after a time, began to be alarmed for his safety, fearing he might have been killed by the Indians. Days and weeks passed by, but still nothing was heard of the guide, until, on arriving at the first border settlement, to their astonishment, he made his appearance among them, and, approaching the commanding officer, said, 'Captain, that trail which you ordered me to follow terminates here.' He had, with indomitable and resolute energy, traversed alone several hundred miles of wild and desolate prairie, with nothing but his gun to depend upon for a subsistence, determined this time to carry out the instructions of his employer to the letter. Indian fidelity, however, is sometimes naughtily misdirected, as appears from this example of young men who were...

A GREAT COMFORT TO THEIR FATHER.

"They are perhaps, an arrant freebooters can be found upon the face of the earth: and so.