

BREVITIES.

Lavender kids are the rage. Prince Arthur set the fashion.

Cicero gives expression to a very beautiful thought when he says, "I go from life as from an inn, not as from home."

Flowers are the alphabet of angels, scattering over hill and dale, and speaking what the tongue cannot express.

A certain justice of the peace in Schenectady has decided that a verbal contract is not good without a stamp on it.

Memphis has licensed keno at \$500 a month, faro at \$250, and houses of ill-fame at \$100 each.

The London omnibuses carried forty millions of passengers last year.

The 8,000,000 acres of Texas soil sold by government for taxes realized for the treasury \$6,000—13 acres for a cent!

No less than 300 diamonds have been found on one farm on the Cape of Good Hope.

A well known old bachelor in New York has bequeathed \$20,000, his entire fortune, to Mr. Bergh's society for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

Boston papers chronicle the Peabody funeral as "one of the most pleasant incidents that has happened in the course of the Prince's trip during his stay in the States."

During the year 1869 there were nineteen births, seventeen deaths and seven marriages among the royal families of Europe.

A Pennsylvania firm has rolled out a finely polished sheet of iron, three feet long and twelve inches wide, and weighing but three and a half ounces. It is thinner than ordinary writing paper.

A Mr. Bothwell, of Pennsylvania has gone to England to claim £40,000 awarded him after half a century in chancery. He is now both well and wealthy.

Of over 6,000 persons confined in the city lockup of Pittsburgh last year, nineteen-twentieths were in for drunkenness.

A Pennsylvania farmer writes to his country paper that he cured his daughters of the Grecian bend by pouring water on her and holding her out in the sun until she warped back again.

So many operatives are out of employment in Patterson, New Jersey, that in some cases the most skillful male operatives are content to work at women's wages.

The historical society of St. Paul boasts of a pair of satin shoes worn by a lady in 1790. They are very much like the shoes now worn by the refined, polished, genteel, fashionable, courtly and elegant ladies of St. Paul.

A New Orleans youth ate a box of Castile soap to remove freckles. It isn't known how he succeeded inside, but outside he remains the same.

Nearly all oculists agree that cross-eyes can be straightened, but very few ever perform the operation with success.

Kind words do not cost much. They never blister the tongue or lips, and we have never heard of any mental trouble arising from them.

An easy and practical route for the Darien Canal has been discovered, which can be completed in five years, at a cost of \$70,000,000. The distance from ocean to ocean is 33½ leagues.

"Until we begin to learn that the only way to serve God in any real sense of the word is to serve our neighbor, we may have knocked at the wicket gate, but I doubt if we have got our foot across the threshold of the kingdom."

The town of Woonsocket, R. I. has voted that all public halls that are now built, or which may be built in the future, shall be so constructed as to have the inside doors open outward, and the outside doors shall be kept open while the hall is occupied by an audience.

In the Catholic Church at Seymour, Conn., the other day, a pair were to be married, when in reply to the usual inquiry of the priest, a young lady arose from among the spectators and forbade the bans. The priest after interviewing her, concluded not to marry the couple, but, a few days after, performed the ceremony between the previous male candidate and the lady who had interfered.

Father Williams, of Providence, is sharp in retort. The other day he and a Ritualist were in discussion, when the latter defied the former to point to a prayer mentioned in Scripture that was not written. Father Williams said: "Can I ask you a question?" "Certainly," was the answer. "Tell me, then," said he, "who held the candle when Jonah prayed in the whale's belly?"

In the early days, a bride's marriage portion consisted of a feather bed, six chairs, a cherry bureau and table, six cups and saucers, six teaspoons, and a quantity of sand for sanding the floors. Nowadays, the groom does not demand the sand even, if the bride's father will only liberally come down with the dust.

Samuel Mitchell, M. D., says in the *Country Gentleman* that cold water may be drunk so as to be very injurious to health, and even dangerous to life; or it may be a very refreshing beverage. Iced water should always be drunk slowly. The warmer and more thirsty the drinker, the slower he should drink. The swallows should be taken at sufficient intervals to allow the stomach to gradually accommodate itself to the great change of temperature.

Prof. See, of Paris, in a recent lecture on tobacco, pointed out that the proportion of nicotine varies according to the kind of tobacco. Thus, that produced in Germany and Alsace contains from three to seven per cent of nicotine, while that from Havana and Maryland has only two per cent. In small doses nicotine aids respiration, and does not affect the heart, but in larger quantities the Professor showed that it produces convulsion of the respiratory muscles, an accelerated and intermitting pulse, and a tremulous condition of the muscles.

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