

BREVITIES.

England has 2,500 collieries.
A seven-hundred pound sword-fish is on exhibition in Boston.

Paper was first made from linen in 1303.

A French Presbyterian congregation has been organized in Chicago.

All but two per cent. of the Prussian army can read and write.

Milwaukee, Wis., has passed an ordinance prohibiting dancing on the Lord's day.

The wealth of England is said to increase \$500,000,000 every year.

An American lady is reported as having just bought a bonnet in Paris for \$250.

A Virginia farmer says that he had rather have a keg of shingle nails than all the scenery on the banks of the Potomac.

Sixteen of the Catholic Fathers have died since the assembling of the Ecumenical Council.

Mr. Motley's daughter is about to marry the second son of the late Earl Cowper, and grandson of Lady Palmerston.

The great revival at Dayton, Ohio, has resulted in the addition of 1,200 to the different churches, of whom 230 united with the First Lutheran church.

The apples in New Jersey are looking well, and there is a prospect of a fine champagne crop.—*Boston Post.*

Mr. B. F. Wadleigh, of West Concord, has a horse twenty-one years old, that has been in a team seventeen years.

At Constantinople a healthy negro woman sells for \$400, a Circassian girl of twelve for \$1,000, and one of sixteen for \$4,000.

The New York Tribune says the population of that city is 814,000, or about the same as in 1860.

A Paris agricultural journal says that Europe has not suffered from so severe a drouth as the present one, for two hundred years.

A faithful wife passed through a town in Kansas recently with her decrepit husband and lashed to her back.

An old bachelor says that women are parrots—they are willing to be caged up if they only have a ring to play with.

A Newark widow, recently found in the coat-pocket of her deceased husband, a book showing the he had placed in a savings bank of that city some \$500, of which she had no previous knowledge.

Three peers—Lords Radstock, Farnham, and Tenyham—are at present preaching in Great Britain.

"The only liberty cap," says a clever and witty author, "is the night-cap. In it men visit, one third of their lives, the land of sleep—the only land where they are always free and equal."

Don Platt writes from Saratoga: "One of the most notable features here, as at all our summer resorts, is the prominence of the Hebrew element. Turn where you will, the unmistakable features, dress, and manners of Israel meet you. The handsomest toilets are on their daughters; the finest turnouts belong to the paternal Hebrews."

During his Italian tour, Dickens was conducted over a certain monastery by a young monk, who, though a native of the country, spoke very fluent English, with the exception of frequently misplacing his v's and w's. On Dickens' inquiring if he had ever been in England, he said that he had not, but had learned the language from a book that he brought forward, which proved to be a copy of Pickwick. It thus appeared that Samuel Weller was responsible for the peculiarity of his pronunciation.

The Nashville Banner thus relates how an old lady in that city took time by the forelock: A lady residing in the Eleventh District, generally known as "Old Mrs. W.," having heard of the Franco-German war, buried every valuable thing she had. When asked why she did so, she replied that, in the days of the Revolution, her father said that the British would not come, but that they did, and imperiled her, and that when the people said the Yankees would not come, they did, and gobbled everything she had, and that she intended to get ahead of the soldiers this time.

When the Russian-American Telegraph was completed, the following feat will be possible: A telegram from Alaska for New York, leaving Sitka at 6:40 Monday morning, would be received at Nikolalef, Siberia, at 6 minutes past 1 on Tuesday morning; at St. Petersburg, Russia, at 3 minutes past 6 on Monday evening; at London at 22 minutes past 4 on Monday afternoon, and at New York at 46 minutes past 11 on Monday forenoon. Thus, allowing 20 minutes for each retransmission, a message may start on the morning of one day, to be received and transmitted the next day, to arrive and sent on the afternoon of the day it starts, and finally reach its destination on the forenoon of the first day, the whole taking place in one hour's time.

Dr. Parkes of London has been experimenting upon a healthy soldier to find out the effects of alcohol. He had him at first take no alcohol for six days—then for six days he took it in divided doses, from one to eight ounces of pure alcohol—then water for six days, and then for three days twelve ounces of fine brandy, containing 48 per cent. of alcohol. The effect in modifying weight was quite inappreciable. Alcohol produced little effect on the temperature of the system, though slightly raising it. The pulse was materially affected, rising from 77.5, before alcohol, to 94.7, after the largest doses. Estimating the normal daily work of the ventricles of the heart as equivalent to the lifting of 22 tons a foot, it was found that during the alcoholic period the heart was compelled to lift an excess of 15.3 tons, and during the last two days of 24 tons. The conclusion was, that it was utterly useless in health, and positively injurious, in larger quantities than two ounces daily. There seems to be indicated an advantage in its use if employed in raising a feeble heart and accelerating a languid capillary circulation.

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