

BREVITIES.

Boston has five musical journals. Sixteen persons were beheaded in Germany in 1869.

Sugar weddings, four weeks after marriage are common in Vermont. A Brooklyn bank proposes to employ a female cashier and female bookkeepers.

A brave man: One who is not afraid to wear old clothes until he is able to pay for new.

Seven thousand Saxons, living in Transylvania, have determined to emigrate, next spring to the United States.

In London 1,000,000 of men, women and children profess no creed and never enter a church.

Madam George Sand has been offered the position of editor-in-chief of the Paris Temps.

There are 135,237 volumes in the Congressional Library, exclusive of pamphlets and unbound periodicals.

An Oakland, Cal., paper speaks of the blowing down of a barn as "the only noticeable movement in real estate during the week."

A large importation of English sparrows has recently been received by the superintendent of the Albany Rural Cemetery.

"You don't know how to take me," said a vulgar fellow, to a gentleman, he had insulted. "Yes I do," replied he, taking him by the nose.

Biddy came back from whortleberry-ing and was asked if she found the berries plenty. "Sure, yes," said she. "But the dry weather has made them so small that it takes the whole of a peck to make a quart."

The old New York dispensary, which has been in operation seventy-eight years, has attended to 1,500,000 patients since its organization. In late years it usually numbers about 39,000 patients a year.

Another divorce trick in Indiana is mentioned. The wife had the legal notice served upon her husband when he was too drunk to know anything about it, and the court slipped the knot before he was aware of any proceedings.

A breach of promise case, in Detroit, turns upon the question whether the defendant intended, by inclosing a leaf of rose-garland to the lady, to use the language of lawyers, in which case the innocent leaf would have said, "Thou art my choice."

A wag, passing a house which had been almost consumed by fire, inquired whose it was. Being told that it was a hatter's, "Ah," said he, "then the loss will be felt!"

Bagdad, the city of dreams and enchantment, not contented with its refineries, its paper mills, its distilleries, its petroleum and tutti quanti, is now making a railway, founding professional colleges, and a savings bank.

The first street railway in Philadelphia was laid in 1857. The present number is sixteen, and the combined capital is about twelve million dollars, of which nearly one half is paid in. A total length of track, in 1857, of five miles, has been extended, until now it is more than two hundred miles in length.

The Ecumenical Council was opened at Rome, Dec. 8th, with a procession including the Pope and 800 cardinals, archbishops, bishops, etc., ringing of bells, salutes of artillery, mass, inaugural address and benediction by the Pope. His Holiness said: "The Council has assembled to teach all men the voice of God."

A man passes for what he is worth. Very idle is all curiosity concerning other people's estimate of us, and all that of remaining unknown is not less so. If a man knows that he can do anything—knows that he can do it better than any one else—he has a pledge of acknowledgment of that fact by all persons, and into every engagement that a man enters, in every action that he attempts, he is gaged and stamped.

"Gentlemen of the Jury," said a Western lawyer, "I don't mean to insinuate that this man is a covetous person, but I will bet five to one that if you should bait a steel trap with a new three-cent piece, and place it within six inches of his mouth, you would catch his soul. I would not for a moment insinuate that he would steal, but may it please the Court, and gentlemen of the jury, I wouldn't trust him in a room, with red hot mill stones, and the angel Gabriel to watch 'em."

Mrs. Smith, a Liverpool brothel-house keeper, has been sentenced to twelve months' hard labor. She had housed mere children, and sent them into the streets with instructions to "look out for gentlemen." The Recorder referred to the state of the law in that country with respect to brothels. He said in other countries such places were kept under legal control; but in England they were something like the ostrich, hiding their heads in the sand, and fancying the evil was weakened because it was not legally recognized. After permitting it to exist in the most unblushing manner under their very eyes, they were content to pass a sweeping law declaring all such places illegal—a law which was hardly ever put into force.

The celebrated island of Juan Fernandez, which De Foe has immortalized as the home of Robinson Crusoe, has been utilized by a colony of German emigrants, and will hereafter take its place among the prosaic facts of history. Robert Wehrman, a Saxon engineer, who served in the Federal army, and Major during the late rebellion, bought the island in 1868, and has induced a company of Germans, sixty or seventy in number, to migrate thither. They are delighted with their new home. They find it a lovely and fertile spot, stocked already with herds of wild goats, and with a few wild horses and donkeys. They have brought with them cattle, swine and fowl, agricultural and fishing implements, and all needful equipments for a strong colony. The grotto, so famous as Robinson's house still remains.

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