

BREVITIES.

"The fireplace," is the name of a drinking saloon in Chicago. Any one can get warm by it for ten cents, or red-hot for a quarter.

"Is molasses good for a cough?" inquired a youth with a heavy cold. "It ought to be, it is sold for consumption," was the reply.

The dead sea-serpent, washed ashore on Long Island Sound, proves to be a boa-constrictor, which probably was thrown overboard from some vessel coming from South America.

A contemporary exultantly conundrumizes that an idea is like a clock when it strikes one. A better answer in its case would be that it takes its ideas at second-hand, on tick.

One of the able orators of Old Virginia made a good point when he said: "De oyster got mo se use dan some folks, 'cause he know when to keep his mouf shut."

A country girl coming from the field was told by her cousin that she looked as fresh as a daisy kissed by the dew. "No, indeed," was the simple reply, "that wasn't his name."

The receipts at the Nilsson concert in Boston, on Friday night, were nearly three thousand dollars in excess of the amount received at any of her concerts in New York.

An Iowa husband, a few months ago, agreed to give his wife \$3 a week to maintain comparative silence, deducting one cent for every superfluous word she uttered. She now owes him nearly enough to pay the national debt.

A New York politician, in writing a letter of condolence to the widow of a "country member" who had been his friend, says: "I am pained to hear that—has gone to heaven. We were bosom friends, but now we shall never meet again."

The Arctian salt well of Lincoln, (Neb.), throws a stream of brine six inches in diameter, to a height of over fifty feet. This stream has sufficient volume and velocity to turn a mill-wheel. Its waste channel is like a rapid, roaring mountain brook.

The Boston papers praise the conduct of a street car conductor named Bent, who has been honest enough to restore a diamond pin, worth \$7,500, lost in his car by a lady passenger. He was rewarded with a present of a \$50 green-back.

Two young people of Macon, Ga., of whom it was prophesied that their married life would prove one of continued misfortune if united in the light of day, recently aroused a magistrate after midnight and had the ceremony performed by lamp-light.

In Iowa, a merchant sent a dunning letter to a man, who replied by return mail: "You say you are holding my note yet. That is all right—perfectly right. Just keep holding on to it, and if you find your hands slipping, spit on them and try it again. Yours affectionately."

The old maids at Sioux City enjoyed a banquet at a hotel recently. A Miss Kennedy made the concluding speech, and created a furore by saying, "Let others do as they please; as for me, I am determined to have a husband as soon as I can get one. And let us all see to it, so that, when another Thanksgiving Day rolls around, there will not be an old maid in Sioux City." The banquet closed with the song, "No one to love."

To clean black cloth,—dissolve one ounce of bicarbonate of ammonia in one quart of warm water. With this liquid rub the cloth, using a piece of flannel or black cloth for the purpose. After the application of this solution clean well with clean water; dry and iron it, brushing the cloth from time to time in the direction of the fibre.

Billings says that "A lie is like nitro glycerine, the best of judges can tell when it is going to burst and scatter confusion," and again that "Lies are like trying to hide in a fog; if you move about yure in danger of bumping yure head agin the truth, and as soon as the fog blows off yu are gone anyhow."

We give the following for what it is worth: "To relieve from the terrible effects of running a nail in the foot of man or horse, take peach leaves, bruise them, apply to the wound, and confine with a bandage. They cure as if by magic. Renew the application twice a day, if necessary, but one application usually does the work." A correspondent says: "I have cured both man and horse in a few hours, when they were apparently on the point of having lock-jaw."

Messrs. Shankland & Hopkinson, of San Francisco, have an invention which is at once useful, ingenious, effective and simple. It is an automatic fly-minder, or, as they call it, a "Shoo-Fly." The machine can be set on a table, or near a person who is taking a daylight snooze, and the "Shoo-Fly" being wound up and set running, the flies are kept away. The machine is simply a clock-work which runs an upright shaft backward and forward through a quarter of the circumference of a circle. To this shaft can be attached arms with fly-brushes or feathers or paper. There is no doubt about the effectiveness of the machine.

A story is told of an American traveler in Paris. Having occasion to take a bath, his physician recommended a wine bath. In the employ of the establishment there was a colored man whom he had known in America, and of him he inquired how they could afford to give a wine bath for seventy-five cents.

"Why, massa," said the negro, "that wine has been in the bath-room for one week, and you is the thirty-eighth person that bathed in it."

"Well I suppose they throw it away when they are done with it?"

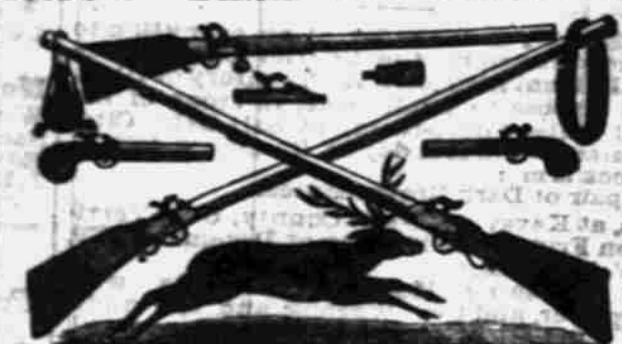
"Oh, no, massa they send it all down stairs for the poor people who bathes for 25 cents."

"And then what do they do with it?"

"Bottle it up and send it to America where they sell it for French wine!"

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