

## BREVITIES.

Prince Pierre Bonaparte is fifty-five years old.

Four biographies of George Peabody are announced.

New York spends \$70,000 per week for amusement; Paris expends \$96,000.

Kansas City has a female notary public, in the person of Miss Fanny Lyons.

Bridgeport, West Virginia, has impeached its mayor for drunkenness.

Every cab and public carriage in London now has painted upon its door the name of the driver.

England complains that the flour sent from this country has alum in it.

They have in Boston what they call "pear festivals," known as "weddings" elsewhere.

The President has been sent a suit of clothes from Siberia, made of Siberian furs and cut in the Siberian fashion.

Maime cannot understand why her rivals should be free from ice in January. The season is abnormal.

A Chicagoan, who recently imported a chest of tea "direct from China," found in it the head of a decapitated Mongolian.

A Memphis bride deserted her husband the morning after her marriage because he refused to send her breakfast up to her room.

It required seventeen bridesmaids, four clergymen and three bands of music to carry on an English wedding recently.

The Louisville Journal called it "a romantic business change" when a fellow failed and ran away with his chief clerk's wife.

The Etna Fire Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn., since its incorporation in 1819, has paid \$26,000,000 by way of losses.

A sad and impressive warning to practical jokers was given at Abingdon, Ill., recently, where a party of boys, disguised in hideous masks and grotesque garments, called upon Mrs. Geo. H. Marshall. They first frightened an infant into convulsions, and then appeared before Mrs. Marshall, who at once became a raving maniac.

A correspondent writing to the New York Journal of Commerce, from Florence, Italy, under date of Dec. 23, says: "There have been tremendous inundations in the lower valleys of the Arno. We have been sorely threatened here, and Pisa has been nearly drowned out. The water there rose to a height of from five to six feet in some of the main streets; garden and courtyard walls were overthrown, and many of the buildings were inundated. The losses have been very heavy, and quasi-national subscription is now going on in behalf of the sufferers."

In a cloudy morning it is a matter of importance to the farmer to know whether it will be sun or shower in the afternoon. If the ants have cleared their holes nicely, and piled the dirt up high, it seldom fails to indicate a clear day, though it may be cloudy until eleven o'clock in the forenoon. Spider webs will be very numerous about the tops of the grass and grain some cloudy mornings, and strict observation has shown the writer that these little weather-guessers seldom fail in their prediction of a fair day. *Ex.*

The Chinese Empire, says a writer in excellent magazine, *The Overland Monthly*, embraces 4,095,331 square miles, and supports a population of 477,500,000. China proper, the most populous country on earth, contains 1,968,018 square miles of compact territory divided into eighteen provinces, numbering 413,387,030 souls, as far back as 1842. The most populous of these provinces is Pecheliee, of which Peking is the capital. It embraces 36,579,838 souls, a heavier number than all the United States, and 58,949 square miles. China, will one day, when equipped and armed by modern science, prove a terrible antagonist for "outside barbarians."

It is now stated in New Hampshire that the robins do not go South in winter. A few years ago, two men crossing the Sandwich Mountains, discovered a deep valley, and approaching it, found it clothed with hemlock, spruce, fir and tamarack, growing so near together that it was with difficulty they could make headway between them. Before they came to this growth the snow was over a foot in depth; after entering it was not six inches, the residue lying on the tops of the lower trees, making quite a roof, and excluding much of the light of day. After making their way a few rods they were surprised to find the place an extensive robin "roost," occupied by thousands, and so thickly were they congregated that they might have killed numbers with their walking sticks in crossing the premises from South to North, about thirty rods.

The wooden railroad now completed between Clifton and the Adirondack mines, in New York, is described as follows in a letter from the late President of the Clifton Iron Company, Charles G. Myers: "The rails are of hard maple, scantling, 4x6 inches, set on round ties, oh which are framed slots 6x6. The rails, set on edge and keyed in the slots by two wooden wedges driven against each other, project two inches above the ties. The rails admit of bedding sufficiently to make the curves. The ties are laid on the earth and ballasted in the usual manner to two inches of the bottom of the rail. It takes 21,120 feet, board measure, of scantling for a mile, and 1,760 ties at three feet apart. Our road is a very rough one. We have a great deal of trestle work, some of it over thirty feet high, which is vastly more expensive than a level route. The engines used weigh from ten to fourteen tons. The rails will probably last about five or six years. An engine will move about thirty tons of freight at about six or eight miles an hour, with heavy grades and sharp curves. The company expect to move over the road next year from 50,000 to 100,000 tons of freight. Trains have passed over the road, light, at the rate of twenty miles an hour; but this would not do for freight."

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To Eliza H. Johnson.—You are hereby notified

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County of Cook, State of Illinois, in and for

the County of Cook, State of Illinois, wherein

Eliza H. Johnson is Plaintiff, and John H.

Johnson is Defendant, praying for a decree of

divorce from the bonds of matrimony existing

between said plaintiff and defendant, and that

you are required to appear and answer said

petition, in said court, on or before the 14th day of

March, A.D. 1870, then and there to be held,

at the Court House in Cook County, in said

county, and that if default be made herein said

petition will be taken as true, and judgment

rendered accordingly.

By order of the Court,

F. D. RICHARDS, Judge.

Attest—F. S. RICHARDS, Clerk.

A. MINOR, Atty for plaintiff. d28-4

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