

GROWING OLD.

The fairest blossoms droop at eventide. The sweetest roses fall from off the stem; The roughest things of earth's soil not avoid; And we are passing, too, away like them; We're growing old.

AFRAID OF LIGHTNING.

A Peculiar Nervous Fear, and Not a Want of Courage.

The victims of hay fever are not more in number or more to be pitied than those who suffer from nervous dread of lightning. Probably more people than usual have learned to sympathize with this terror during the August thunder-storms which made such panic at summer hotels. Only persons of very strong nerve can go through a hard electric storm without uneasiness.

paralysis have followed as direct effects of these hours of overmastering fear; which is precisely such tension as people suffer in a bombardment. There is just one thing to do with one who suffers acutely from this dread of lightning. Send him to California, or one of those blissful spots of earth where storms are unknown.

CAPUCHIN CATACOMBS.

Gruesome Scene in a Rural Chamber at Palermo, Italy. The soil upon which the Capuchin Monastery at Palermo, Italy, is built, possesses to such a degree the singular property of hastening the decomposition of a corpse, that in one year nothing remains upon the bones except a few patches of black, withered skin and perhaps, some of the hair of the beard and cheeks.

A WEDDING IN NORWAY.

How the Bride Looks, Acts and Dresses Up in the Far North. A wedding is announced at the church, whose bells are pealing. We invite ourselves. A score of us enter the building. It is, like most Lutheran churches, plain; but there is an altar, with "seven candlesticks" and candles; a large cross, perfectly white; a pulpit midway, and commodious pews and seats.

A MEDICAL CURIOSITY.

Screaming Exchange Speculators and Their Afflictions. A medical curiosity was revealed to me by a physician whose specialty is throat diseases, and whose practice is principally among members of the commercial exchanges.

NEGRO MINSTRELS.

A Georgia View of the Phenomena.—Not Even a Passable Burlesque. While the weather is too warm for a circus, it seems to us that it is just about right for a full-fledged negro minstrel troupe. Everybody would enjoy it, and the most cynical would refrain from severe criticism.

CHANGE IN COMPLEXION.

The Important Part Hammocks Play in Beautifying Women. Hambug permeates life, even in its poorest circumstances. A hammock hung in the rear veranda of a suburban residence. One end was considerably higher than the other.

He Was Not a Dude.

Let me state to you at first, Judge, that I am a dude, and I am proud of it. You ought to use due moderation in my case on that account. I plead guilty, but I think, sir, that the justice you dispense should be highly seasoned with mercy.

A Most Unique Lawsuit.

A Russian paper gives an account of the circumstances which have led to a most unique lawsuit. A rich lady at her death placed her pet dog Gypsy in the hands of a friend, with the request to provide for her with the annual interest on one thousand rubles, set aside for that purpose in her testament.

NIAGARA FALLS.

Recession of the Great Cataract During 123 Years. The fallacy of Lyell's guess at the rate of recession was always plain if we referred to the first accurate account, that of the Swedish traveler Kalm, in Genl. Mag. January, 1775; since which the gorge has both been enlarged full 100 acres and had miles of its bed deepened many feet.

LAKE DISCOVERIES.

The Oldest Human Habitation on the American Continent. Maj. Powell, Chief of the Geological Survey, has discovered out in New Mexico, near California Mountain, what he pronounces to be the oldest human habitations upon the American continent.

Clean Heads and Good Health.

A clear head is rarely found beneath an unclean scalp; but a clean head and good health are, generally, associates. A distinguished physician, who has spent much time at quarantine, said that a person whose head was thoroughly washed every day rarely took contagious diseases, but when the hair was allowed to become dirty and matted, it was hardly possible to escape infection.