

BREVITIES.

Boston averages fifteen drunkards to every street car.

A laborer in an icehouse was killed by a jump of ice falling on his head. Verdict—died of hard drink.

A cruel wag turned a bald-headed friend into an enemy by advising him to have his head frescoed.

Reverdy Johnson was seventy-two years old last May. He has been in public life fifty-one years.

The Babylonians used to sleep on skin filled with water. In those latter times some men sleep on skin filled with corn whisky.

The difference between a cigar stump and a political stump is just the difference that there is between smoke and war.

A Mosier, on being asked his opinion remarked: "That New York was too far from Indianapolis ever to be much of a place."

"My notion of a wife at forty," said Jerrold, "is that a man should be able to change her, like a bank note, for two twenties."

There is no normal Christian life but that which begins with childhood, says the Independent, in an excellent article on Sunday Schools.

An article announcing the decease of a person, says:

"His remains were committed to that bountiful whence no traveler returns accompanied by his friends."

In any reasonable doubt be entertained of the stability of a bank whose directors show a great reserve when questioned about its affairs.

In Spain, there are 800 convents, in which there are 5,000 nuns, 55 bishops, 2,500 canons and abbots, 11,300 "regular Priests," 24,000 vicars, etc., and a population of 16,000,000.

The Boston Post says: "A Sunday paper says it is in favor of women voting, if they want to. We should like to see the man who could make them vote, if they didn't want to."

An eminent and witty prelate was asked if he did not think such an one did not follow his conscience. "Yes," said his grace, "I think he follows it as a man does a horse in a gig. He drives it first."

An amorous swain wrote to his friend:

"Dear Harry—You asked me what kind of game I have been playing with Jack Graham for Clarissa's hand. I have to say, in reply, it is a game of double or quits, and the result is, I double and he quits."

"Look out there! What are you kicking my dog for?"

"I'm kicking him 'cause he's full of fleas, and I don't want 'em on my good clothes."

"Fleas, the devil! Why that dog sleeps with me."

"Yes, I know it; and that's where he gets them."

There is such a thing as having too many children, if your memory is poor. The other night Spriggins counted his brood, but could only make up fourteen. "How is this?" he asked his wife; "I thought there were fifteen of them at the last census?" "So there were," she answered; "but one of them died since that."

"Indeed!" said Spriggins, meditatively; why, seems to me I heard of that at the time."

The Broadway Congregational Church at Norwico, Conn., has adopted a formula for morning and evening services, which has been printed and circulated in the pews of the church. It is quite an innovation on the old orthodox order of worship. In it the congregation are told just when to stand and sing, when to be seated, and when to bow their heads. During the "Prayer of Invocation" the congregation are to sit with bowed heads; the "Pastoral" prayer is to be followed with a choral of two or three choruses on the organ, and sermon preceded by a prayer (very short) for blessing the world. The whole is to conclude with the Benediction, the congregation sitting with bowed heads.

At a place called Candle Bridge a deacon preached. His sermon was not very remarkable for vigor, but his squirting of tobacco-juice over the pulpit rails was most forcible! It was noticeable that for some seats next the reading-desk the pews were unoccupied, though other parts of the church were crowded. There was no difficulty in accounting for the indisposition to sit under him immediately. If the parson is sometimes rough, so are the parishioners. At church, in a little back-woods settlement, most of the congregation were asleep. Suddenly a half-tipsy fellow made an apple bump on the bald head of one of the sleepers. The preacher stopped, and gave the offender an interrogative stare.

"Bile ahead, parson! Bile ahead! I'll keep 'em awake!" was the ready explanation.

Ralph Waldo Emerson says: A man passes for what he is worth. Very idle is all curiosity concerning other people's estimate of us, and all fear for remaining unknown is not less so. If a man knows that he can do anything—knows that he can do it better than any one else—he has a pledge of acknowledgment of that fact by all persons. The world is full of judgment days, and into every assemblage that a man enters, in every action that he attempts, he is gauged and stamped. In every troop of boys that whoop and run in each yard and square, a new comer is well and accurately weighed in the course of a few days and stamped with his right number, as if he had undergone a formal trial of his speed and temper. A stranger comes from a distant school, with a better dress, trinkets in his pockets, with airs and pretensions. An older boy says: "It's of no use, we shall find him out tomorrow."

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