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BREVITIES.

The Sandwich Islands are so far advanced in civilization as to have passed a divorce law.

No wonder eyes sometimes look pleading and sorrowful; they are under the lash all the time.

It is said that Anna Dickinson and Olive Logan will lecture next winter in London. If they do, for one, will consider the Alabama claims canceled. Ex.

A New York tailor was startled the other day by the return of a bill which he had sent to a magazine editor, with a notice that the "manuscript was respectfully declined."

Agricultural fairs are epidemic now but there's no use of garden vegetables competing for prizes—the cabbage will always be ahead.

In a tavern here, says a country paper, a man named drum is the barkeeper. His friends call him the "sprit-stirring drum."

A reviewer of Dickens says that in all his books he never introduced an Irish character. The writer forgets all about McCawber.

An Illinoisian offers \$2,000 for a wife. The cheapness of the offer is accounted for by the statement that he is old and tolerably well broken up.

The coroners of two Minnesota counties are having a quarrel over the body of a man found murdered in the road, each claiming him, to get the fees.

At the cannon foundry of Augsburg, Germany, 46 mitralluses of an improved pattern were manufactured in the month of August, and sent at once to the German army.

The order of the principal cities of Illinois in population is as follows: First, Chicago; second, Quincy; third, Peoria; fourth, Springfield; fifth, Bloomington; sixth, Jacksonville.

A dearth of telegraph operators exists at present in Germany, and more than a hundred of the smaller telegraph offices had to be closed because the operators were needed for more important stations in France.

An English nobleman has taken up his residence in the centre of the Dismal Swamp, Virginia. Blighted affections are supposed to be the cause of his trouble.

A Milwaukee tobaccoist has placed in front of his store a blackboard on which he bulletins the names of persons who have neglected to pay him sundry small accounts.

The first four mitralluses captured from the French were transported to Berlin, through Germany, in open cars, ornamented with wreaths of flowers. Immense crowds turned out to look at these dreaded implements of murder.

We see by the papers that Mr. Walt Whitman is engaged upon "Leaves of Grass." Hay is so short everywhere this year that creatures who can exist on thistles ought to leave the grass alone. Ex.

It is generally supposed that ladies are fond of "soft soap," but a young lady at the New Harmony (Ind.) Fair mistook a fine specimen of that article for blanc mange and put a spoonful into her mouth. She don't like soft soap now.

A Polish Jew traveling through Austria resembling Napoleon III. in appearance was very much annoyed by the curiosity of the people along the route, who believed he was the defeated Emperor making his escape.

The Sons of Temperance, in Trenton, N. J., had a can of ice water prepared for a meeting on a recent hot evening. Some unregenerate member added a bottle of whisky, and they drank it all up. They never noticed any unusual taste till it was all gone.

A census-taker recently asked a servant girl in the vicinity of Boston how many regular boarders there were in the house. She informed him that there were fifteen boarders in all, "but no more'n four of 'em steady; the rest is Methodist."

So much injury has of late years been done by inexperienced persons in the driving of wild cattle through the streets of Buffalo, that the Grand Trunk Railway officials to that city have brought on five Texas herdsmen to do the work in future.

Since the termination of the Austrian war, not a railroad car has ever been constructed in Prussia or any of its dependencies—Saxony, Bavaria, or Baden—in which the primary idea of its construction, has not been military capacity rather than passenger or merchandise traffic.

A minister at Alliance (O.), is going to bring suit against a man for over \$46,000, for marrying him. Fifteen years ago he married the man, who wanted to pay in potatoes to-morrow. He said he would give six bushels of potatoes down, and double the number of bushels every year, until the minister was paid. As it has been fourteen years, and a "bushel" potato costs yet, it amounts to 98,000 bushels, and at 50 cents a bushel, to \$49,000.

A citizen of Massachusetts, having lately undergone a very severe operation at the hands of the surgeons, was seized with the conviction that he had removed all the internal organs from the body and left him a mere anatomical shell. All their protestations to the contrary only convinced him the more of the perfidy of the whole medical profession. Under the circumstances it was of course useless for him to eat or drink, and he gradually refused to do either. After lingering in this condition nearly a month, he died in a Salem hospital, bewailing his stolen vitals and execrating the thievish doctors.

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

Per WESTERN UNION Telegraph Line.

IMPORTANT BATTLES!

Numbers of Villages burnt by the Prussians!

THE SITUATION AT METZ!

Election Returns in the States!

MASSACHUSETTS.

Fatal boiler explosion.
LOWELL, 11.—James Chandler, Augustus Crummett, John Burns and two others were killed by a boiler explosion this morning. Several others were injured, some fatally.
BOSTON, 12.—The Democratic State Convention at Fitchburg, to-day, unanimously nominated John Quincy Adams for governor.

NEBRASKA.

Election matters.
OMAHA, 12.—There are enough returns to insure a Republican majority in the State, of at least 3,000, being a gain of five hundred. This includes the Republican State ticket for Congressmen, legislature and U. S. Senator. Gov. Butler will be about 500 behind the rest of the State ticket.

OHIO.

About Elections.
CINCINNATI, 12.—In the sixth district there is a slight discrepancy in one ward, which a recount only will settle. The present figures show Stevenson's majority as 1,517.

The republican majority for the highest candidate in Hamilton county, is about 2,500.

Special dispatches received here, from Highland county, give Smithy, of the sixth Ohio district, 100 majority.

COLUMBUS, 12.—The election returns are meagre, but indicate large Republican gains throughout the State. The Republicans gain one Congressman in the first district and one in the ninth district. The contest in the Schenck district and in McClellan's district is very close.

ILLINOIS.

Election Returns.
CHICAGO, 12.—The latest advice, received here at noon to-day, states that Schenck was defeated by a majority of ninety in the third Ohio District.

A special from New York to the Evening Post, says that private dispatches state that Metz has surrendered, with all the garrison.

Indianapolis election returns come in slowly. The result on the State ticket is very doubtful. Both parties claim a majority. It will be very small on either side, and may require an official vote to decide it.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Election returns.
PHILADELPHIA, 12.—The election passed off without disturbance. The company of marines are still on duty and will remain here until the counting of the votes is completed. The following are the returns for Philadelphia, fifth ward: Sheriff Leoda, Republican, 1060; Gerker, Democrat, 1,098. Republican gain over last year, three hundred and sixty-three. The sixth Congressional district of Montgomery county, Bridgeport, gives a Republican gain over last year of twenty-three. The fifth Congressional District, Newhope, gives a Republican majority of twenty-five.

Mayor Fox, yesterday, protested, both to the United States Marshal Gregory and to Gov. Casey, against the employment of marines to keep peace at the polls as a violation of the Constitution. U. S. Marshal Gregory, in his reply, quoted the action of Congress in relation to the authorizing and appointing of special deputies during the election for members of Congress, and stated that the marines were called out because he was informed that the deputies he had appointed were arrested by the city policemen who were present at the precinct in question and were actually engaged in excluding colored voters from the polls. In the sixteenth district the Democratic majority in Bedford county will be about fifty. Cessna gains, in the twenty-second precinct, 292 and 200 in the sixty-eighth. The county gave 329 Democratic majority.

Forney's Press claims that the election of Oliver to Congress in the sixth district is decided. His majority in Bucks county gives a Republican majority of ninety-five, and Clearfield county a Democratic majority of twelve hundred. Schofield is undoubtedly elected, as the Democratic majority in Elk county will be largely overbalanced by the Republican majority in the first. Jefferson, McKean, and Warren counties. Cessna's election is still in doubt; also Stewart's in the twenty-first district. In the State Legislature the Republicans will have a majority of five in the Senate, which shows a gain of two. The house will stand the same as last year.

NEW YORK.

General Lee Worse.
NEW YORK, 12.—A message from Lexington says that General Lee is much worse. His condition alarms his friends.

FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Prussians threaten to execute the authorities of Abbeville-Garibaldi insurrection—Prussian barbarities continue—Severe fighting near Orleans.

TOURS, 11.—The Prussians have threatened to execute the municipal authorities of Abbeville, because at that place one Prussian prisoner will be shot for every person killed by the Prussians. The Journals publish news of the death of Prince Frederick Charles.

A large number of prisoners of war, including some nobles, arrived to-day. Crowds collected to get a glimpse and appeared much exasperated and it required strong efforts of the authorities to prevent retaliation on the spot, for the late Prussian atrocities.

TOURS, 12.—The Minister of War published the following intelligence from Orleans, at a late hour last evening: The scene of the battle to-day was so near this city that the balls and shells fell in the outskirts. The Prussians are near Galleno. Troops were sent from Tours to reinforce the fifteenth corps and formed a junction with that body near Artenay. Severe fighting has been renewed before St. Quentin.

Garibaldi will not take the field at present. His health is quite delicate. He will require a season of rest before engaging in active operations.

The enemy's scouts, near Montdidier, beat a hasty retreat to-day on the approach of the French Tiersurs and Mobiles. The ministry have just received the following: The carrier who brought the intelligence was permitted to pass through the Prussian lines. "A battle occurred on the seventeenth inst., between Fort Mont de Valenciennes and St. Cloud, on the west side of Paris. The French, under General Ducrot, having made a sortie in force, the Prussians were completely defeated, and retreated to Versailles, entirely surrounding the position they had recently occupied, and from which they might have shelled the western part of Paris."

Advices from various parts of France repeat the statements that the Prussians are committing the greatest atrocities upon the helpless towns. Where the France tiersurs have gained advantages the Prussians have not only seized the authorities of towns and demanded restitution for the capture of Prussians on pain of death of the authorities, and burning of towns out, but have also exacted that the France tiersurs themselves be delivered for execution. In view of this frightful state of affairs, the government is reported to have again brought the subject before the attention of the Prussian military authorities, as well as the foreign Ambassadors to France.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Prussian cavalry in pursuit of the French—Favorable for a United Germany—Heavy fighting—The French clergy got their back up—Prince Napoleon intriguing.

LONDON, 11.—At last accounts from the scene of yesterday's battle at Athenay, near Orleans, the Prussian cavalry was in close pursuit of the French troops.

The liberals in convention at Stuttgart yesterday adopted resolutions in favor of the union of Germany, with a common legislature, a united army and diplomatic representation in the commons. Russia denies all the reports that she is making unusual military preparations. The entire press declare that the government wants peace.

Prince Napoleon recently arrived in this city and is actively intriguing for the restoration of the Bonapartists. The Emperor himself declines to sanction the schemes of the Prince.

A detachment of the army of the Crown Prince, under General Von de Bismarck, defeated a portion of the army of the Loire, yesterday, near Orleans, taking one thousand prisoners and three pieces of artillery. The French fled in disorder.

The Prussians were a second time repulsed at Cherey, but rallied and took possession of the place and set fire to it; it is now in ruins.

The French say the Prussians have burnt several villages on the plains of Beauce.

The clerical party in France, especially in Brittany and La Vendee, have taken umbrage at the popularity of Garibaldi, and refuse to fight under him.

The nationale gardes, ten thousand strong, under Gustave Flourens, have demanded of the government that chassepot rifles be given to them and that a change be made in the practice of opposing, in every battle field, one Frenchman to three Prussians. The answer was unfavorable and Flourens resigned his command.

A dispatch from St. Quentin, yesterday afternoon, says the Prussians have not re-appeared in that section. There were six hundred French troops, of all sorts, in the town.

It may be assumed that the Prussians opened fire on the fortifications of Paris to-day. They are postponing the bombardment of the city until the resistance of the people makes it inevitable.

PRUSSIA.

Matters at Metz.
BERLIN, 12.—Late advices from the army besieging Metz, up to Thursday last, say that the Prussians burnt twenty small villages in that vicinity. The Prussians shot a hundred and fifty peasants for carrying on illicit warfare. Bismarck's soldiers were said to be greatly dissatisfied with the situation and had counselled surrender.

DENMARK.

No reduction of army.
COPENHAGEN, 11.—During the de-

bate on the budget in the Folkething, to-day, the Minister declined to make any reduction in the army estimates until the result of the war between Prussia and France is better known.

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