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## BREVITIES.

Water was worth 25 cents a barrel in Argyle, Washington county, New York, during the drought.

Sixty members of an educational institution in Maine, petitioned caterpillar seventeen different ways.

One of the pleasantest kinds of husbandry is that of destroying a widow's weeds.

The Cincinnati mode of getting rid of mothers-in-law is greasing the cellar stairs.

Young women often keep their lovers by tears. "Yes," says Grumwilt, "love, like beef, is preserved by brine."

The most unseemly things are mille stones; you never see two of them together.

A ten-cent dog with a fifty dollar embroidered cover is an essential item in the outfit of a New York dandy now.

A western editor is "pained to hear" that an intimate friend is "gone to heaven." He is probably saddened by the thought that they will never meet again.

"Mary," said an old lady, "it is a very solemn thing to get married." "I know it is, mother," replied Mary, "but it is a solemn thing not to."

A remarkable marriage recently took place in Rowley, N. H., the bridegroom being 80 years of age and the bride 85.

Miss Frances Rutherford, is the city physician of Grand Rapids, and was sworn into office by a female notary public.

A little two-year-old Jersey youngster was saying "Now I lay me down to sleep," the other night, and concluding that Amen was incorrect in his case, amended it by saying "a-dog."

A strong-minded young lady of Corydon, Ind., who was set upon by a suitor while on her way home a few evenings since, demonstrated her right to the franchise by striking out one of his eyes with her parasol.

"Bridget," who, as usual, entertained an exalted opinion of the good things of the old country, was asked by her mistress if they had any pies where she formerly lived in Ireland. "Yes, an' sure they do," "What kind of pies?" "Magpies, mum."

A very intelligent lady, relating the incidents of her recent trip to California, said: "We had one clergyman along, but he behaved very well; no one would have suspected he was a preacher!"

Mrs. Shoddyhigh, who has just returned to her city residence from the country, says that she "arose at the shrill cry of the chandelier, all summer," Mrs. S. undoubtedly means the shrill cry of the chandelier.

"Wife, do you know that I have got the pneumonia?" "New moon, indeed! Such extravagance! You're the spiritiest man I ever did see, to go and lay out your money for such trash when I do need a new bonnet so much."

The members of the Hartford City Guard, at a recent target shoot, managed to put three bullets into the target, and now a farmer brings in a bill for the loss of his calf in a neighboring pasture.

One of the New York shoddy aristocrats, a member of a fashionable church, electrified a male or female time since by inquiring for "Solomon's son," saying his minister had spoken of it as a production of great genius and beauty, and that he wanted his daughter to sing it.

As a river boat was loading at La Crosse, a large gray mule refused to go on board. The mate sung out to a deck hand, "Twist his tail and he'll come." Like Cassabianca that deck hand obeyed orders and like Cassabianca he nobly died.

It has been decided by medical authorities, that "if a man has a good appetite, sleeps well, and feels buoyant in spirits after his meals, he should let his health alone, whether he be as big as a hoghead, or as thin and dry as a fence rail."

A German at Decatur married a second wife in about a week after the loss of wife No. 1. The Sabbath following, the bride asked her lord to take her riding, and was duly "cut up" with the following response: "You dinke I ride out mit anoder woman so soon after the death of mine frau?"

A woman went to a circus in Terre Haute, Ind., accompanied by eleven children, and when a neighbor asked her where the old man was, she said he was at home taking care of the children. Another neighbor called at the house, and seeing the old man trying to amuse nine young ones, asked where the old lady was. He said he had let her go to the circus with the children.

A young German at San Francisco, finding that the object of his heart's dearest affection would not listen to a proposition of marriage procured an old pistol, which he filled with powder and paper, and discharged it at her, with a view of winning her over to his way of thinking, but the young lady took it as a genuine attempt to murder her, and had him committed to await the action of the grand jury.

A grocer up town missed two pounds of butter which he had weighed out for himself, and accused a suspicious-looking woman in the grocery of having taken it. She not only denied the accusation but fastened the theft upon a kitten, averring, moreover, she was in the act of finishing the last morsel. The wily grocer immediately put the kitten into a scale, and found it to weigh only a pound and a half, which so confounded the woman that she gave up the dispute and the butter.

(SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.)

By Telegraph.

For WESTERN UNION Telegraph Line

## SEVERE BATTLE BEFORE DREUX!

Queen Victoria disapproves Granville's policy!

TEN THOUSAND PARISIANS TO LEAVE THE CITY!

George Francis Train mis-ing—supposed assassinated!

GERMAN MAILS ATTACKED!

Movements of the French Armies!

WASHINGTON.

Official corruption.

WASHINGTON, 19.—It is reported that a certain Senator is drawing up resolutions, based upon the Grant-Cox correspondence, to introduce in the Senate as soon as that body meets, providing for the thorough investigation of the alleged corrupt use of money by Wm. McGarrah, while trying to get a patent for the "disrupter" land system.

Somewhat developments are anticipated, and those who claim to be perfectly familiar with the inside history of this case, aver that the investigation will disclose astonishing corruption on the part of officials, some of whom are in Congress.

Secretary Fish said yesterday that the recent news from Europe indicates that Russia is really in earnest, in her endeavor to abrogate the provisions of the treaty of 1856, which relate to the neutrality of the Black Sea; but he thinks war will not inevitably follow.

He thinks it possible, and quite probable, that the result will be a Peace Congress of all the great powers of Europe, at which not only the Eastern question, but possibly the Prussian and French war question may be settled.

Under existing circumstances, however, the future of Europe is purely problematical, and there may be occult influences at work which may produce astonishing and unexpected results.

The election of the Duke of Aosta, to be King of Spain, does not materially alter the Cuban policy. Spain, though slow in diplomacy in other respects, is quick to accept war, and the future of Cuba is not worth war to us.

The Republican party, the Secretary said, revenue reforms claim more than they can prove, and the reduction of the public debt, together with the reduction of taxation, will satisfy the people better than glittering promises, which investigation shows cannot be fulfilled.

Senator Schurz is an able man, but if he still professes to be a supporter of the administration, he certainly has a strange way of showing it.

The War in Cuba—Fall of Paris imminent—Mails Attacked—Movements of the French.

NEW YORK, 18.—Wall Street market is all in a state of feverish excitement, and the fluctuations are more violent than for some time past. In the gold room dealings are large and attended with much excitement, caused by the cable telegrams from Europe. The day closed with some abatement and a steadier feeling, although Wall Street speculators are generally very much mixed in regard to the future.

NEW YORK, 19.—An oil still, in a hotel in Brooklyn, which H. S. Bradford and J. T. Talbot were experimenting in distilling petroleum, exploded yesterday, severely injuring the hotel and damaging it slightly by fire.

Late advices state the war in Cuba drags slowly along. In Santiago the rebels recently ambushed a detachment of Spanish soldiers. Spanish residents in the country have been compelled to take refuge in Santiago city. Ten thousand are reported in the central departments.

A special to the World, London, 19. A telegram from Berlin says the German Mail company, from Cologne to Sedan, was attacked on the 15th inst. by a French force of 1500 men, and compelled to take refuge on Belgian territory. On the same day the mail from Sedan to Cologne was also attacked and compelled to return to Sedan.

A dispatch from Munich on Thursday says the negotiations that were being carried on at Versailles have been finally concluded. The treaties will be signed in a few days. The constitution of the Bund has undergone a modification. Bavaria will be allowed to enter the Confederation upon her own conditions.

A telegram from Rome on the eighteenth states that detachments of Garibaldi, belonging to the army of the centre, under General Frederici, which is advancing from Le Mans, along the line of railroad from that city to Chartres, reached Dreux, twenty-five miles south-east of Versailles, when they encountered the 17th division of the Ger-

man army; being out-numbered, the detachment fell back upon the main body. This engagement has nothing to do with the army of the Loire which, at latest advices, had fully completed the turning of the German right. The German force which encountered the garde mobile near Dreux was marching from St. Germain to Join Von Der Tann.

It is usually reported here that Gen. Aurelia does not propose to make a further advance, but, having secured an extremely strong position, will await an attack from the combined forces of Prince Frederick Charles and the Duke of Mecklenburg. He continues to receive reinforcements of arms daily.

Yesterday a very strong train of field artillery and a large body of cavalry, from Tours joined him. His strength is greater than reported. An official statement shows that his army numbers nearly 250,000 men, with a daily increase of 5,000.

A Berlin dispatch says, rumors of a doubtful character are in circulation in Berlin, to the effect that the capitulation of Paris is imminent. It is also rumored that the administration of the commissariat is busily preparing to receive a large French force.

In view of the recent declaration of the armies in France by disease and battle, the government has been forced to announce that the next levy of recruits will be in the proportion of six to every thousand of the population, instead of four per thousand as originally proposed.

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Z. C. M. I.