

# THE FOREIGN NEWS

## Distressing Tragedy.

### KILLED BY A WATERSPOUT.

#### A Curious Russian Case.

The explosion of a dynamite cartridge to blow up an old ship near Mobile sent to the surface a few fish that weighed more than 200 pounds.

Another trial will be made with the kola nut as an article of food, during the next French manoeuvres. The experiment last year was highly satisfactory.

The Paris garcon has won in the struggle for his moustache; and the result is that the restaurants are now manned by a fierce looking band resembling dragoons more than waiters.

A telegram from Belgrade states that a great fire has broken out at Mount Athos, and that the wealthy Greek Monastery of Simon Petros has been completely destroyed. The damage is estimated at 1,000,000.

The Minister of Finance has sent orders to the authorities of all border towns that all persons suspected of smuggling goods from foreign lands into Russia or of having any connections with the clandestine trade be transported into the interior, at a distance of no less than fifty versts from the frontier.

In Berlin University this summer 322 instructors are delivering lectures. The name of Dr. Robert Koch still appears in the catalogue as professor and principal of the Hygienic Institute.

The university at Tomsk is the banner "deadhead" educational institution. Of its 262 students, 197 are educated at the expense of the Government as "needy and worthy" young men. Last year the Government spent \$12,000 on them.

One per cent. of all German children in city schools stutter. In Dresden the percentage (2) is highest. In a military school near Berlin four cadets in forty stuttered, and in several civilians' schools the percentage has been found to be as large. Many German physicians are advocating the separation of the stuttering school children from the smooth tongued and the instruction of them in a department of their own.

In 1890 Prussia had 727 agricultural schools with 11,144 scholars, 781 industrial schools with 93,029 scholars, 289 guild schools with 12,118 scholars. Thirty-five technical schools of various aims increase the total to 1,832. It is proposed to extend this already enormous system by means of new State subsidies of \$250,000 annually. The new institutions contemplated are: four for builders, eight for master machinists, seven for weavers, two for steamship machinists, and one for instruction in ceramics.

Italy is about to test the possibilities of rifles of 6 1/2 millimetre calibre, or but slightly over 25 by our measurement. If the result be favorable to the small calibre, the German Post says, military men will be ready for another revolution in the arming of infantry.

The technical troops of the Austrian army will be armed next fall with Mannlicher rifles, and the Werdn rifles which they now use will be stored away. The new rifles of the technical troops will be much shorter and lighter than the ordinary Mannlicher. The pioneers' sabres, moreover, will be replaced with hatchets.

Constantinople is to have a museum of history. In it will be arranged chronologically types of all the weapons, uniforms, and trappings in the use of the Turkish army from its beginning till now. Foreign artists and sculptors have been engaged to produce for the new museum representations of Turkey's greatest Generals and most famous battles.

The Grand Duchess Stephanie, widow of the Crown Prince of Austria, has left off her mourning, and is driving through Italy with a four-horse equipage.

Buda-Pesth has also been suffering from an omnibus strike, but in this case it was not the drivers, but the owners who struck, because the authorities would not grant them permanent licenses.

A new petroleum-burning boat was tried near Berlin with a four-horse power engine, which went from six to eight miles an hour at an expense of two cents per horse power per hour. The engine needs only one man to tend it, and he can also steer.

The Turkish army is reported to be in excellent condition. Nearly 600,000 repeating rifles are in the hands of the infantry. The artillery is furnished mainly by Krupp, and forty-nine regiments of cavalry, mostly raised in Asia, have recently been added.

Some years ago a Government official named Nielsen died in Schleswig leaving 20,000 crowns to his man servant and the same sum to his cook, on condition that if either married that person's portion would revert to the other. They immediately married each other. Now a relative of Nielsen's is endeavoring to obtain possession of the whole 40,000 crowns, on the ground that the marriage was contrary to the spirit of the will.

A Chicago man has applied for a license to run a bar room on wheels. His scheme is to sell beer and sandwiches from a wagon which he will drive around to places where outdoor laborers are employed.

A Fort Worth, Tex., man says that he has the largest madstone in the world. It is nearly as large as a hen's egg and was taken, he says, by his father from the stomach of a white deer found dead in the Ozark Mountains.

Turkey has taken steps toward utilizing the inhabitants of its Asiatic possessions in its army. Twenty-four auxiliary cavalry regiments of Kurds will be formed shortly in the manner practised by Russia in the Cossack formation. The Kurds will mount themselves and will be armed, paid, and cared for at the State's expense. Tribes which contribute men to the twenty-four regiments in question will be freed from taxation.

Switzerland purposes to make several reforms in the organization of its army. The Federal army, which with militia of the first and last call numbers 272,124 men, has been hitherto in eight divisions. With these eight divisions four corps will be formed

shortly, and therewith will become necessary a complete revision of the still incomplete plan for the mobilization and advance. The commander of each of the new corps will be called simply "Army Corps Commander."

The first German court of justice has held a session in Heiligoland. The calendar was a blank. The clerk registered the fact that the court met and adjourned and all was over.

The Russian Ministry of Imperial Property proposes to revive the linen-weaving industry, which has of late deteriorated in the Governments where linen is produced. It proposes, among other measures, to furnish poor weavers with machines at the lowest prices, for which the recipients will pay in small installments at long intervals, and to recommend them for the patronage of the War and the Marine departments.

A society which may be characterized as a "commune of beggars" has been formed in Mitau, Russia. All the members are mendicants. They pledge themselves to hand over to the Board of the society all that they get in money or in kind up to the normal amount of donations which a beggar generally gets in a day. Whatever they get above that amount they may keep for themselves. The society, in return, is pledged to provide them with food, garments, and lodgings, according to their actual needs.

The small town of Wisnita, in Moravia, has nearly been destroyed by a waterspout, accompanied by a severe hailstorm. Two persons lost their lives through the waterspout. Two small towns in Galicia have also suffered in a similar manner from violent thunderstorms and hoods. In one of these places six adults and three children, and in the other one adult and three children are reported to have lost their lives.

The formation of labor unions in Finland had reached the point of resolving to hold a general meeting in Helsingfors this summer, but a ukase from the Czar stopped it entirely.

Experts studying leprosy in Simla have found the bacillus. They succeeded in giving a rabbit leprosy, the first time the disease has ever been known outside of the human body.

Constantinople has 50 newspapers; 19 of them are daily, 5 semi-weekly, 17 weekly, 3 semi-monthly, 6 monthly. In nationality 5 are Turkish, 7 Armenian, 8 Greek, 6 French, 2 French and English, 1 Italian, 2 Hebrew, 2 Bulgarian, 1 Arabian, 1 Persian, 1 German.

Japan's Emperor has decreed that every man who provokes a duel or accepts a challenge shall pay a heavy fine and serve from six months to two years in the galleys. The taunting of a man for his refusal to fight when challenged will be regarded as slander, and will be so treated by the courts.

The Congo State's only newspaper, the *Congo Mirror*, made its first appearance a few weeks ago. It is a four-page weekly, printed with a lithographing machine. The editor, proprietor, printer, and newsboy are incorporated in one Englishman. The *Mirror* is a fighter, and in its first issue accused a Congo official of murder and scoffed at the King of Belgium.

Of all European countries Sweden has proportionately to its population the most extensive telephone system. For the further perfection of the service the General Telephone Company, in Stockholm, now offers to put apparatus in subscribers' houses for \$2.75 per year each. The tariff for each call will be 2 1/2 cents extra. The lowness of the price is the result of competition between the Government telephone system and the General Telephone Company.

Since William II. ascended the German throne most of the regimental flags injured in the wars with Denmark, Austria, and France have been replaced with new ones. In 1864 and 1866, 99 such flags were perforated and torn by bullets; in 1870-71, 151. The flag of the Westphalian infantry regiment (Fifty-sixth) was riddled by 23 shots in the one battle of Mars-la-Tour. In the Franco-Prussian war 38 commissioned and non-commissioned officers were killed with their colors in their hands. On the staff of every flag which thus lost its bearer is now a silver ring with the inscription: "With this flag in his hand, died a hero's death." Two regiments have five such rings each on their colors. All ten color bearers fell at Mars-la-Tour.

Germany's Fishery Association, with its 17,000 members, has grown into an international affair. Three weeks ago it made a compact at Coblenz with the Dutch and Swiss associations that hereafter the stocking of the Rhine with salmon should take place at the river's source rather than as heretofore at the various places selected by the three national associations independently of each other. The Elbe has been so carefully stocked by the association that this year 2,000 big salmon were taken at Hamburg. "Of all European countries," said the association's secretary in its annual convention at Berlin two weeks ago, "Germany is most advanced in fish culture. The United States, however, is ahead, far ahead, of us all."

An ornithological commission is formed at the Academy of Science in St. Petersburg, under the special management of the Minister of Imperial Property. Its mission, besides the pursuit of scientific studies, will be to devise means for the preservation and increase of the useful species of the feathered kingdom.

A lover of antiquities in Odessa has acquired some archaic treasures which were dug from the soil of ancient Olvia, now the village of Partootine, in Kherson. They consist of ancient ornaments of gold, silver, and alabaster of exquisite workmanship. They seem to belong to the time when the arts of sculpture and engraving were in their bloom in Greece. The Russian papers regret that such antiquarian treasures should be kept in a private house instead of in a public museum, where the student and the artist could freely examine them.

Navigation on the Volga has hardly begun this season and there are already reports of several serious accidents caused by the carelessness of the steamboat captains and of the shabby treatment endured by passengers. The Ministry of Roads of Inter-communication therefore has issued a circular to the steamship companies and their employees informing them that "the steamers are made for their passengers, and not the passengers for the steamers." The companies are ordered to keep a record book with writing materials in a convenient place on every steamer, so that every passenger may write down his complaint. Government agents at every station are to examine the

book; if they find in it a complaint of a serious nature they will act upon it immediately. Passengers on the other hand, are encouraged to write down their complaints without fear of investigations that may cause them trouble or loss of time; they need not sign their names in the book and if they sign they will not be troubled with the requirement to give personal testimony or to produce witnesses.

The French Minister of the Interior has introduced a bill for providing pensions for laborers. All workmen having served for thirty years and having complied with the provisions of the bill, will be entitled to an annual pension of not less than \$60 or more than \$125. Every workman will be considered to have accepted the terms of the pensions law unless he sends in a disclaimer to the competent authorities. The pension fund will be supported to the extent of two-thirds by the State, the other third will be borne equally by employers and workmen. A man's contribution will be one cent for every working day for a pension of \$60, and a penny for pensions of \$125. Foreign workmen will be excluded from the benefits of the law, and their employers will have to pay on their behalf two cents a day, to go to a special pension fund for French workmen prematurely disabled.

A sad tragedy is reported from Leitomischl, in Bohemia. A young student was shooting birds in the garden, his sister, aged 18, was in another part of the garden preparing a comfortable seat for their invalid father. The young man aimed high in the direction where the girl was moving about, but at the moment of firing his hand faltered and the shot struck his sister, who fell to the ground. Before ascertaining the extent of the disaster the youth aimed his rifle at his mouth and shot himself. Both died on the spot.

A report of the manners and customs of the Shan States shows that when a Shan becomes a father he must on no account drive pigs, carry the dead, bore holes, fill in holes in the ground, or indulge in mockery. If one of either sex die without marrying, the body, before burial is banged against a stump, which is considered as representing the husband or wife. This is supposed to guard against the danger of unrequited love in the next life. Divorce is easy, the man merely giving his wife a letter permitting her to marry, and the wife merely being required to pay an unwilling husband thirty rupees for release. Only high Shans can be cannibals. Their theory of the cosmogony is that "the earth came out of the depths by means of white ants."

### England's Illustrious Sick.

Some very alarming reports are in circulation regarding the real condition of Mr. Gladstone, says a London cable letter of June 27th. Although he managed to get to Lowestoft on Friday, the belief is current that he is completely broken down and not likely to appear in Parliament again. The attack of influenza from which Mr. Gladstone suffered recently shook him severely and left him very weak. He persisted in going to the jubilee of the colonial bishopric's fund, and there delivered a long speech in defence of the Church of England. He also attended for a short time daily the House of Commons, and generally took it out of himself as if he were in full health and twenty-five years of age. The consequence has been a partial breakdown. But the old man is now to be chained up, and a vigilant guard set all round him. He has gone to a lovely house at Lowestoft, belonging to Mr. Coleman, the mustard maker, and there the sea breezes are expected to recruit his strength. A more delightful abode could not be found. Hot and cold sea water baths are attached to every bedroom, and there is nothing the heart of man can desire that cannot be turned on at a moment's notice except youth and health. The latter will probably not refuse to come once more at Mr. Gladstone's call. His friends are confident he will be Prime Minister again.

It is also reported Mr. John Morley has had a serious relapse, but the correspondent met him in Piccadilly, and he states that he was in very fair health, though needing rest. He is going to join Mr. Gladstone at Lowestoft. There they can console each other for being temporarily out of the political arena. Sir William Harcourt will again be left commander-in-chief in the House of Commons, a position he thoroughly enjoys.

Of the third distinguished invalid, Mr. Spurgeon, the correspondent does not give so good an account. For years he has been a martyr to rheumatic gout, and his recent attack of influenza has greatly increased his sufferings and brought him very low. Like Mr. Gladstone, he never gives in till the last moment, but now he is entirely prostrated, and there is great cause for alarm. What would become of Mr. Spurgeon's great undertakings if he were taken away it is impossible to foresee. His orphan asylums, training colleges, and other institutions could scarcely be kept up by any other man, while his enormous tabernacle certainly could not be filled by any other preacher. The whole vast machinery he has set up would be in danger of going to pieces. The anxiety of his congregation at this moment can better be imagined than described. Few men have done more good in their day and generation than Mr. Spurgeon, and his loss would be regarded by thousands as little less than a national misfortune.

### Mysterious Double Tragedy.

A horrible and mysterious crime was revealed the other day, when the corpse of a young man named Speyer, was found in a street in the suburb of Bebra. It was evident that he had jumped or been thrown from a window in a business house, under which the body was lying, and where it was afterwards found he was an apprentice. When the police entered the apartment which Speyer occupied with another employe, named Schmidt, the latter shot himself through the head, falling dead at the feet of the policeman, to whom he had first handed a letter. This proved to be a confession. In it he stated that he had slain Speyer while the latter was asleep, and had then thrown the body from the window to disarm suspicion and create the impression that he had fallen or jumped out. But remorse seized him, and he decided to make an end of himself after freeing his mind of its terrible load. He concluded by stating that his reason for killing his companion was that the latter had undermined him in the affections of a young lady whom he had hoped to marry. Both young men were of excellent family. The lady in the case is said to be an heiress

### FISHING IN CANADA.

Some Hints About Catching Bass, Such as the Bait to use, etc.

The rush of the fresh-water anglers is now to this country and they are coming by the scores, Lake St. John, Que., is the point that most are seeking, and the rest will visit smaller lakes or ponds owned by acquaintances, while the salmon rivers are getting their share of fishermen. The new hotel arrangements and better steamboat service on the lakes are attracting many. According to the reports that came down to this city the fishing is good, but not remarkable. Quanaiche are now being caught in the Grand Discharge and in the Peribonca River on small bright-colored flies, while the black gnat still has charms for the fish. At Lake Edward a number of trout are being taken, and large fish are the rule. Among these from New York who are in the salmon country are ex-Secretary of the Navy Whitney, R. G. Dun, John G. Heckscher, O. H. Payne, Henry Sanford, and the Rev. Dr. Rainford, formerly of Toronto. A large number of English anglers are also visiting the Dominion resorts this summer. Salmon fishing in the Restigouche region is not very good as yet, and several anglers have returned disappointed.

Black bass fishing is pretty good, and is improving constantly in the well-known resorts, such as the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario waters, where for years many fine specimens of the bass have been taken out, and where bass fishing has been reduced to a science both regarding skill and comfort. Boats are rigged up so that the angler may troll in the most enjoyable manner possible. An easy chair is placed in the stern, where he sits. If he is tired, and does not wish to carry or hold his rod, an outrigger is present for him to place it on, and a bell attachment added, so that when a fish takes the bait and puts a little pressure on the reel, the bell rings, and the lazy angler may proceed to play his fish. These piscatorial accommodations, however, are mostly used by hand-line fishermen who are not possessed with that true angler's spirit which leads to most graceful and sportsmanlike methods of using angling materials. But there are also cultured fishermen who visit these resorts and get the fullest amount of pleasure in their favorite sport by using improved forms of tackle and landing the fish in an artistic manner. Indeed, it would be better for the lazy fisherman, or rather, for the Summer boarder, to confine themselves to pickering, a fish of considerable size, but lacking in that whole-souled earnestness that a bass shows when secured on the end of a line attached to a light split bamboo rod. The pickering is accommodating, and when the bell rings, showing its presence on the hook, the fisherman may even take time enough to light his cigar before exerting himself to drag it in.

In black bass angling the beginner had better use a pretty stiff rod at first, and, as he gains experience in the manipulation of the fish, gradually lighten his tackle till skill is gained, when the lightest of tackle can be used with pleasure. Fly fishing is the most enjoyable form of taking the bass, but unfortunately bass are not always anxious to take the fly, and some bait must be provided to suit them. It is just about as artistic, however, to cast a live minnow for them, and this is a surer method of gaining results. In casting a fly for bass, if the bass do not care to come to the surface for them, it is sometimes best to allow the flies to sink a little way in the water and slowly trail them along. Bright-colored flies should be used. When wading in a river, long casts may be made for bass, just as in trout fishing. The late afternoon or evening is the best time, even till it is too dark to see the flies.

When a minnow cast is made in a lake or pond, the little fish must not be slammed on the water, but must be landed with as little commotion as possible. A little swirl of the surface of the water does not matter. The angler wants his bass to come from a little distance with a rush and take the bait without previous investigation. The chances are that he will then hook himself, and securely. In twitching him to make the hook doubly fast, delicateness is the great art. An immense jerk on the rod is a big mistake. As the fish starts off, simply tauten the line with a twist of the wrist. Then the golden rule of angling is never to be forgotten, "Don't give slack line." If the fish is going to leap out of water lower the tip a little and he will not get enough slack to shake the hook out of his mouth. Practice will show just how to do this. There is no use in trying to land the bass at once. Let him run and play till tired. Remember, he may be the only fish of the day, so get the enjoyment out of him.

There are different ways of putting on the minnow. The most common is to catch the hook through the back of the neck and then toss him out. Some fishermen argue in favor of hooking the minnow near his tail, the idea being that his head will then point downward and that to the bass it will appear more natural. In trolling with a minnow he must be put on in a more secure manner by hooking through the side, the barb coming out a little near the tail. The boatmen are expert in fixing the bait in this manner.

All sorts of bait are used for the black bass both large-mouth and small-mouth varieties. If it is a showery day, muggy and warm, a big wad of common angleworms will often secure the most fish. The hellgramite is a killing bait at times. This euphoniously termed insect probably gets its name from its ugly appearance.

Then the frog must not be forgotten. A frog, slick and clean, of green hues, has powerful attractions for the bass. Pork rind skitted through the water often proves an alluring bait. In the hot August days, try a big grasshopper or two on the hook. If the fishing is among logs and dead wood, use one of those white grub worms found in rotten stumps. June bugs at nightfall are almost always a good bait for bass as well as trout. There are a few such days every Summer when the bass are so anxious for bait that they will bite a red rag, and seem to enjoy jumping at it as it is drawn through the water.

Bass grow rapidly, and there is no better fish to stock ponds with. They like a rocky bottom, and in lakes or ponds fed by springs thrive best and taste better. While not requiring as cold water as the trout, they will not put up with semistagnant water, like the carp and catfish. Bass and trout also should never be put in the same ponds. The bass will win the fight in the end by eating the young trout. It is safe enough to keep pond trout in with bass in a preserve.

The Anglican synod of the Diocese of Montreal has passed a resolution allowing women to vote at vestry meetings.

### THE AUSTRIAN COURT TRAGEDY.

The Current and Accepted Story of the Manner of Prince Rudolph's Death

A writer says:—I met the other evening at a dinner party a most charming old Austrian lady who had come from Vienna to Paris to visit her daughter, who is the wife of a French nobleman and had just presented her husband with an heir to their joint estates. After dinner the conversation turned upon matters and things in Austria, and I spoke of the mysterious death of the unfortunate Crown Prince Rudolph and the secrecy that had been observed concerning all the details of that gasty catastrophe. The Countess von X—shrugged her shoulders. "It is a mystery for the outside world and for the newspapers if you will," she answered, "but the true story of the case is generally known among the upper classes of Viennese society, and I have no objection to relating it to you."

Briefly stated, the facts are as follows: A foreign nobleman, the prince de Z—, who was a widower and a connection by marriage with a leading member of the Austrian royal family was presented one evening at a ball to the radiantly beautiful Baroness Marie de Vecsere, instantly fell madly in love with her and formed the resolution of making her his wife. He was on terms of intimate friendship with the Crown Prince, and before proposing in due form for the young lady's hand he consulted Prince Rudolph on the advisability of the step he was about to take. "I must see the Baroness Marie," replied the Prince, "to ascertain if she is in all respects as charming as you say, before I give you my full approval." The introduction took place, and the superb beauty of the lovely girl impressed Prince Rudolph no less than it had done his friend before him.

"The passion thus inspired was mutual, and of uncontrollable vehemence. A liaison was formed, which was conducted with the utmost possible secrecy, but rumors of its rise and progress did not fail to reach the ears of the unfortunate Prince de Z—. At last the ill-fated expedition to Meyerling took place, and the presence there of the lovers was betrayed to the unhappy wooer by one of the servants who was in his pay. He hastened to Meyerling, but was denied admission to the house. He then made his way to the back part of the ground, climbed over the wall, scaled the balcony attached to the Prince's room, and, shattering the windows, he leaped into the presence of his false friend and his faithless lady love. A terrible hand-to-hand encounter ensued between the two men, both of great strength and accustomed to all sorts of athletic exercises. The furniture of the room was literally smashed to pieces in the conflict.

"Finally the Prince de Z—snatched up an unopened bottle of wine and dealt the Crown Prince a furious blow on the head with it, crushing in his adversary's skull and killing him instantly. The Baroness de Vecsere had, it seems, always carried about with her a dose of strychnine, with a premonition of some such catastrophe. On seeing her lover fall a corpse before her, she swallowed the fatal drug and death ensued in a very short space of time. One of the young nobles who had been Prince Rudolph's guest at Meyerling hastened to Vienna to bear the terrible tidings to the Emperor, while another one remained to guard the house wherein lay the bodies of the lovers.

"The Emperor," continued the Countess, "would permit no legal proceedings to be taken against Prince de Z—, declaring that he only acted in self-defence; neither would he consent to receive the Prince's resignation of his position in the army. The facts were hushed up as much as possible. All discussion of the catastrophe was prohibited to the journals of Austria. But the story was known to too many persons to be kept a close secret."

I afterwards met, at an evening reception, a Belgian physician who has been settled for several years past at Vienna. He fully corroborated all the details of the Crown Prince's death as imparted to me by the Countess von X—, and added a curious little history concerning the Emperor of Austria.

It appears that for long years past his Majesty has sought and found consolation for his troubles, and repose from the cares of State in the remarkable intellect and brilliant conversation of an ex-actress, by name Catharine Schrott, whose counsels are said to have been of the greatest advantage to him on many important affairs of state.

He is accustomed to drive out to the palace at Schoenbrunn, and there, leaving his equipage, he will be met by Mme. Schrott, and will take long promenades with her in the forest to talk over matters and things in general. So widely is this friendship known in Vienna that the lady is known there as the Vice-Empress. Her extraordinary intelligence and clear, cool judgment are valued in the highest degree by the Emperor and are acknowledged even by the Empress herself.

### Not an Improbable Story.

"What's the matter, old man?" he said as they met the morning after. "You look blue."

"I feel blue."

"But last night you were the jolliest member of the party."

"I felt jolly."

"You acted like a little boy just let out of school."

"I feel like one."

"You said your wife had gone away for the first time in three years and there wasn't any one to say a word if you went home and kicked over the mantel clock."

"I remember it."

"You said that if you stayed out until 4 o'clock there was no one to look at you reproachfully and sigh and make you feel mean."

"Yes and I stayed out until 4 o'clock didn't I?"

"You certainly did."

"And I gave an Indian war whoop on the doorstep."

"Yes, and you sang a verse from a comic opera song and you tried to dance a clog."

"And my wife had missed the train. Now go away and leave me. I want to kick myself a little more for not taking the precaution to get an affidavit from the conductor that she went with the train."

### Not as She Meant It.

"Where is that black cloud going to?" Asked the boy of his grandma dear; And the old lady said, as she shook her head, "It's going to thunder, I fear."