

BREVITIES.

At a public Fair in Moscow, the Emperor Alexander of Russia, held out his hand to an old gipsy woman, and wanted to know what would happen to him. The old woman looked into his hands, shook her head, and said: "Be-ware of 1873. I see blood for you in that year!" The Emperor, who is very superstitious, grew pale, and left the Fair without saying another word.

At Watertown, New York, a jury was recently impaneled to try an important murder case. One of the men selected was nearly forty years of age, had lived within thirty miles of Watertown nearly all his life, but was never in the place until summoned as a juror. More than that, he had not had a newspaper in his house for the past eight years; and two of his colleagues had not taken a newspaper for many a year.

A "young gentleman, aged eight, whose head hardly reached the top of the dock," was sentenced by an English magistrate, "to be handed over to his parents and soundly flogged." That was "capital" punishment, but what was his offence? He had placed some chairs and some stones on a line of the railway. Yes, further, he was told: "Even in the act of doing the thing he was remonstrated with by a playmate," when he responded that he would "break his head if he interfered." When in prison he amused himself by "turning off the gas in the chapel, pulling down bell handles, tearing up his blankets," etc.

A Mr. Hart, in Laapeer, Mich., lately received the following letter: "Mr. Hart—Dear Sir.—About 20 years ago, I stole some goods out of your store to the amount of \$1 75 cents. I was hard up and could not pay for them then; about two years after that you cheated me out of \$2 00; well, I thought you had got a quarter ahead of me and so I would call it square, and so it has run along, until lately I found it will not do, I cannot carry the load any longer; I do earnestly ask your forgiveness, which I am sure you will grant, since I am willing to make restitution. \$1 75 and interest for 20 years will be about \$4 15, which you will find inclosed; 'tis done, thank God, 'tis done. God has forgiven me, the devil has no mortgage on my soul now. Praise the Lord."

The other day one of the ballet performances at a Paris opera was disturbed by the following ludicrous incident: During one of the most interesting scenes of the ballet, while about forty young dancers made a dazzling exhibition of legs and shoulders, a young woman suddenly arose in the midst of them and turning to her husband, who with his opera-glass was eagerly following the graceful movements of the sylphs on the stage, said quite aloud: "Come along, Baptiste, I do not want you to be seduced by these indecent women. Be ashamed to behave in this way!" A general laugh greeted this angry speech, and attention to the ballet was not restored before the irritated wife and the censured husband had left the hall.

A western paper contains the following advertisement: "Wants a situation, a practical printer, who is competent to take charge of any department in a printing and publishing house. Would accept a professorship in any of the academies. Has no objection to teach ornamental painting and penmanship, geometry, trigonometry and many other sciences. Is particularly suited to act as a pastor to a small evangelical church or as a local preacher. He would have no objection to form a small but select class of interesting young ladies to instruct in the highest branches. To a dentist or a chiropodist he would be invaluable, as he can do almost anything. Would cheerfully accept a position as a base or tenor singer in a choir, would board with a family, if decidedly pious. For further particulars, inquire at Brown's saloon."

Mounnyan, a young Burman, came to this country about ten years ago, as an attendant to Mrs. Hibbard, a returning missionary. He was not then converted to Christianity, but wished to remain here to learn the English language, in order to act as an interpreter on his return home. He soon became a Christian, and has pursued his education with a view to becoming a missionary among his countrymen. Some years later, a young Burman woman came over. Mounnyan saw her, became interested in her, and aided her also in obtaining an American education, and last spring they were married. He has worked his way along, paying the expenses both of her education and his own; earning money chiefly by lecturing about the country, on Burman life and customs, and has accumulated a sum sufficient to pay the passage back to Burman by the overland route. He goes out independent of all societies.

A humorous incident occurred recently at the Court of ex-Queen Isabella of Spain. One of the young ladies of the Queen had lost her pocket-book during a walk on the seashore. The book contained some 800 francs in bank bills, and was mourned as lost, when, a few days after, a young peasant, bright and handsome, presented himself at the Queen's residence and brought the pocket-book back. An examination of the contents proved that nothing was missing. "And now, my friend," said the Queen, "touched by the honesty of the young peasant, 'What kind of a reward do you want? Tell me, and if I can realize your wish, I shall do so with much pleasure.' The young peasant had, in the meantime, looked with delight and admiration at the young lady who had got back her pocket-book, and who was so happy about its unexpected recovery that tears of joy rolled down her cheeks. Of course these tears made the young lady, who is marvelously beautiful, even more bewitching; and when the young peasant was asked by the Queen in the above mentioned way, he was bold enough to say, 'I want no reward but one kiss from that young lady.' Her Majesty smiled, and turning to the young girl, said, 'Will you grant his request?' Carmen hesitated for a moment, but half a minute after, she resolutely went up to the young lad, and, throwing her arms around his neck, kissed him three times, amidst the general laughter and applause of the spectators.

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