

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

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.

The Manitoba Legislature has promulgated.

Galt contemplates purchasing its waterworks plant.

Montreal has reduced the tax on bicycles from \$2 to \$1.

French-Canadians in Massachusetts are returning to Quebec.

A rich gold find is reported from the vicinity of Rat Portage.

Montreal refineries advanced the price of sugar by one-sixteenth cent per pound.

Montreal contemplates purchasing a farm near the city as a home for paupers and beggars.

The Railway Committee gave assent to the bill chartering the Toronto & Hudson Bay Railway.

The H. G. & B. Railway shareholders at Hamilton have decided to issue debentures for \$20,000.

The Dominion line steamship Scotsman is the first ocean vessel to reach Montreal this season.

The falling off of the Klondike rush has caused a material reduction in the cost of packing over the passes.

Galt councillors have asked the Government to investigate the manner in which licenses are issued there.

Several London young ladies were badly injured in a runaway, the bus in which they were riding colliding with a pole.

The Council of the Toronto Board of Trade has passed a resolution favoring an export duty on nickel-copper ores and matte.

James Lawson, collector of customs at Fort Erie, has been appointed special officer to enforce the alien labour law there.

Gunners Boucher and Paget deserted from "A" Battery, Kingston, and went to the States to take service in the American army.

The report that Mr. Harris, general traffic manager of the Government system of railways, has resigned, is denied at Ottawa.

It is reported at Montreal that the G. T. R. has commenced the construction at their Point St. Charles works of 25 new locomotives.

A number of Italians in Toronto have appealed to the Italian Consul for information as to what route they should take in order to join the Spanish Army.

Councillor Martin, of Woodstock, claims to have been bribed for his vote in the purchase of a steam roller. He has given the money to the Mayor.

Mr. Bicknell, a Napanee cattle buyer, injured at the Lansdowne wreck on the G. T. R., has recovered a judgment for \$5,000 damages against the company.

The steamship Andrew Carnegie, Chicago, brought 230,000 bushels of corn to Owen Sound. This is said to be the largest cargo of corn ever floated on fresh water.

The Kingston City Council has declined to consider the request of the Dominion Cotton Mills Co. asking for a bonus of \$50,000. The amount was considered too large.

Charles N. Daly, United States Consul at Guelph, has served the Guelph Herald with notice of a libel action. The alleged libel was contained in a dramatic criticism.

The Fire Underwriters' Association have presented Hamilton with an ultimatum calling on the city to improve the water service or pay increased insurance rates after June 1.

The MacLeod Gazette says: An Indian named Carrier died suddenly at the Bullhead of heart disease this week. Some \$20,000 in bonds and mortgages are reported to have been found on his person.

While the members of the Stratford Congregational Church were passing a sympathetic war resolution the pastor of Knox Church in the same city was denouncing such acts as being contrary to the neutrality laws.

The St. John N. B. City Council has granted the Canadian Pacific railway all the land required for the enlargement of the grain elevator to one million bushels capacity, with conveyors to five steamship berths.

The Manitoba & North-western Railway Company are seeking to be relieved of their liability to the Manitoba Government, and propose to hand over sufficient of their land grant to cover the amount due the province.

Hamilton has purchased a Pitts roller for \$3,300, said to be no better than one sold to Galt for \$2,700. The transaction threatens to prevent the passing of the permanent roadways-by-law for the expenditure of \$150,000.

The Grand Trunk authorities have decided that all advertisements of patent medicines and other notices must be cleared out of the railway stations and only railway announcements and time tables must adorn the walls.

In view of the war between Spain and the United States, and the possibility of interruption to shipping at United States ports, the Quebec Board of Trade has issued a circular to the shipping world explaining the advantages of Quebec harbor.

About forty United States families have arrived in Toronto during the last few days in consequence of the outbreak of war. Most of them are from the Eastern States, and several are from Boston. They expect to

reside in Toronto or other parts of Ontario during the war.

C. W. Graves, Canadian agent of the Wis. Central Railway, has been appointed traveling freight and passenger agent of the Great Northern Railway, with headquarters at Toronto, a position formerly held by H. McMicken, now of the London, England, office of the Great Northern.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The mail steamer Ireland, said to have been purchased by the United States, has been forbidden to sail from Kingstown, Ireland.

Germany threatens to retaliate because of Great Britain's denouncement, at Canada's request, of the Anglo-German treaty.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain announced that the Alaskan boundary dispute would be referred to arbitration. He added that in the meantime a modus vivendi may be agreed upon.

The London Times says:—"Our sympathies, on the main question, are with the United States, as they are held to be in the right. But, on the matter of form, we are not so clear or unanimous."

The suspension of the firm of Sherwood, Thompson & Company, cotton brokers, of Liverpool, is announced. This firm operated throughout the Southern States under the firm name of John Sherwood & Company.

UNITED STATES.

Fifty thousand Californians have already volunteered for service.

Forty thousand men have already volunteered in Massachusetts.

The Standard National Bank at 23rd and Madison avenue, New York, has closed its doors.

Two murderers, Fred Rockwell and Patrick Banya, were hanged at Ridgeway, Pa., on Tuesday.

Moslem Temple, Mystic Shrine, of Detroit has abandoned its proposed visit to Ramesses Temple of Toronto, owing to the war.

A United States Government official has made arrangements to purchase 5,000 horses in Canada for war purposes if needed.

Chicago Knights of Pythias have organized one thousand strong to go to the front. Sixteen hundred policemen also volunteered in that city.

The House of Representatives has proposed a bill permitting the purchase of supplies for the army in the open market instead of by contract.

Governor Hastings, of Pennsylvania, will issue a Colonel's commission to John Wanamaker, who has offered to equip a regiment at his own expense.

The application of Rev. Morgan Wood of Toronto, formerly of Detroit, for chaplaincy in the State troops, is on file with Adjutant-General Irsa, of Michigan.

Orders have been issued closing Portland harbor from 8 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrol boats will also be on duty outside during the day to guide vessels safely into the harbor.

The vessels St. Louis and St. Paul and Harvard, lately New York, have been fitted with armour protection over all their exposed machinery, and have already received good batteries.

Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn, of United States War Department, has issued a statement that only a limited number of newspaper representatives will be allowed to accompany the army.

Philadelphia was gayly decorated with flags on Saturday, and it was noticeable that in a number of instances the British flag found a place in the display while here and there was the flag of Cuba.

The city almshouse, located three miles west of Oswego, N.Y., and containing 33 male and 19 female inmates, was gutted by fire on Tuesday. The loss is estimated at \$25,000; insured for one half. No one was injured.

The cruiser Charlestown is in bad shape at San Francisco. Her condensing tubes were injured by the recent earthquake, and it will be necessary to secure new ones from the east before she will be ready for service.

The American line steamer New York, which has been chartered by the United States Government, arrived at New York Sunday morning. As soon as she was moored all hands were paid off. The crew immediately resigned for a period of twelve months at the current mercantile marine rates of wages. Out of the crew of 420 on the St. Louis only seven refused to sign.

All the Bessemer pig iron producers of the Central West have agreed to bank their furnaces for thirty days out of the three months of May, June, and July. A \$25,000 assurance has been given by every interest, about 18 in all.

GENERAL.

Ecuador is raising a fund to aid Spain in the present war.

Out of 34 storms which reached the French shores in 1896, all but 3 were foretold by the central meteorological office.

Many Greeks are presenting themselves at the United States Consulate at Athens, seeking enlistment in the United States forces.

Baron Ito, the Japanese Minister of Commerce, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted. Count Kaneko will succeed him.

The Vienna Fremdenblatt says the torpedo manufactory at Fiume declined to supply Spain because it had a pressing order from Japan.

A Hong Kong cable says the steamer Esmeralda, chartered by the banking companies, has gone to Manila to bring away the specie there, as trouble is apprehended.

The French society for the assistance of wounded soldiers has donated \$10,000 and has opened a subscription for the purpose of aiding the American and Spanish Red Cross Societies.

Spain according to a despatch from Rome to a London news agency, has bought the Italian Navigation Company's steamers, Sirio, Orione, and Regina Margherita, for conversion into auxiliary cruisers.

The latest advices from Porto Rico are that the excitement there is increasing, and the prices of food are advancing. Steps are being taken to prevent the flight of refugees. There is talk of a revolution at Mayaguez.

The Persian Consul-General at Antwerp, a big diamond merchant, states that the business in his line, with the United States has been entirely suspended. A great number of cutters have thus been thrown out of work.

The sealing steamer Ranger arrived on Wednesday, at St. John's, Nfld., with 6,000 seals. Her crew had to be kept at the pumps for three days to keep the ship afloat in the storm. The season's total catch will be about 300,000 seals.

It is announced that the Argentine Republic will publish a decree of neutrality during the war between Spain and the United States, but it appears certain that the Government will reserve absolute liberty of action in regard to coal.

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