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DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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TERMS FOR THE WEEKLY
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BREVITIES.

San Francisco has ten Chinese theaters.—*Ex.*

Napoleon the Third smokes annually from fifteen hundred to two thousand francs' worth of cigarettes.

The theological students in Rome have been learning phonography, and the most efficient have been appointed official reporters of the Ecumenical Council.

Dickens says: "I have known vast quantities of nonsense talked about bad men not looking you in the face. Don't trust that conversational idea. Dishonesty will stare honesty out of countenance any day in the week, if there is anything to be got by it.

A poisonous bush has proved very destructive to sheep in Australia. It is a pretty shrub about four feet high, with a bright scarlet blossom. The botanical name is *gastrolobium grandiflorum*, and over two thousand sheep have been lost out of one flock from eating this bush.

A toad has been found enclosed in the heart of a large maple tree in Massachusetts. He had climbed in at an auger hole, forty or fifty years ago, and the hole was grown over in the lapse of time. The toad was healthy when liberated, but seemed tired of resting so long.

General Lee proposes to establish at the seat of learning over which he presides in Virginia, scholarships for the education of young men in the science of journalism. The practical part of the profession will have to be learned in the printing office.

An old wag who thought he was dying was assured by his nurse that he would not die so long as his feet kept warm. "But I have heard of a man who died with very warm feet." "Who was he?" "John Rogers," replied the incorrigible wag.

A Sunday School teacher was giving a lesson on Ruth. She wanted to bring out the kindness of Boaz in commanding the reapers to drop larger handfuls of wheat. "Now, children," she said, "Boaz did another very nice thing for Ruth; can you tell me what it was?" "Married her!" said one of the boys.

On a recent hot day in Southport, an Irishman said: "If the blessed theromometer is the cause of all the hate, in faith I'll cool yees," and suiting the action to the word, he held a piece of ice to one until the mercury went nearly down to zero. He then left it, apparently satisfied with the experiment.

A Virginian patent medicine dealer has gone far beyond the wooden nutmeg trick. He went to St. Joseph, Missouri, with a liniment which he claimed would cure all earthly ills. He hired an old gentleman to crawl up on crutches, declaring that he had been a cripple for ten years. The quack pretended to bathe the limb of the hired cripple, who then threw away his crutches and ran across the street. The "doctor" soon had not a bottle of his stuff left.

The Marion county (Iowa) *Democrat* man has been shown a curiosity which was a kettle, probably of iron or some other hard substance, but, from long rusting, it has become like stone. It was encased in a bed of slate-stone, just above the coal-bed, twenty-six feet beneath the surface. There were three of these vessels together, but two of them were broken in getting them out of the stone-bed with which they were surrounded. They are of cone shape, with a small knob on the cover. It is of course impossible to say who placed these vessels where they were found. Doubtless, persons dead thousands of years ago used them, and time in its course has left these mementoes of a forgotten people.

A sad affair occurred at Walpole, N. H. lately. Mrs. John Sparhawk, a woman seventy years old, was sitting in a room with some other women and her grandson, a boy of eleven years, when the report of a pistol was suddenly heard, and she fell dead upon the floor with a ball in her brain. Although the report was distinctly heard by several persons, and the smoke was seen, no one was able to tell where the ball came from, or who fired it, but next day the boy confessed that he did the deed. He had had a quarrel with his grandmother, and says he shot her to get her out of the way.

The New York *Evening Press* says: "The inhabitants of Patagonia possess two virtues, according to Captain Mayne Reid, which most of the Anglo-Saxons cannot lay claim to. They are tall, well formed men and women, and never touch either wine or tobacco! On the other hand, their neighbors of Terra del Fuego are short, ugly, and extremly fond of drinking and smoking! We may infer from this that the influence of these narcotics and stimulants has its affect in arresting the growth of the physical man. We believe the influences they exert upon the human system are always injurious, mentally, morally, and physically. Our streets are crowded with examples of these bad habits. Would it not be well for us to import a few Patagonians by way of example?"

Frederick William the Third, of Prussia, was in the habit of riding out in the streets of Berlin in a very unostentatious carriage. One day his coachman drove him through a very narrow street, in the middle of which they were met by the splendid equipage of a wealthy Mecklenburg nobleman, Count Hahn. The King's coachman, of course refused to drive aside so as to allow the Count's carriage to pass by. The Count's coachman, who did not know who was seated in the plain little carriage before him, was equally unwilling to give way. Suddenly Count Hahn sprang to his feet and shouted, indignantly, to the King's coachman, "Sirrah, do you know that I am the rich Count Hahn?" Whereupon the King, on his own part rose, too, and said quietly, "And you, sir, do you not know that I am the poor King of Prussia?"

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