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## BREVITIES.

A Cleveland Dutchman drank 102 lagers in one day.

Switzerland proposes to adopt the postal money order system.

The "hole" of the Hoosac Tunnel is now 4,000 feet deep.

Nuclante jewelry, richly mounted, is the latest agony.

In Australia, the bees resemble large hornets, and they do not sting.

English soldiers are still branded for using insubordinate language.

The Prussian army in time of war contains 710,000 men, and 174,900 horses.

The Second Adventists are very much encouraged by the subterranean disturbances.

Out of 121 cases on the docket of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, 28 cases were divorce.

A single political committee at Washington circulated 4,000,000 documents during the recent campaign.

Swany, Massachusetts, on election day, brought out over eight voters who were over seventy years old.

Insanity in France is six times as frequent in proportion to the population as a third of a century ago.

Queen Victoria's cousin, the Duke of Cambridge, is obliged to scrape along on a salary of \$130,000 a year.

An English Baronet has been tried in a Liverpool police court for assaulting two policemen. He was fined \$5 and costs and dismissed.

A man named King, living in Rose Valley, Western New York, has had thirty-one children by one wife. Such a couple deserve well of their country.

Nearly twenty million newspapers were transmitted from the publication offices by post in the United Kingdom last year.

At Fort Scott, Kansas, the inhabitants procure all their coal by grading the streets, where it is found in abundance.

"You have lost some of your friends, I see," said a traveler, to a negro woman whom he had met on the road. "Yes, massa." "Was it a near or a distant relative?" "Well, pretty distant—about twenty-four miles," was the reply.

The well-known contraction, L. L. D., stands, it is needless to state, for legum dolar, the double letter standing for the plural word. Hence the period ought to be inserted after the second L and after the D.

An amusing episode occurred in one of the Kingston Churches on Sunday last. Owing to the absence of the minister a lay member of the congregation was invited to read a sermon at the morning service, which he did very acceptably to those present. In the afternoon a clergyman from a neighboring place occupied the pulpit and preached a sermon. Oddly enough it happened to be the very identical sermon which the lay member had read in the morning. The congregation was thus enabled to compare two different styles of delivery.

A new stone dressing machine in operation at Worcester, Mass., makes the pieces of stone dress each other, assisted by sand and water. The action of the machine imparts a double motion, lateral and rotary, to the stone, and thus secures a surface of perfect uniformity. Tried upon Uxbridge and Flitwillian granite, pudding stone and various other kinds, hard and soft, this machine has been thoroughly successful, and not only dresses the stone in the most perfect manner, but can accomplish ten to twenty times as much work in a given time as can be done by hand.

The first bank established was in Italy, A.D. 808, by the Jews of Lombardy, many of whom settled in Lombard street, London, where many bankers now do business, making it, in some respects, to that city what Wall street is to New York. The word "bank" originally meant "a bench or table" in allusion to those on which the money-brokers transacted business, and corresponding with the word "counter" of our own day. The mint of the Tower of London, however, was anciently the place where merchants deposited their money, until Charles the First laid hands upon it, and thus destroyed its credit. Being thus forced to find some other place of security for their funds, which excited robberies, and the peculation of their apprentices, when kept at home, they agreed, in 1645, to deposit them with the goldsmiths of Lombard street, who were provided with strong boxes for the security of their own valuable wares, and this was the origin of the banking system in England.

W. C. Bryant, speaking of newspapers, says:

"Books are the precious metals in masses—newspapers coin them, for general use, put them into the most convenient forms, and pass them from hand to hand."

"Newspapers" he said: "are the ushers of books. Who would know when a book is published, but for the friendly information of the newspaper?"

He adds, "that he had been sometimes tempted to regret that the wise, witty, or eloquent things which appeared in the 'folios of four pages' as they were called by Cowper, should not be inscribed on more durable tablets, instead of going the next morning to wrap parcels or light kitchen fires; but he was fully satisfied with their fate when he reflected, that they had first been read by thousands, and whatever was good in them had passed into the general mind."

## DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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Pioneer Paper of the Rocky Mountain Region

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## THE DESERET NEWS, WEEKLY.

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