

BREVITIES.

Definition of a kiss—report from head-quarters.

The book whose contents rule the world—pocketbook.

Something you are sure to have at your finger ends—Nails.

Ninety-one bears have been slain in Maine the past year, and bounties paid for them.

Ten or twelve full-blooded Indians desire to become students in Highland University, Kansas, with a view to entering the ministry in the Presbyterian Church.

Ethiopians eat the locusts; the Arabs make them into bread; the Hottentots stew them and make soup with their eggs; they also eat ants, raw and boiled.

The average consumption of wine in California is ten gallons to every citizen. The average yearly consumption of coffee in the State is 16 3-5 pounds.

About 100,000 men, women and children sat down to Thanksgiving dinners in the 240 New York Benevolent Institutions.

The London Musical World says "a great German is very great; but a small German is very small. And this emphatically applies to German musicians."

At the Mayor of Brighton's banquet, lately, Mr. White, M. P., said England had spent \$2,000,000 more than Prussia in warlike preparations.

California has eternally disgraced herself with that lottery. Even Weddings were postponed, in the hope that the prize won would enable the pair to go to Europe.

A gentleman named Brown once observed in company that he had topped a young lady for twelve months, and yet had little hopes of making her Brown.

An acre of land has been sold in the city of London for \$9,000,000, and in nearly every portion of the city, land is said to be increasing in value every year.

"Come, don't be timid," said a couple of footmen and to two mechanics; sit down and make yourselves at home. "We'd have to blow our brains out to do that," was the reply.

Daniel Purcell was desired one night in company to make a pun extempore. Upon what subject? said Daniel. "The King," answered the other. "Oh, said he, 'the King is no subject.'"

The number of marriage licenses granted in Boston this year, up to last week, was 3,314. During the same time last year, 3,814; showing an increase of just five hundred.

Victoria, as Queen and Duchess of Lancaster, receives \$1,050,000 in salary, besides the rent of castles and an enormous income from estates willed to her from time to time.

Six students in the scientific department of Dartmouth College have been given an indefinite vacation for detecting a freshman under the College pump.

Switzerland has 3,500,000 inhabitants and 245 scientific and literary publications, while France, with ten times the population, has but about 500 journals and magazines.

"Fancy," said Sidney Smith to some ladies when he was told that one of the giraffes at the Zoological Garden had caught cold, "a giraffe with two yards of soot throat."

"Good morning, Mr. Henpeck," said a printer in search of female composers, "have you any daughters who would make good type-setters?" "No, but I have a wife who would make a good devil."

General Moltke, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Cologne Gazette, has sent directions for his house to be put in repair, as he expects to be at home in four weeks at the latest. Other officials have sent similar messages.

The Louisville Courier-Journal remarks that the "salt monopolists of Syracuse, N. Y., are so thoroughly determined to keep the business in their own hands that they have sent an agent to Palestine, with instructions to buy Lot's wife at any price."

Gold ore having been discovered in Madagascar, the government of the island has prohibited the search for it. The reason for this prohibition is, that if gold is found in remunerative quantities, there will be such a rush of Europeans to the country as will dispossess the native inhabitants.

At Providence, R. I., on Thanksgiving Day, the newboys and bootblacks were treated to a mammoth dinner, the prominent feature of which was a mammoth pudding, three feet long, two feet wide, and one foot deep; and containing among other ingredients, fifty pounds of raisins and ten cans of milk.

At a christening, while the minister was making his certificate, he inquired the day of the month, and happened to say, "Let me see, this is the 30th." "The thirtieth!" exclaimed the indignant mother. "Indeed, but it's only the thirtieth!"

European papers state that the baggage of the French Emperor which preceded him to the seat of war, looked more like a traveling hospital than like the trappings of a General. It contained, among others, a large medicine chest, three kinds of bathing tubs, and some other bathing apparatus, an invalid's easy-chair, a stretcher of medical construction, and a great deal of other medical and sick-room apparatus.

(SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.)

By Telegraph.

For WESTERN UNION Telegraph Line

OHIO.

Gen. Schenck calls on the 15th—A killing scrape—Death.

DAYTON, 23.—General Schenck will resign his seat in Congress on the 10th of January, and has taken his passage for England on the 18th of January.

No election for the short vacancy is likely to be ordered. Moran, Secretary of Legation at London, will remain.

CINCINNATI, 23.—James Wickesham killed Robert Alexander, at Harrodsburg, Ky., on Saturday. Wickesham resisted the officers and was shot and dangerously wounded.

Samuel Reed, the oldest mason in the west, died at Covington yesterday.

NEW YORK.

Interesting interviews—Condition of Paris—Successful sortie.

A correspondent reports an interview at Bordeaux with Count de Chaudourdy, Minister Delegate of Foreign Affairs, with regard to the chance for peace.

The minister said, at the present, peace seems distant. Lamentable as this war is, a peace on dishonorable terms is inadmissible.

It would change France into a third-rate power. Prussia made a great mistake in not making peace with Favre at Ferrières. No ministry, or constituent assembly, or government, could for a moment treat for peace under the conditions now imposed by the Prussian government.

Although there is hardly a man in France but laments the war, yet there is scarcely one willing to allow the government to give up territory. Rich and poor unite in the opinion that the only thing left to fight out the war. If in so doing France is financially ruined, there will be the less for Prussia to take.

The minister told the correspondent, he had great hopes that the Prussians would be driven out of France before long. Paris is able to hold out a considerable time. The whole nation is armed or arming.

Three months ago it was difficult to inspire the people with courage, but now the government is obliged to restrain and direct rather than excite patriotism. We need arms and artillery, it is true, but they are coming in every direction.

Chaudourdy did not think the defeat of the army of the Loire would seriously affect the complexion of affairs. It was much lamented, but it was not to be expected that raw troops could prove the victors on all occasions. Moreover, the troops of the army of the Loire had gained confidence and invaluable experience to prepare them for better things.

The Count thought England had lost prestige and influence in the Russian affair. Austria was ready to join her, and the moral and material support of England would clear France of invaders in a fortnight, and show the rest of Europe that there is a limit which the most powerful armies must not pass.

Such a conquest would be approved by the civilized world, for it was not an alliance for conquest. At first France was to blame for seeking a quarrel and making an aggressive war, although the people are not responsible for that; but now Prussia has rejected an honorable and lasting peace, and the sentiment of the world has undergone a change. France is now struggling for an existence, and if she is crushed England will feel the loss more than any country.

England cannot dream of the consequences if she should allow France to be exterminated. Russia will then do as she pleases in the east, and Prussia in the west. England, without a single ally, will cease to belong to the first family of European nations, and be reduced to a third class power.

Chaudourdy spoke in terms of deep indignation of the ingratitude of Italy, and intimated a day of reckoning would surely come for that cowardly nation.

He closed by stating that the new allies in the south and southeast were armed with success beyond expectation.

NEW YORK, 23.—A correspondent, under date Orleans, 16, reports an interview with Bishop Dupanloup, in which he said the army of the Loire is only a collection of men, among whom the greatest demoralization is created by contact with the Prussians; and denied that Palladine was in the interest of the League of Nations.

Dupanloup also said that peace should be made, but France seemed, just now to be in a situation without an issue. Should Paris give up, it would end the matter; but Trochu is not free in the capital. Bismarck told Thiers he was going to bombard Paris, and once in the possession of the Prussians, it would have a paramount influence over France.

Gambetta is convicted by his proclamation on Palladine, of being a liar of the first order. The reconquest of Orleans passed under our own eyes. We know that instead of 200,000 men and 400 guns, as Gambetta says, Palladine, to our positive knowledge, had only 50,000 men in the immediate front of Frederick Charles. The rest of his command was scattered, for retreating not fighting was Palladine's plan from first to last. I don't think the army of the Loire is capable of resisting the Prussians. I know the general wish of the inhabitants is for peace, except a few blood-thirsty Democrats. The American sympathy with France, on account of the declaration of a republic, is misplaced, because the present rulers will never make a republic worthy of being called such by Americans.

A special dispatch from Versailles on the 22nd inst. shows that Paris yet retains some of her old brilliancy. The necessary business day is conducted gaily as usual within her precincts, and she and omnibuses ply the streets; and the shop windows display tempting arrays just as in former times.

The sortie of a few days ago was a gallant effort, but was completely repelled.

It was bold in its conception, but feeble in its execution. There were 100,000 men engaged, besides gunboats and upwards of twenty batteries, without counting the guns in the earth-works. The German losses were insignificant.

WASHINGTON.

Snow and lightning at the capital—Motelly vindicates his course.

WASHINGTON, 23.—Snow commenced falling early this morning and is now about an inch deep. There is a slight thaw for the first time the season.

Motelly has written a letter in vindication of his course in England, the substance of which is not yet known; but it is understood he claims to have received no intimation of dissatisfaction on the part of the State department, until the telegram summarily dismissing him, which came to hand after the St. Domingo treaty was rejected by the Senate.

Dr. Spooner, of Oneida, N. Y., has been struck from the list of examining pension surgeons, by Commissioner Van Arman, on the ground that all examining surgeons for the bureau should belong to one school and adopt but one theory of medicine; and that he did not belong to the school recognized by the bureau. Spooner protests in a long letter.

ILLINOIS.

Inquest—Fifth Nilsson concert—Government freight statement.

CHICAGO, 23.—A coroner's inquest on the man found dead in Well's street yesterday, decided that he was killed by a fall from the roof of a house, trying to escape from a man below with whom he was fighting.

The fifth Nilsson concert in this city, in Farwell Hall, last night, was the largest attendance of any previous one. The hall was crowded in every part.

The Tribune's Washington special says the House of Representatives, a short time since, called for a statement of the amount of government freight transported over the Pacific railroad; also the amount sent to California by sea.

The railroad statement for the year ending June 30th, 1870, is as follows: There were transported over the Union Pacific railroad 6,512 persons and 9,359 tons of stores; total cost, \$557,537. Over the Central Pacific railroad of California, 2,612 persons and 1,959 tons of stores; total cost, \$37,357. Over the Kansas Pacific railroad, 4,618 persons and 6,554 tons of stores; total cost, \$236,744. Total cost of persons and stores \$832,233. One half of the cost of this transportation has been retained by the United States, to pay the interest on the bonds advanced by Government to the companies. The other half has been paid at the Treasury in money.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Chauncey protests against Prussian inhumanities.

LONDON, 23.—Chauncey complains bitterly of the conduct of the Prussians, and denies being defeated. He says revenge follows.

St. Calais was visited by the Prussians, but they left after making a requisition.

It is said Bourbaki is proceeding east against Werder.

Faidherbe announces that owing to the intense cold he will camp his troops near Arras awaiting the moment to prosecute his movement.

In all France the cold is intense. The Prussians cannonaded St. Calais and then entered the place, committing disorder. Chauncey sent a protestation to the Prussian general, and issued an order of the day to his troops, saying he had warned the Prussians against such horrible actions committed against unarmed places, and people who merit better because they have been so humane to the Prussian sick and wounded. Chauncey adds that France is not combating loyal enemies, but devastating hordes; yet she will continue to struggle to preserve her honor and independence.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, 23.—It is untrue that Beust has replied to Bismarck about the status of Austria toward the Bund.

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE, 27.—The Porte urges objections to the discussion of the Danube question in the London conference.

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