THE EVENING NEWS.

Friday, April 15, 1870.

BREVITIES.

In London they close the beer-shops on Sunday, and the water companies, in their own anxiety to observe the Sabbath properly, cut off the poor man's supply of water on the very day when it is proposed he shall have nothing else to drink.

Spiritualism seems to have knocked its own bottom out, or to have pushed itself through its own bottom in its endeavors to lift itself. They have a few lodges where they meet yet, but beyond a few individuals of both sexes who are uncertain where they stand, any way, the sensation appears to be about played out. The last report was that the devil lately appeared at one of their circles, but we don't believe they have received any such encouragement.—*Wild Oats.*

Platinized looking-glasses promise to replace those at present in use. They are prepared by painting the surface of the glass with a preparation of the oil of lavender, borate and protoxide of lead, and then baking the glass in furnaces. This puts on a very thin layer of platinum, which makes an excellent and cheap looking-glass, when put upon a dark back-ground. It will also be used for windows, and will allow the light to come in during the day, but form mirrors when the outside blinds are shut at night.

The *Israelite* of Cincinnati, maintains that the divinity of Jesus of Nazareth was an idea originating in the second and third centuries. The man Jesus was a Pharisean rabbi of excellent intentions and enthusiastic aspirations, in the realization of which he failed entirely. That he lost his life because of the error of the disciples in proclaiming him the Messiah.

The shortest sermon on record was once preached by the Irish Dean, Kirwin. He was pressed, while suffering from a severe cold, to preach a charity sermon in St. Peter's Church, Dublin, for the benefit of the orphan children of the parish school. The church was crowded to suffocation, and the good Dean, on mounting the pulpit and announcing his text, pointed with his hand to the children in the aisle, and simply said "There they are." The collection exceeded all belief.

The Pedespeed, says the *Scientific Press*, is the latest fancy in the way of appliances for locomotion. It looks like a cross between the velocipede and the parlor skate. It consists of a pair of wheels fourteen inches in diameter, one of which is fastened to each foot of the performer by means of a stirrup-like appendage just below the axis of the wheel. Firmness is secured by an upright from this foot-piece reaching to, and clasping, the leg just above the calf. The *Scientific American* gives a cut of it. It is, we imagine, destined to even a shorter-lived popularity than the velocipede.

The process of "canning" eggs in their own shells was recently explained at a meeting of the New York Farmers' Club. It is done in this manner: When two or three dozen eggs are obtained from the nests, place them in a dish and pour scalding water over them, and immediately turn it off. This process is repeated three times, by which means the albumen is fixed or coagulated, the pores of the shell closed, and the egg, as it were, canned in its own covering. The eggs thus prepared are then packed in salt, with the apex downward, and they are said to keep perfectly fresh for many months.

A new use of glycerine, or at least one that has not long been publicly announced, is in the fabrication of wine, of which, indeed, it is naturally a component according to the researches of Pasteur and others. This substance is distinguished from sugar by not passing into a condition of fermentation, and even by antagonizing this in other bodies to a greater or less extent. When, therefore, grape juice has completed its stage of vinous fermentation and has become clear and even ready for bottling, the addition of a sufficient quantity of glycerine will maintain the liquor at the same stage for a long period. The only precaution is to have a perfectly pure, colorless article and to use it in proportion of one to three per cent. by bulk. Not the slightest change of flavor is produced it is said by the per centage referred to.

Frederick the Great, one evening, being too unwell to read his usual devotions, called upon his *Valet de chambre* to read prayers. The servant, not deeming it respectful to use "thee," in reference to the King, took the liberty to change the phrase, and read it, "May God bless you." The King, exasperated, hurled something at the head of the speaker, exclaiming,

"It is not so; read it again."

The terrified servant, not conceiving in what he had done wrong, read again, "May God bless you."

The irascible monarch, having nothing else he could grasp, took off his nightcap and threw it into the man's face, exclaiming,

"It is not so; read it over again."

The servant, frightened almost out of his senses, read for the third time, "May God bless you."

"Thee," rogue," shouted the King; "'May God bless thee.' Dost thou not know that in the eyes of God I am only a miserable rascal like thyself?"

The Galena *Gazette* says that a young lady in the north part of Jo Daviess county, Illinois, engaged herself to three different lovers. The young men, on learning the situation of affairs, had a fierce quarrel about it, which was kept up for several months. Finally concluding that no good could result from continuing the warfare, all three agreed to meet the girl and request her to take her choice. At the appointed time the meeting was held, when the girl quietly informed them that it was a quarrel of their own, in which she was not particularly interested, and that they must settle it among themselves. Whereupon they retired and agreed to settle the difficulty by drawing lots, which was done, and the winner married the girl recently. The parties are respectably connected, and by request of one of them, we suppress the names. It was rather a novel affair. The bride declares that she got the one that was her choice from the first.

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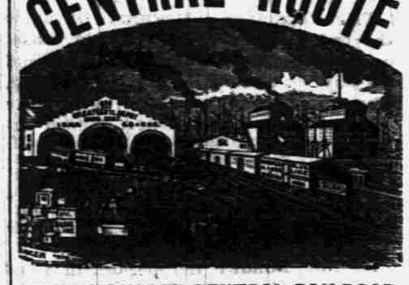

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