

BREVITIES.

The poorest man in the world is the one who has nothing but money.

The actors of San Francisco have signed a protest to the legislature against the Sunday law.

The streets in Venice are five feet wide. The broadest, the Merceria, is fourteen feet in width.

The Kingdom of Bavaria is smaller than the state of New York, and yet its standing army numbers 100,000 men.

A million and a half mis-directed letters were returned to their writers during the past year through the dead letter office.

Dickens presented Harper & Brothers with one hundred complimentary tickets. They were the first ones to publish his books in this country.

When Rabelais was on his death-bed, a consultation of physicians was called. "Dear gentlemen," said the wit to the doctors, raising his languid head, "let me die a natural death."

Mrs. Jones, a farmer's wife in Connecticut, says:—"I b'leve I've got the tenderest hearted boys in the world. I can't tell one of 'em to fetch a pail of water but what he'll burst out cryin'."

There is a portion of a house now standing in Marshfield, built by Peregrine White, the first male child born of English parents in New England. It is now used as the kitchen of a dwelling erected to connect with it.

The *Mirror* says that one day last week, Mr. Frederick Hoag, of Nantucket, aged 83 years and 8 months, walked to Siasconset, seven and a half miles, over a road made heavy by the melting snow, in 80 minutes. When the road becomes dry, he promises to do it in less than one hour.

The oldest wooden house in the U. S. is the "Minot House" in Dorchester. It was built in 1633, and rents to-day for \$80 a year. It was the headquarters of General Washington, for a season, during the revolution, and was once defended by Mrs. Minot alone when attacked by Indians.

Bells were invented about the beginning of the fifth century. Several were sent by the Venetians to the Emperor Basilus, at Constantinople, in 872, which was the first knowledge the inhabitants of that city had of them. The Russians are extremely fond of bells.

A sporting Quaker puts his bets thus: "Friend Edward, thee thinks thy horse is faster than mine. I value my opinion at twenty dollars. Now, if thee values thy opinion at the same rate, we will put the money together and ask our horses what they think of it, and leave the conclusion to them."

The Newark Sheriff gives as his reason for excluding New York reporters from the recent execution, that, on a previous occasion of that sort, when the reporters were admitted before the preparations had been made, one of the more enterprising woke the prisoner from a sound sleep and endeavored to get his confession exclusively for his paper.

In the course of a trial at Westminster, England, the other day, a witness was asked whether he had not assisted at a funeral where there was no body to bury. On cross-examination he admitted that he had helped a friend in the funeral trade who, being anxious to improve his neighborhood—a suburban one—with the ability with which he could conduct funerals, and also to convey the idea that he had received a good order, had a hearse and mourning coaches, with twenty men, leave his shop, and after an absence of some hours, return as if from the cemetery.

If any thing in the world will make a man feel badly, except pinching his fingers in the crack of a door, it is unquestionably a quarrel. No man ever fails to think less of himself after it than before. It degrades him in the eyes of others, and, what is worse, blunts his sensibilities on the one hand, and increases the power of passionate irritability on the other. The truth is, the more peaceably and quietly we get on, the better for our neighbors. In nine cases out of ten, the better course is, if a man cheats you, cease to deal with him; if he is abusive, quit his company; and if he slanders you, take care to live so that nobody will believe him. No matter who he is, or how he misuses you, the wisest way is to let him alone, for there is nothing better than this cool, calm, and quiet way of dealing with the wrongs we meet with.

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