

IN A NUTSHELL.

MINUTES SELECT READING.

Foreign, Domestic, and War

CONCISE, PITHY, and POINTED.

DOMESTIC.

Electric company have commenced

work in Winnipeg.

Steamship Madras with two cases of

smallpox, has arrived at Victoria,

and is now on board.

A man named Alexandre Male, aged

thirty, is missing from Montreal.

Hesson, son of S. R. Hesson, M.

has been appointed collector of customs

at the new customs house.

Wagner, the telegraph operator,

has been appointed collector of customs

at the new customs house.

A tramp at Cornwall recently, is

being held by a constable.

A body of a man was seen floating

in the river at Hall's booms, Quebec, re-

cently.

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examined by the coroner.

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It is a subject of much comment that Bismarck's health recently prevented him from receiving the Prussian General Manteuffel.

The London Times in a leading editorial says there is reason to believe the French Cabinet is divided on the Tonquin question.

A committee of the Upper house of the Prussian Land Tag has approved of the Church Bill, and its unanimous passage is certain.

The House of Lords again rejected the bill permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister upon its third reading by 145 nays to 140 yeas.

The report that an agreement had been arrived at between France and China on the Tonquin question is denied. Russia has offered to become mediator.

The damage by the great fire which broke out a few days ago on the Island of Gutajewsky, at the mouth of the Neva, is now estimated at 10,000,000 roubles.

Le Paris says Earl Granville has just refused to comply with the request of the Marquis of Tseong to remonstrate in a friendly manner with France in regard to her course in Annam.

Much excitement was caused recently at Queenstown, by the report that James Carey, the informer, was among the passengers who embarked for America. Carey's whereabouts could not be traced.

The Westford Borough Club has chosen by unanimous vote a brother of the Redmond, the Irish National League's representative in Australia, as the candidate for the borough, made vacant by the resignation of Healy.

WIT AND HUMOR.

A blackmailer: A negro postmaster.

A shorter man than Tom Thumb: The man without a penny.

The man who always puts his "best foot forward": The one-legged man.

Tight pants and tight dresses have both gone out of style, but it seems as if tight men never will.

It is strange, yet true, that no matter how much you batter at a knot, when you batter it out you always leave the knot-hole.

If you desire to ridicule the figure of a companion in the most approved style, tell him he is as hollow-chested as a box of strawberries.

The man who wrote a little pamphlet entitled, "How to Get On in the World," was put off a street-car because he hadn't enough money to pay his fare.

A boy without hands has been arrested in Altona for robbery. Being minus hands, he seems to have "put his foot in it." The time will not hang heavy on his hands while in jail, anyhow.

"What're doing with that cigar, you little rascal?" exclaimed a father, addressing his son. "Ma said that if I hit that cat again she'd make me smoke, an' I hit her again an' am smokin'."

Higher education: "Why did you take your boy away from my school?" asked a teacher of an old negro. "Wall, I tell yer, I heard the white folks say dat de nigger was in need of higher eddycation, an' I sent my boy up on de hill."

Father to his from-the-university-back-returning son: "Well, thou hast, of course, no debts?" Son: "Three thousand marks."

Father: "What! 3,000 marks?" Son: "Well, art thou not proud that thy son a so great credit hath?"

Woman who has been looking over blankets in a store: "Well, I didn't mean to buy. Am just looking for a friend." Clerk, politely: "Don't think you'll find your friend among the blankets. We've looked 'em all through."

Host (really in agony about his polished inlaid floor): "Hadin' you better come on the carpet, old fellow? I'm afraid you might slip, you know." Guest (with a wooden leg): "Oh, it's all right, old fellow—shanks! There's a nail in the end, you know."

A well-dressed gentleman sauntered up to a street-car driver in Austin avenue to ask him what time it was, when the driver, with an emphatic gesture, called out: "Keep away from that mule. He kicked at a dude yesterday. He ain't afraid of nobody."

Village postmaster to his wife: "Here is a postal-card to Mr. Jones saying that his brother and five children will be here on Saturday. Now keep that card till then, and I will be at the depot, and when they find no one to meet them I will take them all over for \$3."

Accounted for—Weekly amateur (with a vocal organ on him like unto that of a sucking dove, playing Maeduff): "Ha! ha! My voice is in my sword!" Critic in the gallery: "That's all right, then, ole mumble-chump; we was a wondering up here where it were."

Inquirer—You wish to set Mr. Snaggs and his next door neighbor to fighting. Easy enough. Some dark night just take a load of ashes and old oyster-cans and dump them in Snaggs' back yard. He'll lay it to his neighbor and sling him over the fence. The neighbor'll be madder than a candidate for office beaten by one vote, and will sling 'em back. Then things will hum; lawsuits, pulled noses, and bloody heads will be the result, and you can sit back and see the fun.

The Only Way to Get It.

We are assured of the genuineness of the following curious notice, addressed quite recently, to the members of a Friendly Society, which need not fear a "run" upon it, if the procedure therein described be rigidly adhered to: "In the event of your death, you are requested to bring your book, policy, and certificate at once to the agent, Mr. —, when your claims will have immediate attention."—Chambers' Journal.

Newspaper English: "The tramp Roderick, who burgled the two houses on West Hill last week and was jailed Sunday night, broke out last evening, but was policed clear to the river, where, finding escape impossible, he wharfed himself, and suicided. The body piled itself at the bridge and will be coronered in the morning. Truly, in the midst of life, we are dea'ed."

FOR THE FARMER.

Farm Notes for July.

SUMMER FALLOWS.

once so common, are now considered of questionable value as a means of bringing up the fertility of an over-cropped soil. It is cheaper either to apply some commercial fertilizer, or grow a scavenger crop, like buckwheat, and plough it under as green manure. There is considerable loss of soluble plant food in a bare fallow, that growing plants will take up and hold. The mechanical improvement of a heavy soil by following is not to be overlooked, and the killing of the weeds in foul land by the frequent stirring of the soil, is another important advantage gained by a summer fallow. Nearly all these good results are, however, obtained by a quick-growing crop, that is turned under before weeds have time to form seeds.

EARLY POTATOES.

should be harvested as soon as ripe, lest wet weather cause them to sprout and rot. A second crop may be grown by planting the early and quick-growing kinds by the first of the month. The late crop should be kept free from weeds and the destructive potato beetle.

ROOTS.

Rutabagas or Swedish turnips may be sown until the middle of the month. The ground cleared of early potatoes is especially fitted for a crop of turnips. The soil must be rich, deep, and mellow, and the seed, three pounds to the acre, sown in drills thirty inches apart.

WHEAT.

To be of the best quality wheat should be cut when the grain, crushed between the finger nails, breaks into four and shows no signs of dough. If there is a heavy harvest, it is better to begin the work a little before this, than to have any cut after it is "dead ripe." Improper shocking of the sheaves is a great source of loss. Each bundle should be set firmly upon the ground. The best way to do this is to take one in each hand, bringing the two down with their heads close together. After three pairs have thus been placed in a row, two more are set on each side, making an oval shock. The heads of all the bundles are brought close together, and the cap-sheaf adjusted. A larger shock may be made of four pairs of bundles, with three sheaves on each side. The cap will consist of two sheaves, and the whole shock of eighteen bundles.

OATS.

may be cut while the straw is somewhat green. If fully ripe, cut in early morning and rake and bind late the following afternoon, to avoid shelling. Shock carefully, as the straw must be well cured before being housed. When wheat follows the oat crop, the stubble may be stirred with a cultivator, to give the scattered grain a chance to sprout before ploughing.

FODDER CROPS.

Fodder corn may be sown from week to week through July to furnish an excellent supplement to the pastures, that are frequently short and dry in late summer. Golden millet is a productive fodder crop, and on rich soil is ready for cutting in a few weeks from the time of sowing. If there is any left from green feeding, it may be cured into excellent hay. Hungarian grass may be sown early this month, but the soil must first be made rich and mellow.

Live Stock.—Hints and Helps.

HORSES.

need to be kept clean and frequently curried. Washing the legs is advisable, especially if the animals are worked in mud and dust. Clean the stables daily, to prevent the accumulation of troublesome flies. A weak solution of carbolic acid or a decoction of smart weed will aid in keeping off the flies, while the team is in the field. Fly nets of light cloth are inexpensive, easily made, and should be worn by all work horses when in the harness. Grass alone is insufficient feed; to it add a good supply of oats and corn, ground together and mixed wet with cut hay. It is sometimes best to feed the horses in the field. Feeding oats on the ground is wasteful and unpleasant.

COWS.

If the flow of milk is once reduced, it is difficult to bring it up again, therefore use all the extra feed necessary to prevent the decrease. Green fodder alone is not enough to piece out the short pasture and some ground feed should accompany it. A cool, dark stable is preferable for cows to a hot pasture in midday. Dry earth makes a better summer litter than straw.

SHEEP.

intended for the butcher need abundant feeding. Oil cake with the ground feed is excellent. Store sheep will thrive in a good pasture, well watered and shaded. The importance of a cool shelter from the hot noon-day sun cannot be over-estimated. Sheep troubled with dysentery will retire from the flock, and unless looked after, may be lost. Remove the sick animal to a cool shed, and give one ounce of castor oil, followed by bran or oat meal mash. Flies are often troublesome at this season. If maggots are found, apply tar and grease, and clip the wool closely about the affected part.

PIGS.

If to meet the early demand, the young pigs may be pushed rapidly by good feeding. Sows need rich food in abundance, to produce a full flow of milk. Young pigs should have a separate feeding place. A run in clover stubble is relished by swine. Provide a bed of sand in the yard or pen. Pigs to come in November should be spoken for this month. If the stock is not what is desired, begin at once to improve it by securing the use of some pure-blood male.—American Agriculturist.

Little girls' dresses of Turkey red or blue percale are made with low, square necks and short sleeves, to wear over white guimpes. Blue bows are on the red dresses and red bows are on the blue ones. There are twelve tucks down the front and back of the long waists, and embroidered ruffles cover the skirt. Their white pique dresses are trimmed with open guipure embroidery, and shrimp-pink bows are worn with these.

Chinatown, San Francisco.

The Chinese of California are one of the standing wonders of the State to constantly succeeding seasons of tourists. They consider them as one of the inventory of things to be done on the coast, and when they have gone through the Chinese quarters, which is a picture in miniature of the life which Eastern theorists find so full of all the virtues, they think with that experience they know everything pertaining to the problem of the Chinese in America. So Chinatown must be visited, of course, as it is one of the curiosities to be seen, which is easily done, it being in the very heart of San Francisco, but a few steps from Kearney street. In this section all the Chinese, thousands of them, are congregated. It is a city within a city, its people having manners, customs and civilization as distinct from our own as are their own cities of Peking or Canton. It is a city of China within a city of America. In fact, you are transported 6,000 miles by walking a hundred yards. The Chinese quarter is a rectangular block, seven squares in length by two in breadth. The houses are nearly all

TALL, DECAYED BUILDINGS.

swarming with tenants, hundreds of human beings packed in a space that would but conveniently accommodate one white family. Partitions are placed in between the ceiling and the floor, making two whole rooms where there ought to be one. A long, narrow aisle runs down the centre, with shelves one above another at the sides for beds, which remind one of the bunks in an ocean steamer. The blocks are cut into sections by narrow alleys filled with squalid, underground dens, and attics whose overhanging dormer windows shut out all but a patch of sky. The main streets are lined by the stores of the great Chinese merchants, in front of which Chinese workmen and porters are busy packing and shipping goods that have been manufactured upon the premises by Chinese labor. There are large stores which have been converted into workshops, where dozens of Chinamen can be seen turning out boots and shoes in all stages of completion. It is interesting to visit the jewellers' establishments, where dozens of Chinese goldsmiths are at work making Chinese jewellery and various little ornaments from the virgin gold. They are very handy fellows, and their patience is worthy of cultivation by those who consider themselves superior. On inquiring the price of any little ornament, they first weigh the article and then add to the worth of the gold the cost of labor performed in the manufacture. To visitors, I say, don't fail to purchase a ring as a souvenir of the place. One of unique workmanship can be bought for "five dollars." In passing on our attention is arrested by the clerk, cashier, accountant, or whatever he may be, seated at the desk writing in those strange Chinese characters, which we poor heathen

WOULD NOT PRESUME TO UNDERSTAND.

with deft fingers he dips a small pointed brush into the moistened surface of a cake of ink, and with many a dash and artistic stroke, everyone of whose curves is a line of beauty, makes out his accounts or memorandum, as it may be. Trades of every character and description are pursued, from huskies stands and hawking, all through the category of business avocations, to the extensive markets where nearly everything is sold. The meat market is, perhaps, the most interesting feature of the heterogeneous commerce. Here is gathered together a conglomerated array of delicious viands which comprise the toothsome morsels of the Mongolian's diet—an extensive supply from which the heathen Chinese or the Christian American may select a choice tidbit to please his palate. Here we find rice, mice and frogs, sharks' fins, fish with teeth, fowls' brains, sea gulls' eggs, clams strung along a curious cord, small sausages on the ends of strings, ducks' legs dried, small sides of pork glazed and ornamented, ducks, fowls and fish scientifically dissected, besides jellied looking masses of queer meats, the ingredients of which no fellow can tell unless he's a Chinese. The prevailing meat is pork—not beef, no mutton. Here I have seen many different kinds of vegetables that I never saw elsewhere. The Chinese are extensive and clever gardeners and import seeds from China, as they do very many other things that may be seen here.

There are fine art stores, and stores where rare and curious China ware may be bought, beautiful fans which conceal knives five or six inches long, curious baskets filled with paper flowers, and ornamental silk pendants hanging from beneath. Goods can be bought in these stores anywhere from twenty-five cents to \$500. Odd little stands, presided over by Chinamen, are

ERECTED AT THE CORNERS OF THE STREETS, to furnish refreshments in the shape of sugar cane, fruits, nuts and oranges, real Chinese oranges, small, but oh, so delicious. All kinds of candied fruit, toted out in small dishes and kept under a glass case. One old Chinaman was selling candy from a box in the shape of a Chinese junk.

In traversing the streets you will often come across a Chinese shoemaker seated on the sidewalk, with his tools beside him, mending Chinese shoes, while the owners squat down beside him and wait till they are done. Most of the cellars along the thoroughfares are occupied by barber shops, and the Chinese mode of wearing the hair must make business good for them. As a stranger stands and watches one these doughty knights of the razor, he is led to believe that the Chinese barber has not his counterpart the world over. The skull under his manipulation soon becomes as smooth as ivory. This done he passes on to the pig-tail, which he brushes, perfumes and dresses with very great care. Other cellars are used for factories, and others for opium dens. These latter are mostly situated down alleys, where it's not any too safe to go without a guide and protector, for there are often long dark passages to be traversed before entering the places, where you can find Chinese stretched out on bunks, each with a little lamp and long pipe, the bowl of which is not much larger than the cup of an acorn and near the same shape. You will see those who have just commenced the operation, those who are a little further on towards forgetfulness, and those who are entirely oblivious to all surroundings. The modus operandi of the opium smoker is as follows: He takes a little ball of the drug on a wire and cooks it in the lamp,

TURNING AND TWISTING THE WIRE.

to keep the melted globules from falling. When of the proper consistency and shape, he plugs the small bowl of the pipe with it,

then holding the pipe to the lamp he puffs rapidly. Dense clouds of smoke arise and the victim to the habit continues the operation until he is overcome by the narcotic, when he rolls over and loses himself till the following day. A very intelligent Chinese merchant, who speaks excellent English, in a conversation with a gentleman on the evils of opium smoking, said: "It is the curse of our people; it takes away strength, it never gives any. It weakens a man, thins his blood, and steals all his energy. It makes him cold, makes him what you call invalid, no good for any real work." Invalid, he is indeed, for of all the thousands of Chinamen I have seen, I do not remember having seen but a very few healthy looking ones, all pale, sickly, flabby, uncanny looking objects, which one gazes upon with a feeling akin to disgust.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

What the World of Royalty, Rank, Fashion and Eminence's Saying and Doing.

According to an English paper, Mr. Langtry is rusticated on a weekly stipend of \$15.75 from Mrs. Langtry.

The Duke of Marlborough seems gradually gutting Blenheim. His Limoges enamels are now coming under the hammer.

Lord Dufferin is enjoying a well-earned London holiday, and all the great dinner givers are struggling for his company.

King Alfonso of Spain wants all the nations to take part in a grand celebration in Spain of the Columbian discovery of America, and not to hold the celebration in Italy or America.

Sir William Knollys, Usher of the Black Rod and formerly Comptroller to the Prince to the Prince of Wales, was, although 88, recently made Colonel-in-Chief of the Scots Guards. He has since died.

Olive Logan has discovered a Scotch girl to whom the Prince of Wales sent a nosegay which terrified her parents to such a degree that the Caledonian lamb was promptly shipped north of Tweed.

The Paris abodes of the Rothschilds are reputed worth \$7,000,000. That of Baron Alphonse is memorable as the residence of Talleyrand. In the embrasure of one of its windows he had a memorable conversation with the Czar, and there the renowned diplomatist died.

About the heaviest bribery sentence on record in England was that inflicted on Sir Manasseh Lopez, a Christianized Jew, for bribery at Grampound election—\$50,000 and two years in jail. His grandson, the present baronet, has been a Lord of the Admiralty. Another is a Judge of the Supreme Court.

The plan proposed by Lord George Hamilton to enable the landlords to sell out to their tenants, who are to be aided by the Government to purchase, would entirely meet the convenience of his father, the Duke of Abercorn, and hundreds of other landlords who now have incomes reduced fifty per cent. and can find no buyers.

The Hon. A. Anson, rector of Woolwich, England, has resigned his living to engage at his own cost in missionary work in north-west Canada, whither he will proceed for two months this summer, and then return to organize a band of workers, with whom he will return next Spring. He is a brother of the Earl of Lichfield.

The fame of the Rev. Henry Crawford Tucker never spread beyond the boundaries of Georgia during his life time, but now that he is dead we learn that he was a Baptist pastor, forty-seven years without ever a dollar of salary; that he married and buried more persons than any ten other men in the State, and that he was the father of thirty-one children by three wives.

It is now said that the Duke of Albany proffered his services to Mr. Gladstone as the successor of the Marquis of Lorne, and, considering himself as competent as that nobleman was when appointed, made sure the offer would be accepted, and commenced reading up on Canadian subjects. The news of Lord Lansdowne's appointment came to him like a thunderclap, and he told his disappointment to a near neighbor of his, Mr. Kennard, M.P., who let the secret out. Fear of the Fenians is the excuse for the refusal.

Percy W. Hastings, living in Leominster, Mass., whose body below his neck was completely paralyzed by a fall in a gymnasium three years ago, has learned to paint in water colors, holding the brush between his teeth. An attendant mixes the colors and puts the brush in his mouth. His skill is said, by those who have seen the result of it, to be surprising, and his progress is so rapid that his friends actually expect his paintings to attain celebrity by reason of their artistic value, independently of the physical dexterity which produces them.

The objections made to Lord Rosebery as Under Secretary to the Home Department because he was not in the House of Commons, have called attention to the disadvantages accruing to men placed from the first in the House of Lords, like Rosebery, or called too early to it. Lord Durham, one of the ablest statesmen England has produced, "lost touch" of public opinion by it. The present Earl Grey would have filled a higher position had he not been called too early to the Lords, and the Marquis of Salisbury would have been more useful to his party and more powerful had he remained Lord Robert Cecil. The Duke of Argyll, too, would have been a greater force in the lower House.

A Miser's Avarice.

The following anecdote about a miser illustrates the masterfulness of avarice when once it has seated itself in a man's soul:

He was a blind millionaire, and about to be operated upon for cataract by a skillful oculist, who was to receive 50 louis d'or as his fee. The operation on the right eye had been most successful. "I can see!" exclaimed the millionaire, overjoyed; "I can distinguish the colors. I recognise my precious cash box."

"Very well, then," replied the practitioner, "let us lose no time, but commence on the left eye."

"No, no," said the miser; "all things considered, I'll pay you at once 25 louis. I had as lief remain blind in one eye and save the other 25."