

BREVITIES.

There are 1,200 nuns in Spain.
Forrest is seventy years old.
Sixty-two years ago, October 9th, the first steamer was launched in the United States.
Chicago is to have a journal to be called the *Divorce Bureau*.

A society is proposed in England for the suppression of useless knowledge.
A. T. Stewart's income is at the rate of six dollars a minute.

The flute player Heindl sustains a trill on the instrument for an even minute.

Victor Hugo asks a guinea for the poor every time he writes his autograph for strangers.

"What a little child," said a friend, "Ah," replied Hood, "his parents never made much of him."

A. T. Stewart has a detective constantly employed in his store, yet he loses \$100 per week from the operation of stylish thieves.

There are about twenty million acres in Ireland, the ownership of which is divided among 8,450 men.

A Cincinnati paper thinks Hamlet ought to kill his uncle in the second act, to make the play more interesting.
A happy suggestion!

One of the Chicago streets is to be widened to one hundred feet, for twelve miles of its length.

In 1851 France had 17 telegraph offices, and now there are 1,701. The miles of telegraph lines have increased during the same time from 1,066 to 2,059.

An Iowa paper tells its readers that they can get Chinese laborers "wholesale, retail and pigtail."

A Londoner has been fined for eating a live cat's tail on a wager.

Copper window sashes are one of the latest articles in building introduced by English artisans.

Japanese priests pause every fifteen minutes during their discourse to take a smoke.

Vanderbilt offers to build a first class prison, and give \$200,000 to boot, for the Sing-Sing Penitentiary property. He wants it for railroad purposes.

Avorio, says Rollin, is a great gulf, which would not be filled if the whole world were thrown into it.

London is to have a street railway along the bank of the Thames, through the heart of the city.

In Cork, the crier of the Court, anxious to disperse the crowd around the Bar, exclaimed: "All ye blackguards that isn't lawyers, quit the Court."

On the authority of a Brahmin, it is stated that the hope of keeping up the system of idolatry in India is very discouraging, and that no class of Hindus now have any faith in their religion.

An Irishman with a heavy bundle on his shoulder, riding on front of a horse car, was asked why he did not set his bundle on the platform. He replied: "By jabsers, the horses have enough to carry me. I'll carry the bundle."

Preliminary steps have been taken to celebrate in grand style the centennial anniversary of Beethoven, next year in New York. A coliseum is to be erected for the special purpose of holding the exercises, and the profits of the entertainment are to be devoted to the erection in that city of a great music hall, to be both an architectural ornament, and a means of artistic education.

A colored lawyer in South Carolina having horsewhipped a white member of the State Government for insulting his wife, the Legislature appointed an investigating committee. The committee reported that "the flogging was thoroughly and handsomely done."

The celebrated Dr. Gregory, in the course of one of his medical lectures at Edinburgh, stated: "One cannot stand perfectly motionless for half an hour; that he had once tried to do so, and had fainted at the end of twenty minutes, the blood requiring the aid of motion from the body in order to retain its full circulating power."

At Milford, New Hampshire, the other day, a painter fell from a scaffolding. Although he broke a flagstone an inch thick upon which he fell, his skull was fractured, both legs were broken above the knees, one hip was dislocated, and the bones of one elbow were shattered to atoms—he talked rationally when picked up, and bids fair to recover.

The Melbourne *Argus* reports the cure of a dangerous injury by the use of dry earth alone. A Mr. Pratt was kicked in the leg by a horse, and the wound only partially healed, so that it soon broke out again, and spread until the whole of the lower part of the leg was affected. Some earth was applied to the wound, and the result was that the swelling was immediately reduced, and at the end of three weeks the wound was quite healed.

An improvement of the Needle Gun has been invented by a citizen of Chicago, Dr. William Robinson. The new invention consists of a patent composition cartridge which is formed after the manner of the Prussian needle gun excepting that it is so constructed that the powder first ignites next to the ball, where is applied a substance which is explosive only by the application of steel. The cartridge is pierced by the needle, which reaches through the powder to the composition, explodes it, and the powder being fired at that point, its entire bulk is burned, thus imparting a vastly increased force to the projectile.

A curious fact is brought to public attention by recent statistics published in England. In thirty-two counties of that country, and Wales, there are one thousand and three hundred parishes and hamlets in which no liquor is sold. Norfolk contains one hundred and twenty-seven parishes and townships in which there is neither a beer-shop nor public house. Lincolnshire has one hundred and sixteen such places, and Dorsetshire one hundred and eight; Gloucestershire has eighty-three, and Leicestershire eighty-three; and Cornwall twenty-three, and

Z. O. M. COLUMB.

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