

THE NUTSHELL

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

People in Winnipeg are enjoying sleigh rides.

John Gaynor was sandbagged at Carberry and robbed of \$590.

Montreal is compelling users of steam boilers to provide smoke-consuming apparatus.

There are several cases of diphtheria among the pupils of the Hess Street School, Hamilton.

The Canadian General Electric Co. are building a new power and pump house at Peterborough.

An important discovery of fire clay has been made in Nipissing on the farm of Mr. Thomas Whittaker of London.

Charles Pedler, an eighteen-year-old Hamilton youth, hanged himself on account of a dispute with his father.

The Bank of Montreal's statement for the half year ending October 31 shows that business has greatly improved.

Roland Gideon Israel Barnett was sentenced at Montreal to three years in the penitentiary for stealing a note for \$750.

The C. P. R. is seeking from the Quebec City Council a refund of taxes amounting to \$50,000 paid within the past 11 years.

A young man named Norman Mitchell shot himself dead with a rifle at Montreal on account of disappointment in a love affair.

A C. P. R. box car arrived at Hamilton from Toronto with a lot of bloodstained clothing in it, and the police are investigating the mystery.

There is a possibility of the Montreal rolling mills moving to some Eastern Ontario town before long. Trenton is making a big bid for the works.

The Department of Inland Revenue is considering the advisability of allowing the use, under certain restrictions, of spring scales or balances.

It is reported that Hon. C. H. Mackintosh's resignation as Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories will take effect on the 1st of January.

According to the transfer books of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, stock to the value of three hundred thousand dollars is held in Toronto.

James Huton, who killed his son, Toronto, with a pair of shears on Halloween, and who was convicted of manslaughter, was on Tuesday sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

The bridge over the Ottawa river from Nepean Point to Hull, to which the Dominion Government promised one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, is to be commenced forthwith.

Owing to the renewed outbreak of smallpox in Montreal, Dr. Laberge, the Health Officer is determined to put in force the law ordering the compulsory vaccination of children.

Mr. J. L. Larkie, Dominion commercial agent in Australia, complains that his efforts to promote trade between the two countries are frequently rendered nugatory by the dilatoriness of Canadian firms.

It is stated that an excursion of four hundred families will leave Hull and Ottawa in the spring to colonize lands which the Quebec Government is opening up for settlement in the Gatineau district.

The Department of Railways and Canals has taken over the contract on the Soulanges canal held by Mr. Archie Stewart, of Ottawa, and the work is being carried on under the control of the Government.

Ex-Mayor Stewart, of Ottawa, who left Liverpool on Saturday for New York, announces that his business in connection with the completion of the Ottawa and Georgian Bay canal has been finished successfully.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Dean Hole attributes the election of a Tammany Mayor in New York to the irreligion of the city, resulting from instruction in godless schools.

Thirty British army officers started last week from Liverpool for Lagos on the west coast of Africa, and thirty more are expected to leave this week.

Mr. W. S. Fielding, who is at present in London, is impressed with the importance of the British demand for an effective insolvency law in Canada.

Dr. Darby, secretary of the Arbitration Alliance, has presented to Lord Salisbury a memorial with more than sixty four thousand signatures in favour of an Anglo-American arbitration treaty.

Mr. Gladstone has in contemplation a work embracing the lives of most of the modern divines, but his physical health is rapidly breaking up. He has been ordered to the Riviera for the winter.

An interesting experiment is being tried in a Dublin hospital upon a discharged soldier, whose eyelids have been destroyed by ophthalmia. The doctors have grafted in their places the eyelids of a newly killed pig.

UNITED STATES.

The Dana estate which is valued at a million dollars, is left almost in its entirety to Mrs. Dana.

An opinion handed down to the United States Court of Appeals holds that the boycott is not a legal weapon.

A combine of companies engaged in manufacturing insulated wires and cables for electric purposes, is mooted.

A Washington despatch says the ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty by the United States Senate is assured.

The United States Government has decided to send the revenue cutter fleet said to be destitute and ice-bound in Behring Sea.

A bill is to be introduced in the Legislature in Maine, to punish sportsmen who accidentally shoot and wound or kill men in the woods.

John A. Willard a banker of Mankato, Minn., has assigned with liabilities, at nearly \$1,000,000 and assets, chiefly real estate, worth \$2,000,000.

Denver, Col., has passed an ordinance fixing a license fee of one thousand dollars for all dealers in cigarettes. The ordinance will be immediately contested.

The Canadian Society of New York has appointed a committee for the purpose of raising a relief fund for the victims of the recent fire in Windsor, N. S.

It is reported at Warren Ohio, that a fortune has been left in Scotland to the family of which Mrs. McKinley, mother of President McKinley, is a member.

The announcement that Chinamen will be placed in the mines of the Northern Illinois coal fields has caused an immense amount of excitement among the white miners.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers has purchased the Meadow Lawn farm in Illinois for \$17,450, on which a home for dependent engineers, their widows and orphans will be built.

The theory that the railway bed at Garrison, the scene of the fatal wreck on the New York Central railway, was destroyed by dynamite has been abandoned, and it is now believed that the disaster was due to a washout.

Miss Frances E. Willard, president of the W.C.T.U., announces that she will contribute three thousand dollars of her own money to start the fund of three hundred thousand dollars which the temperance people need to hold control of the Temple property in Chicago.

At the meeting of the Knights of Labour, held in Louisville, Ky., Mr. James R. Sovereign, who has been General Master Workman for the past four years, was somewhat summarily dismissed, and Mr. Henry A. Hicks, of New York, elected in his stead.

Durrant, of San Francisco, the murderer of Blanche Lamont, who was convicted of the crime two years ago and sentenced to death, has obtained a new lease of life, as under his recent appeal he cannot be executed before the second Monday in January.

According to reports from New York changed climatic conditions during the past few days have helped materially to improve the general trade conditions. There has been a marked increase in the demand for winter goods of all descriptions, and rapid orders for immediate delivery have created a rush in many of the wholesale branches of trade, and a corresponding added demand for labor. On the other hand there is in many quarters a considerable shrinkage reported as caused by fever and quarantine. There has been a comparatively large consumption of iron, during the past month, and boot and shoe making has surpassed all records.

GENERAL.

The financial crisis in Venezuela is so acute that trade has practically ceased.

Official returns show that French imports and exports for the past ten months have increased.

Irrigation by artesian wells in the Bourke district of New South Wales is proving a great success.

Mount Vesuvius is in great activity, and two wide streams of lava, are flowing in the direction of Vitrova.

It is understood that the Reichstag will be asked for a vote of three million marks for naval improvement.

With the exception of suffering from slight facial neuralgia, Prince Bismarck is enjoying good health.

Large bands of well-armed disciplined rebels are scouring Madagascar, and cutting off isolated French detachments.

As a result of General Weyler's policy of driving women and children of the insurgents into the cities of Cuba, thousands are dying of starvation.

The French Minister of War has declined to re-open the case of Captain Dreyfus, serving a life sentence for treason. He claims to be innocent.

It has been decided to appeal to Europe and America to raise the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, with which to relieve the terrible distress existing in Greece.

A man named Dreyfus, living in Paris, who recently suffered losses on the Bourse, his wife and three young daughters, all committed suicide on Monday morning.

Owing to sudden frosts the ports in the Sea of Azof are freezing, and consequently a considerable quantity of grain which was prepared for export cannot be shipped.

The Viceroy of India has ordered a Court of Enquiry to investigate the disastrous reconnaissance of Gen. Westmacott to the summit of Saran-Sar mountain last Wednesday.

The condition of the members of the Turkish Embassy in Berlin is deplorable. They have not received any salary for more than a year, and they are being harassed by their creditors.

The authorities at Rio Janeiro are convinced that the attack on President Morales and the killing of Gen. Bittencourt, late Minister of War, were the results of a widespread conspiracy.

The Russian Embassy at Constantinople has notified the Porte that the Greek war indemnity must be applied to the liquidation of the Russian war indemnity, and not spent on naval armament.

The Pope has despatched two special agents to convey instructions to the French electors, enjoining them to frankly accept the republic and to oppose monarchical aspirations in the approaching elections.

ANOTHER USE OF IT.

Oh, dear! I wish I had money enough to be charitable.

And if you had?

I'd take a trip to Europe on it.

AS FAR AS HE VENTURED.

Do you read fiction?

I sometimes look over the weather report.

SOME LATE CABLE NEWS.

WHAT WILL BE DONE AT THE ENGINEERS' CONFERENCE.

The Men Gradually Yielding to the Masters - Cotton Operatives Will Arbitrate - Coats' Shares Lower.

A despatch from London says—It is expected that when the conference is held between the Employers' Federation and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers it will be found that the combatants are disposed to end the dispute. The terms under which the conference will be held amount to the defeat of the engineers. They are to withdraw their strike notice prior to the discussion, while the lockout notices given by the employers will not be withdrawn. It is probable that work will be resumed next week. The employers are expected to give their consent to a reduction of working hours if there is a corresponding reduction in wages. The union leaders may accept these conditions in order to be able to say that they secured something in return for the immense expenditure of funds by the Engineers' Society, but the rank and file will probably prefer to return to work on the old terms rather than to accept any reduction in pay. An indication of the weakness to which the Amalgamated Society has been reduced is that it has applied for admission into

THE FEDERATED TRADES.

Shares of the Coats, as the great thread monopoly company is known, dropped eleven points on Friday on the presentation of an unfavorable annual report, showing that the profits during the past year have fallen off \$500,000. On June 24, 1896, it was announced that J. & P. Coats, Clark & Company, Jonas Brooks & Bros. and James Chadwick & Bros., all big thread manufacturing concerns, had amalgamated under the name of the Coats, and it was added that the company would raise the total nominal capital from \$28,850,000 to \$36,500,000.

At the Westminster Police Court on Friday a woman who gave her name as Florence Stansfield and an address in the St. John's Wood district of London was arraigned on a charge of blackmailing Earl Carrington, Joint Hereditary Lord Great Chamberlain of England. She is a fine-looking woman of distinguished manners. The proceedings developed the fact that she had sent letters to Lord Carrington demanding money. But in court to-day her counsel apologized on her behalf to Lord Carrington, and explained that his client had written the letters under a mistake as to identity, as Lord Carrington was not the man who had represented himself to her as being that nobleman. Lord Carrington denied ever having seen her until to-day. The Scotland Yard officer who arrested her deposed that she told him she had known a man for many years who went under the name of Lloyd and whom she had all along believed was

EARL CARRINGTON.

The Magistrate declined to allow the case to be withdrawn, and committed the prisoner for trial at the Criminal Court, Old Bailey.

According to a despatch to The Daily Mail from Cairo, the advance of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition toward Omdurman on the Nile, opposite the site of Khartoum, where the Khalifa has concentrated his troops for a final stand will be resumed in January. The Egyptian troops will be used, as it is not practicable to spare the necessary British forces.

John Bagnold Burgess, member of the Royal Academy, and a distinguished painter, died on Friday in his 68th year. The late Mr. Burgess was born October 21, 1829, at Chelsea, and received his artistic education at the Royal Academy, of which he was elected an associate on June 18, 1877, and made R. Q. in 1889. Among his best known pictures are "Easter Life," "Brave Toro," "The Barber's Prodigy," "Licensing the Peccars of Spain," "The Letter Writer," "The Student in Disgrace," and "The Meal at the Fountain."

The cotton operatives have consented to submit the questions in dispute between themselves and the employers to arbitration.

ARBITRATION TREATY.

Arrival of Mr. Cremer in New York - His Monster Petition Signed by British Workmen.

A despatch from New York says—Mr. W. R. Cremer, the Englishman who has been agitating the subject of an arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the last ten years, arrived here on Saturday on the American liner St. Paul. He has come with a long petition signed by a great number of Englishmen, urging Congress to take some initiative step toward forwarding an international treaty. He says that if Congress would act the English House of Commons would follow its lead. He wishes Americans to understand that it is not the classes, but rather the masses, in England who desire the treaty, and he expects to be here through the coming session of Congress to agitate the subject. He visited this country ten years ago, and again two years ago, on the same mission.

Mr. Cremer was formerly the member of Parliament for the Haggerston division of London, and is first secretary of the International Workingmen's Association, and secretary of the International Arbitration League. He will present to every United States Senator an address, signed by seven thousand workmen, each of whom is an officer of a trades union, representing more than two and three-quarter millions of British workmen, in favour of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain.

SERIOUS REVERSE IN INDIA

GEN. WESTMACOTT'S COLUMN WAS UNDER FIRE.

Heavy British Losses - An Officer and Twelve Men Missing - Fifty Men Lost.

Official despatches received at Simla on Wednesday from the British camp in the Maidan valley tell of a reconnaissance in force by the British. The movement was commanded by Brigadier-General Westmacott, and the British force engaged consisted of the Dorsetshire regiment, the Northamptonshire regiment, a regiment of Sikhs, and two batteries of artillery. This column moved yesterday to Saran-Sar and reached the summit of the mountain with little resistance. There the troops found a hastily evacuated camp, and soon after retired upon the main body. This movement, however, was attended by serious losses to the British. The insurgent tribesmen followed after the column in strong force, swarming from behind the rocks, showing wonderful audacity and keeping up a heavy fire at short range upon the British troops. Only the admirable disposition made by General Westmacott of his troops saved the rear guard. The General personally held the men together and saw all the wounded taken away before he retired himself. On the way back to camp the transport of the wounded was greatly hampered by the fact that the troops had to retire over fearfully broken country, surrounded on all sides by swarms of the enemy's skirmishers. The route was intersected every hundred yards or so by deep ravines, and it was while the troops were engaged in passing through this ground that the tribesmen rushed upon the troops, fearlessly making their way up the ravines to close quarters. The Northamptonshire regiment suffered the most, their casualties being mainly incurred while saving their wounded. All the wounded reached camp at about dark, and it is still hoped that a missing officer and twelve men will reach camp safely. The loss of the British was about 50 men. Of this number the Northamptonshire regiment lost Lieutenant Waddell and four killed, and Lieutenant MacIntyre of this regiment and twelve men are missing. The Northamptonshire also had Lieutenant Trent and 39 men wounded. The Dorsetshire regiment had Lieutenant Ingram, Lieutenant Mercer and six men wounded. The Sikhs lost two men killed and had six men wounded.

LATER.

Simla, Nov. 11.—When the British reconnoitering force returned to the camp in the Maidan valley after a retreat from the summit of the Saran-Sar mountain, Lieut. MacIntyre and 12 men belonging to the Northamptonshire Regiment, which had suffered most severely while saving the wounded, were reported missing, but it was hoped they would succeed in reaching camp. A despatch from the Maidan valley, however, shows that the lieutenant and his companions have been killed. Their bodies have been found and it is said to be evident from the position in which the corpses rested that the little detachment fell gallantly fighting to the last. Every man of the party died from rifle bullet wounds.

A BREAD FAMINE.

Mr. Broomhall Says That the Wheat Crop is 25 Million Quarters Short of Requirements This Year.

According to Mr. Broomhall, the statistician of the English grain trade, Europe is in danger of a bread famine before the next wheat crop is available. His annual statement of the world's resources has just been issued. Mr. Broomhall says that the European crops amount to 140 million quarters compared with 185 million last year. The deficiency as compared with the so-called famine year in 1891 is 10,000,000 quarters. North and South America, he reckons, produced 93,000,000 quarters of which the United States raised 74,000,000 as compared with 59,000,000 last year. The production of the Americans in 1891 was 101,000,000. Asia, Africa and Australia are reckoned somewhat in excess of last year, but fully 11,000,000 less than in 1891. The world's production this year is 278,000,000 quarters, compared with 298,000,000 in 1896 and 308,000,000 in 1891. The reserve visible in Europe the United States and Canada amounts to 10,000,000 quarters, as compared with 15,000,000 in 1896. Thus the aggregate production and reserves fall 25,000,000 quarters short of the estimated requirements of the current season—316,000,000, or 28,000,000 in excess of the total production and reserves. The conclusion is that nothing but a plentiful yield in Argentina in the coming harvest can prevent an absolute dearth of breadstuffs in Europe.

A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

A Bridal Party of Thirty Crashed Into by a Train on the Level Crossing.

A despatch from St. Petersburg, says:—There was a terrible accident near Bielostock, Russian Poland, resulting in the death of 30 persons. A wedding party of that number was returning from the church to the home of the bride. All were in one waggon, a huge vehicle drawn by eight horses. The road along which they drove crosses the railway track on the level, and the driver, either through carelessness or ignorance of the train schedule, pushed his horses upon the crossing, just as the express was coming up. The locomotive struck the vehicle square, killing many members of the party outright, and mangled the others so that they soon expired in frightful agony. Not a member of the party escaped.

THIS WAS BRITISH PLUCK,

THE GALLANT CHARGE OF THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

Without Waverling They Rushed Into the Fire Zone at Dargai Ridge - Officers and Men Alike Displayed the Greatest Bravery - Precipitate Flight of the Tribesmen Before the Killed Regiment.

The newspapers of London, have just received graphic details by mail of the recapture of Dargai Ridge by the Gordon Highlanders on October 20, during which that regiment exhibited remarkable dash and courage.

After the fighting on Monday, October 18, between the column of British troops commanded by General Sir Yeatman-Biggs, and the tribesmen from Chagru, on the Samana Range, the British retired upon Shinware, and the enemy, greatly reinforced, recaptured Dargai Ridge. On Wednesday following General Biggs sent the second division to dislodge the tribesmen.

The position was a very strong one, the enemy occupying the summit of a precipitous hill. The top of this hill could be reached only by a single path, along which the attacking force, at first consisting of a Ghoorka regiment, the Derbyshire regiment and the Dorsetshire regiment, was obliged to climb in Indian file, while three batteries of artillery shelled the entrenchments of the hillmen.

Dargai Ridge, from the direction of the assault, presents a frontal of about a mile, the left end of which is rock for 200 yards. In spite of the difficulty of the ascent, the movements of the British troops were fairly well covered, except in the case of a dip, or small valley, 100 to 150 yards wide, about half way up the ridge and exposed to direct fire from the cliffs. When the Ghoorkas reached this fire zone, immediately, the top of the cliffs

BURST OUT INTO FLAME.

for a thousand tribesmen had reserved the fire of their rifles until that moment.

Though decimated, the little mountaineers struggled across the dip and reached the shelter of a few rocks. Then, led by their officers, they made a dash for the cover of the cliffside. But the others could not follow, and the enemy, with true military instinct, reserved their fire. Though the remainder of the Ghoorkas, the Derbyshires and the Dorsetshires appeared on the fringe of the dip, yet to step into the fire zone meant death. But the Dorsetshires again tried to advance to the support of the Ghoorkas.

Thirteen men struggled into the open space, only to drop before the other side could be reached. Already the little dip was strewn with corpses, and so bloodthirsty were the enemy that a wounded man had but to move a limb to become the target of a dozen marksmen.

Reluctantly the senior officer hallowed down to the main body of the British troops that the passage could not be made.

At this juncture General Kempster ordered the Gordon Highlanders to the front. It was then 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and over 100 men had already fallen. The enemy were shouting their defiance and waving their standards, confident of their position and certain of success.

But the Gordon Highlanders had yet to be reckoned with.

Rapidly forming his brave men, and after his now historic speech "Men of the Gordon Highlanders, our Generals says that position must be taken at all costs. The Gordon Highlanders will take it." Colonel Mathias, the commander, dashed out at the head of his regiment. In a moment they were across, carrying everyone with them in their onrush.

STORMING THE RIDGE

with a resolution that was resistless, and beating down all opposition.

When Colonel Mathias gave the order to advance the pipers of the Highlanders followed, striking up "Cock of the North" and, with a shout, the leading company of killed men was into the fire zone. A stream of lead swept over, through and past them, bullets churning up the dust, which half hid the rushing men.

Piper Findlater was among the first to show the way across the deadly strip of ground, and when, after traversing but a few yards, he was laid low by a shot through both legs, he managed to prop himself up against a boulder, and continued with unabated energy, the stirring music of his pipes. Men kept pouring into the passage, and the leader struggled across to the cover. Then there was a lull, and, as one paper remarks, "One had time to see how cruel had been the slaughter."

Then, with a second cheer, the mixed troops streamed across, and the enemy, seeing the barrier swept away, left their loopholes and rock barricades and fled precipitately down the reverse slope, without waiting for the line of cold steel which was then nearly on the crest of the bridge.

Piper Findlater has been recommended for the Victoria Cross. Captain Robinson, of the Ghoorkas, acted with the greatest gallantry. After leading his men across the fire zone to the cover and finding the force there insufficient he returned over the death trap alone, and was mortally wounded while leading the second rush of Ghoorkas to support the first body of that regiment.

CONSTITUTIONALLY DOUBTFUL.

Browne—We are a cynical lot.

Towne—Why do you say that?

Browne—When a Klondiker says it is folly to attempt to get out there we think he wants it all to himself, and when another tells how rich the funds are we think he wants to sell a claim.