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DESERET EVENING NEWS.

SALT LAKE CITY, MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 22, 1899. No. 1

BREVITIES.

The mistress of a mud-cabin in Sioux City, refused to buy her daughter a place because "such things are getting altogether too common."

Alexandria, Va., is a model city. It has 15,000 people, and not a single billiard table, ten-pin alley, roulette, or gambling saloon.

A wedding company in a church in Arkansas was started by a vigorous "No!" from the bride when she was asked if she would obey her husband.

Some bright Cincinnati youths stole the inside of a meat-grinder's machine recently, and he has since been grinding away equally to the satisfaction of himself and other people.

Tobacco-smokers must look to their eyes. Frogs are accumulating that blindness, due to slowly progressive atrophy of the optic nerves, induced by smoking, is of frequent occurrence.

At some of the fashionable boarding schools, it is said, in the East, young ladies are taught the "art of refusing an offer so as to give the victim little or no pain, or a perfect avalanche of agony."

A little girl was told to spell "ferment," and give its meaning, with a sentence in which it is used. The following was literally her answer: "Ferment is a signifying word. I love to ferment in the garden."

The following is said to be a cure for corns—One teaspoonful of tar, one of coarse brown sugar, and one of salicylate. The whole of them to be warmed together. Spread it on kid leather the size of the corn, and in two days they will be drawn out.

"What will ye charge to teach me the profession of begging?" said a person to Hawkie, the well-known Glasgow street beggar. "Man," replied Hawkie, "ye couldn't apply to a better hand. I'll just take ye on the terms that we are used to take; their apprentice. I'll give ye the half of your winning."

The people of Abyssinia are so well aware of the great loss which their country has suffered by the death of Theodor, that they have begun to venerate him as a saint. The German missionaries in Abyssinia report that thousands of pilgrims visit his grave, where a number of miracles are said to have occurred.

A dyspeptic St. Louis clerk, becoming disgusted with sedentary employment, went out on the prairie, near St. Joseph, last year, and breaking up one hundred and forty acres of land for corn, succeeded by shrewd marketing and hog fattening operations in clearing four thousand dollars by his year's farming.

One of the prominent clergymen of Omaha has handed us the following, which he considers a very good thing: "What do we dread more than death, prize more than life, what the miser spends, the spendthrift saves, and we all take with us when we die? Nothing.—Omaha Herald."

There is an orange tree in Los Angeles on one-half of which hang 6,500 oranges, while the opposite branches are thickly covered with fresh blossoms which load the air with their rich aroma. The usual time for orange trees to bloom, in that section, is in February, and dame Nature seems, in this instance, to have forgotten herself.

The imports of the United States for the fiscal years of 1898 and '99, ending June 30th, were merchandise, \$417,376,765, and specie \$19,649,776, a total of \$437,026,541. The exports for the same period were, domestic produce \$75,611,591; foreign produce re-exported \$10,907,753; specie \$57,138,390, a total of \$94,657,734. The footings are on a gold basis. Balance against this country, \$94,000,000.

Wm. Miller, a well known humorist in the District of Kyrie, visited the United States, and was taken to see Niagara Falls. "Well, Mr. Miller," said a full-blown Yankee, after allowing time for the contemplation of the scene, "is that not wonderful? In Scotland you never saw anything like that." "Take that," quoth the Yankee, "there's a far fair wonder! concern no two miles from what I was born. Man, at Kilmahilly there's a peacock wif a timmer leg!"

An international system of signaling at sea by means of a flag and a signal person has been adopted by England, France, North German Confederation, United States, Brazil, Denmark, Greece, Italy, Holland, Norway, Austria, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, and Spain. The arrangement is such that 306 signals may be given by the various combinations of two flags, 4,596 signals with three, and 73,440 with four.

The editor of the Hot Springs (Ark.) Courier says he has his pride flattered once a year, when the Assessor comes around and asks how much money he has at interest, how much stock in Government bonds, or in bank, and various other questions that are supposed to be only for "solid men." If there is anybody around, he straightens up slightly, expands his corpulence, and in as heavy chested tones as he can command, says: "About the same as last year." The Assessor knows well enough what this means.

The bishop of New Zealand once wrote to Sydney Smith that he was troubled about how to resolve the carnal chief, if they called upon him. Smith replied by saying that his advice: "Say to them," he wrote, "I deeply regret, sir, that I have nothing on my own table suited to your tastes; but you will find plenty of cold curate and roasted clergyman on the sideboard. If in spite of this prudent provision, your visitors should end their repast by eating you likewise, I can only say I sincerely hope you will disagree with them."

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