

## BREVITIES.

Seven farmers in one Vermont village have one hundred and two children. Jonathan Eddy's share is nineteen. He heads the list.

A Cleveland dry goods firm has at last found a remedy against loafers on their corner. The following sign hangs in their window: "Wanted—a few more loafers to stand on this corner."

Don't put your pens in your mouths, girls. A Cincinnati school girl has been in the habit of doing so, and was recently nearly poisoned to death by the ink.

A poison of any considerable degree of potency which has been swallowed, intentionally or by accident, may be rendered instantly harmless by swallowing two gills of sweet oil. An individual with a very strong constitution should take twice the quantity. This oil will neutralize every form of vegetable or mineral poison with which physicians or chemists are acquainted.

Pat was helping Mr. Blink to get a safe in his office one day and not being acquainted with the article, inquired what it was for.

"To prevent papers and other articles which are placed in it from being burnt in case of fire," said Mr. B.

"And sure will nothing ever burn that is put in that thing?"

"No."

"Well then, yer honor, ye'd better be after getting into the same when you die."

Turner Stetson, who died at Detroit, on the 21st ult. aged seventy-four years, was six and a half feet high, and of proportionately massive frame, so that his physical power was immense. He was once able to carry upon one side with ease, an anvil weighing eight hundred and fifty pounds, and even within a few years could shoulder, and walk off under the axle of a brace of railway wheels. In his prime, he could carry upon his shoulders, and back, a quantity of iron which constituted a good load for a dray and his horse.

Many years ago there lived in an Andalusian town a German toy-maker, who had a charming daughter. This young maiden was famous for her beauty and virtue, both of which attracted the attention and eventually won the love of the young son of the Count Montijo. She met his advances with the cry, "Marriage before love." His affection for her was an honest one, and in spite of his father's obstinate refusal he married her. The old Count refused the young pair any assistance, so that their sufferings promised to be very great. But the two eldest brothers of the young husband dying, the old Count had but the prodigal child left, whom he took back to his heart and purse. This Countess of Montijo was the mother of Eugenie of France.

Once upon a time, before the negro had acquired any other than a pecuniary value, an old colored divine, who was holding forth to an audience of his own race on the watchful care and goodness of the Almighty, and endeavoring to impress upon his hearers the value of a Christian darkey in the eyes of heaven, illustrated the point thus: "My brethren, though you can buy seven sparrows for a farthing, de Almighty hab a book to put down whar everybony ob dem falls. Now if de Almighty take so much care ob de sparrow, dat costs only one-seventh ob a farthing, wat you s'pose he do for you, a thousand dollar digger?"

At the late meeting of the Education League in Birmingham, England, one of the speakers told two stories designed to illustrate the failure of present methods of teaching. A teacher was trying to show her pupils that they saw with their eyes and heard with their ears, but it was a revelation to them. She then said, "You have noses, what are they for?" After a dead silence for a moment an adventurous youth replied, "Please ma'am to be wiped." A gentleman was examining a school of girls in Birmingham, the scholars having been four years in teaching. He put the question to them, "What is sacrifice?" After a pause, one of the girls replied, "It is the place where Jesus Christ offered up his son Isaac."

A school master was very partial to one of his pupils, and very severe to another. One day they were both tardy. He called them both up on the floor.

"James, my boy, said he to his favorite, regretfully, but kindly, 'why were you late?'"

"You see, sir," replied James, "I was asleep, sir, and dreamed I was going to California, and thought the school-bell was the bell of the steamboat."

"That will do my boy," said the teacher, glad of any excuse to shield him. "Always tell the truth my boy. And now sir," said he, sternly, to the other, "Where were you?"

"You see, sir," said the urchin, candidly, "I was waitin' to see Jim off."

After many mishaps and vicissitudes the Great Eastern has finally settled down to her appointed work. Although her builders did not anticipate that career for her, it was her manifest destiny to lay submarine cables. Her dimensions and structure exactly qualify her for the work, and there is no other vessel afloat which can compete with her in this service. Four thousand miles of cable can with ease be stowed in her vast holds, and paid out at the rate of between one and two hundred miles per day. She is too big and unwieldy for ordinary marine service, but the wonderful development of ocean telegraphy for the last few years has kept her fully employed, and bids fair to do so for many years to come. She has just left the Medway for the Red Sea, by way of the Cape of Good Hope, with two thousand miles of cable on board, which is to be laid between Suez and Bombay.—Ex.

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Gauges, and other manufactures.

My SHINGLE MACHINE has a capacity of  
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