

## THE NEWS IN A 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.

During the past year Brantford's total loss by fire was only \$3,438. The Board of Directors of Glimsby Park have decided to keep the park open on Sundays.

William Adair of Strathroy has been sentenced to three years in penitentiary for assaulting Mrs. Baker.

The iron run at the Hamilton smelting works has been tested and found to be perfectly satisfactory.

Miss Lottie McClung, in the employ of Mr. J. Moodie, Hamilton, suddenly expired while preparing dinner.

Messrs. T. S. Vipond & Co., fruit merchants Montreal, have assigned with liabilities of about \$250,000.

Mr. John W. Loud, of Detroit, has been named for the position of General Freight Agent of the G. T. R.

Mr. Arthur Piers, of Montreal, has been appointed Superintendent of the Canadian Pacific lines of steamship.

Ice in the Niagara River has so blocked the flow of water that people can almost walk from the American side to Goat Island dryshod.

The licenses to be issued this year to fishing vessels of the United States will contain a new clause, so as to prevent a repetition of fraud in securing bait and supplies.

There is considerable feeling in Montreal over the action of the French-speaking members of the council in dominating all the important committees.

The cure of Notre Dame de Granby, Quebec, has been committed to prison by a Magistrate for contempt of court in refusing to disclose secrets heard in the confessional.

Mr. F. N. McGuigan, formerly of the Wabash Railway, has been appointed General Superintendent of the Grand Trunk Railway in succession to Mr. James Stephenson.

Mr. Wainwright, Assistant General Manager of the Grand Trunk, announces that his office is to be abolished shortly, but he expects to remain with the road in some other capacity.

Etienne Chataigne died near Curran at the age of 102 years. He leaves a widow over 90 years old. They had been married over 70 years, and there are 275 descendants of the marriage.

A deputation from the Provincial Land Surveyors waited upon the Commissioner of Crown Lands the other day and pointed out the necessity of an ordinance survey of the province.

A French-Canadian named Auriele Gagnon, who was returning from the lumber camps, committed suicide on Saturday in a hotel in Orillia, by shooting himself through the head with a revolver.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has appealed to the Minister of Justice to remit the \$20 fine imposed upon its officers by Police Magistrate Jelfs at Hamilton for a violation of the insurance act.

During January the deposits in the Dominion Government Savings Banks aggregated \$230,254, and the withdrawals \$218,354. The balance at the end of the month to the credit of the depositors was \$17,203,835.

If the Prince of Wales cannot preside at the meeting of the British Association in Canada next year, the presidency will be offered to the Duke of York, and, failing him, to either Mr. Balfour or Mr. Chamberlain.

Mr. Montague who has been to New York to consult a specialist has returned to Ottawa. It is absolutely imperative to regain his health that he should take an absolute rest from the duties of his office.

A colored convict from Woodstock attacked Guard Kerrigan at the Kingston Penitentiary and a general revolt was feared. Twenty-five convicts are undergoing punishment for taking part in the disturbance.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has nearly completed arrangements with the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo railway, the Canada Southern, the Michigan Central, and the New York Central for an interchange of traffic.

A deputation of Menopites from Emerson applied to the Manitoba Government for relief from taxation for Public Schools, as they had a school of their own. The Government replied that the Manitoba school act made such a concession impossible.

Premier Greenway, of Manitoba, will shortly make a formal demand upon the Dominion Government for the \$253,000 which the Manitoba Government claims is due to the province, and which amount has been held back for years as a subject of dispute between the Dominion and the province.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Rosebery is said to be one of the most contented men in England.

A lodging house in Soho, London, was destroyed by fire and eight persons were killed.

Mr. Herbert Spencer will issue the third and concluding volume of his work on Sociology in May.

The London Standard announces that Sir John Millais will succeed the late Lord Leighton as president of the Royal Academy.

The Queen has issued a message thanking the nation for its expression of sympathy at the time of Prince Henry's death.

Natural ice rinks have become quite the fashion in London, and there are daily gatherings of the smart set at these popular resorts.

The British blue book just published shows that Russia has throughout been steadily opposed to coercive measures on behalf of Armenia.

As an instance of the anti-German sentiment in England it is stated that the orders for German lager beer have fallen off seventy-five per cent.

A cable from London says that the Grand Trunk traffic statement shows a debit balance on the whole system for the half year of £29,100.

Government publications containing the official correspondence in the Transvaal disturbance have been issued in London and Berlin.

The Ottawa Trades and Labour Council has decided to send a deputation to the Dominion Government to ask that eight hours be a day's work on all Government works.

The Glasgow Herald learns that Mr. Gladstone is greatly inclined to stand again for Parliament at the first available opportunity in order to support the Armenian cause.

The house in London which John Dickens, the father of the novelist, rented in order that his wife might start a young ladies' school has been pulled down.

Princess Beatrice and her children arrived at Nice on Friday. She will visit the ex-empress Eugenie at Cape Martin and will take a short cruise on the Mediterranean.

Sir William Harcourt stated in the British Commons that nothing had occurred to alter the home rule policy of the Opposition, and they continued to adhere thereto as they had recently.

The christening of the second son of the Duke of York was celebrated on Monday at Sandringham. The font was surrounded with white heather for good luck, and the infant was sprinkled with water from the River Jordan.

The British and Foreign Arbitration Association has delegated one of its vice-presidents to visit the United States in order to obtain matter for a report to the association upon the Venezuela boundary dispute and its outcome.

Mr. Michael Davitt is freely mentioned as a compromise for the nomination to succeed Mr. Justin McCarthy as chairman of the Irish National League, but it is thought that another trial of strength will take place between the Dillonites and the Healyites.

The Transvaal question is again assuming an ugly aspect, and it is learned from an official source that the British War Office, acting under orders from the Government, has made every preparation to send an army corps of twenty thousand men to South Africa.

Mr. Hanbury, the Financial Secretary of the Treasury, stated on Thursday in the British House of Commons, in reply to Mr. J. Henniker-Heaton, that the Government was considering the question of establishing a parcel post between Great Britain and the United States.

In the Imperial House of Commons on Thursday, Mr. Dillon's amendment to the reply to the speech from the throne censuring the Government for not proposing self-government for Ireland was rejected by a vote of two hundred and seventy-six to one hundred and sixty.

A British blue book on Armenia shows that Russia from the very first refused to co-operate with the powers in behalf of the Armenians, fearing that thereby she would assist in the establishment of an independent Armenia, which she would never tolerate.

## UNITED STATES.

It is expected that the Chicago Fair medals will be all distributed in less than a month.

Miss Kate Walsh of Cape Vincent has received through the death of a relative at Washington a legacy of \$16,000.

Senator Quay, Pennsylvania, will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for President of the United States.

The United States Senate has confirmed the nomination of Edwin F. Uhl of Michigan to be Ambassador to Germany.

The United States Senate free coinage substitute for the bond bill was overwhelmingly defeated in the House yesterday by a vote of two hundred and fifteen to ninety.

The new non-sectarian Bible prepared by a Chicago committee for the use of Public Schools has been completed, and will be submitted to the Board of Education to pass judgment upon it.

The Victoria Club, of Chicago, has appointed a committee to support a movement looking to the holding of a Chicago day at the Montreal Exposition, which will be opened next May.

The Rev. J. H. Hunicutt, a Baptist minister of Mooreilton, Ark., was so much annoyed by the crying of his housekeeper's year old baby while he was preparing a sermon, that he choked it to death.

"Biddy" Carroll, a demented hunchback, died in the Oakland, Mich., County poorhouse last week at the apparently authenticated age of 110 years. She was long believed to be the oldest person in the State.

The Government of Venezuela has notified United States Secretary Olney that it will at an early date furnish the Venezuelan Commission with all the information in its possession touching the location of the boundary line.

The Mikado of Japan has sent very valuable presents to Mrs. Gresham, widow of the late United States Secretary of State, in recognition of Mr. Gresham's courtesy and impartiality during the war between China and Japan.

Ambassador Eustis has been instructed by the United States Government to accept the offer of the French Government to release ex-United States Consul Waller on condition that the affair be thereby terminated, and that no claims be made on behalf of the prisoner.

Mr. Smith, in the United States Senate the other day, said that he was opposed to any further action at present in connection with Venezuela. The Monroe doctrine had been proclaimed with no uncertain sound, a commission had been appointed, and that, he thought, was as far as Congress should go at present.

New York District Attorney Fellows on Monday, endorsed the papers which, when signed by Justice Smyth, of the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court, will dismiss the indictment upon which Erastus Wiman was held and convicted of having forged the signature of E. W. Bullinger to a cheque for five thousand dollars.

Lincoln's birthday was celebrated throughout the United States for the first time as a legal holiday. In many cities banquets were held, notably in New York, where Mr. Chauncey M. Depew delivered the principal address, and in Chicago, where Major McKinley at the dinner of the Marquette Club spoke on Lincoln.

United States Senator Pettigrew has prepared a bill authorizing President Cleveland to have all the seals on the

Pribiloff islands killed unless the European Governments agree to the terms of the United States for the preservation of seals. If the United States cannot have all the golden eggs for herself, she is determined to kill the goose that lays them.

There is no change of a satisfactory nature to report in the business situation throughout the United States, as presented in the reports from the two principal mercantile agencies of New York. Trade is reported as "not up to anticipations," and as a rule anticipations were not large. In a few cities East and West there is a slight improvement, but this is more than offset by the same tale of dullness told of other districts. Only in a few minor staples are prices quotably higher. Bad weather and bad roads are held accountable for much of the prevalent depression. The total bank clearings are smaller, and rates for money continue high. Lower prices are recorded for articles of general consumption, such as corn, wheat, and live stock generally; cotton, steel, and iron are also weaker.

## GENERAL.

The Sultan has invited the powers to recognize Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

There is a clothing strike in Germany, which has thrown fifty thousand men out of employment.

Miss Clara Barton and her colleagues of the American Red Cross Society have arrived at Constantinople.

President Faure, of France, has given permission to the citizens of a town in the New Hebrides to call the place by his name.

The insurrection against Japanese rule in the Island of Formosa is spreading. Ten thousand rebels are reported to be in the field.

Considerable comment has been caused by the appointment of Li-Hung-Chang to represent China at the coronation of the Czar.

The British Consul at Archangel telegraphs confirming the report that Dr. Nansen is safe, and returning from the North Pole.

General Weyer has revoked the order allowing correspondents of Havana newspapers to accompany the columns of troops while in the field.

A report comes from the Society Islands by way of San Francisco that a French ironclad in endeavoring to check a native uprising fired on the British flag.

The young King of Spain is said to have grown hysterical over the Cuban situation, and weeps and wails over the prospect that he will become the Spanish George III.

Prince Boris, the eldest son of Prince Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, was baptised in Sofia yesterday morning with great ceremony, according to the rites of the Orthodox Russian Church.

A despatch from Antananarivo, Madagascar, says that a great conspiracy was discovered there. Four thousand Howas attacked the French, but were repulsed with the loss of three thousand killed.

The rebels in Corea have killed a small party of Japanese who were engaged in protecting the telegraph. The Russians have landed one hundred men and a gun at Chemulpo, and trouble is imminent.

Despatches from Seoul, Corea, say a revolt took place there during which the Prime Minister and seven other officials were murdered. The King and the Crown Prince were compelled to take refuge in the Russian Legation.

The French Chamber of Deputies on Wednesday by a vote of three hundred and twenty-six to forty-three, adopted a vote of confidence in the Government. This averts the crisis which was threatened by the adverse vote in the Senate on Tuesday.

In the German Reichstag Herr Bebel, Socialist, condemning the congratulatory telegram sent by the Emperor to President Kruger of the South African Republic, which, he said, had justly aroused the indignation of England.

A rumour that the British troops would evacuate Egypt gave rise to disquietude amounting almost to a panic in Cairo on Wednesday, until Lord Cromer, the British Minister, gave positive assurance that there was no such intention on the part of the Government.

Renewed activity has been noticed among the Young Turk party, and the Constantinople police are taking stringent measures to prevent disorder. Many of the Young Turks are dissatisfied with the rapprochement recently arrived at between Turkey and Russia.

It is announced from a good source that, following the advice of the United States, Venezuela has practically decided to send a representative to London with power to open direct negotiations with the Government of Great Britain for a settlement of the boundary dispute.

## The Selection of Canned Goods.

In buying tin canned vegetables or fruits those only should be selected that have a slight depression in the end of the can. This by experts is accepted as proof that the contents of the can are in a proper condition. If the end of the can is raised or bulged, reject it, as that is a proof that the contents of the can were not heated sufficiently at the time of sealing, or that in the past or present they have fermented. If cans are ordered by the dozen, the member of the household who inspects the supplies should return all cans having such an appearance. Lead-poisoning is not to be feared from good brands of tinned goods if the contents of the cans are emptied as soon as opened into earthenware or glass. When glass jars are used, keep the fruit or vegetables in them from contact with the rubber band. Though there is little danger from their contact, there have, it is said, been a few cases in which poisoning is thought to have been caused by chemical changes in the rubber when in touch with acid.

## It Altered the Case.

In an Edinburgh school the other day an inspector, wishing to test the knowledge of a class in fractions, asked one boy whether he would rather take a sixth than a seventh part of an orange if he got his choice. The boy promptly replied that he would take the seventh. At this the inspector explained at length to the class that the boy who would choose the smaller part as this boy had done because it looked the larger fraction was very foolish; but the laugh was on the other side when the chirping voice of another urchin broke in in remonstrance, "Please, sir, but that boy disna like oranges!"

## ABOUT THE HOUSE.

## How to Make Soap.

Instead of the old-time barrel with holes bored in and near the bottom, a more expeditious way is to build a trough-like leach out of matted fencing long enough and high enough to hold all the ashes that have been accumulated. It saves the trouble of refilling the leach twice or three times. In the bottom of this leach put a layer of straw and a peck or so of good lime; on top of this put the ashes, pounding them down as added, leaving a depression in the middle to hold the water better. Then if there are men or boys whose services are to be had, have them fill a couple of barrels of water for your convenience. Soft water is best if it can be spared. Pour the water on gradually, so that it will take the strength of the ashes and make good lye. Usually the first that runs off is very strong, and it gradually becomes weaker and weaker the longer it runs. As it collects fill the big kettle and when nearly full put a fire under it. If clear grease is used it is well to wait until the lye is hot before putting it in. Six quarts of clear grease will make a barrel of soap—so say experienced makers of soft soap.

On a farm, with ordinary care, there will always be sufficient grease to make all the soap needed for a large family. If the ashes are good and everything else has been well done, once boiling up will make the soap. It should, however, be kept hot all day, to prevent separation. In the morning it will be cool enough to be dipped out and put in a barrel. A pound of pulverized borax stirred well through a barrel of soap will be found a great improvement, making the clothes wash easier, and they will be whiter with less labor. If more than one kettle of soap is to be made, and there are rough grease scraps and such things to be used, they should be put in the kettle at first, that the lye as gathered may begin to take effect on them. When the lye is very strong often the first kettleful will refuse to "come," as the saying goes. Take a little out of the kettle and add slowly some cold water and it will usually become soap immediately. Sometimes the amount in the kettle (a caldron) will bear three or four pailful of water and then be excellent soap. Usually the last kettle of lye will require boiling longer than the first on account of the lye becoming weaker.

It is profitable as well as convenient to use up the refuse grease which accumulates, and it gives a feeling of enjoyment to put everything in good shape. If the house-keeper makes the soap herself she knows what it is made of, which is not always the case with the more expensive hard soap that is purchased. A careful person will always cover the kettle of soap when it is left to cool over night so that no stray animal may blunder into it; and the fire need attention, so that no damage may come from them. Soft soap making is not commonly practiced by housewives of to-day as it was in the days of our grandmothers, or of our mothers even; yet much material is saved by making it that might otherwise go to waste. Some, however, prefer to keep their waste grease and scraps for their fowls, and buy hard soap. But for house cleaning, scrubbing of fruit trees, etc., soft soap has the preference, though hard soap may be more desirable for the weekly laundry work or the toilet.

## Some Good Recipes.

Dressing for Fish Salad.—One cup of vinegar, one tablespoon of butter, one-half teaspoon of salt, one-half teaspoon of pepper, and of mustard, yolks of three raw eggs. Put the mixture well-beaten together in a dish set in a pan of boiling water over the fire, and stir it constantly until it thickens.

For Cabbage Salad.—One-half cup of vinegar, yolks of two eggs, two tablespoons of salad oil, one-half teaspoon of pepper and mustard, one teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of sugar. Add the oil to the yolks of the eggs gradually and beat until it is thick and smooth. Add the seasoning and the vinegar, beating until all are thoroughly mixed.

Fine Beef Jelly.—An excellent food for invalids and convalescents.—Put a pound of lean beef, cut fine, into a porcelain-lined stew-pan, with a pint of cold water. Let it stand half an hour and then put it on the stove, where it will heat gradually. While boiling hot skim carefully, and put it where it will simmer gently for half an hour. When this is cooking, put a third of a box of gelatine in two tablespoonfuls of cold water. Salt the broth to taste and strain, boiling hot, over the gelatine. Stir till dissolved. Strain into cups or molds. Set away to cool.

Scrappe is a Quaker dish, and is a most appetizing hot supper viand. Stew 2 lbs fresh pork until thoroughly done, using enough water so there will be at least a quart of liquor when the meat is taken up. Remove the bones and chop the meat, then put it back in the kettle. Season, adding sage, summer savory, and onion if desired. Then sift in corn meal, boiling slowly and stirring as if for mush. Make it thick enough to slice, when cold. Turn into a dish, and when wanted for the table slice and fry in drippings. The quantity may be increased, as it will keep a long time in winter.

Braised Fowls.—A couple of last year's fowls will do for braising. Pluck, singe and truss as for boiling, put them into a stew-pan with two ounces of sliced fat bacon, a sliced onion and carrot; cover closely, and put them on a warm part of the stove until they are slightly browned, then mix in two tablespoonfuls of flour and a quart of stock; stir the fowl carefully round until the liquor boils. Add six pepper-corns, a blade of mace, and a small bouquet of herbs; cover with the lid, and put the stew-pan in the oven to simmer for two hours, then remove the fowls on to a dish, and brush them over with warm glaze. Strain the sauce, skim off every particle of fat, season to taste, and pour round the fowls. Serve boiled rice in a separate dish.

The expense, delay, and vexation attendant upon proceedings in the English courts of law have long been the theme of poets, satirists, and novel writers. Of late years the evil has become so intolerable that Englishmen, having rights to assert or wrongs to redress, usually avoid the tribunals and seek justice in arbitration or compromise. The English lawyers, finding their business falling off in consequence, are casting about them for a remedy. One of them, writing upon the subject in the Fortnightly Review, asserts that it can be found only in appointing more competent judges than those who now occupy the bench.

This writer instances a case where some bankers were sued by a customer for money which they alleged they had paid upon one of his checks. He claimed that the check had been "raised," and that they denied it. On the trial, the judge himself, having examined the check with a magnifying glass, became satisfied that it had been altered, as the plaintiff contended. In spite of the protests of the counsel for the defendant he handed both check and magnifying glass to the jury, and they promptly found for the plaintiff. The defendants appealed, and the verdict was set aside, with the result that on a second and properly conducted trial one was found for the defendants, who, nevertheless, had to bear the great additional expense and trouble of the appeal, as well as the delay it occasioned.

In another case, the writer says, a Master of the Queen's Bench Division insisted on granting a commission to take testimony abroad, which would have been both expensive and tedious, and his order was reversed only after a troublesome appeal to the Court of Appeal, which decided that the order ought never to have been made.

Again, the judges of the Law Courts, in 1892, closed their sittings for three days, in order to frame a new set of rules. When their work was completed it was received with such a storm of adverse criticism that it was silently buried, and new rules were made. So bunglingly, too, has the making of rules been conducted, that every year a volume of over 1,400 pages has to be printed, containing amendments and explanations of them.

The trouble, according to this same writer, lies in the fact that judicial appointments in England are made too frequently as a reward for political services, and without regard to the fitness of the appointees for judicial work. He also recommends that, as the judges have previously been only barristers, who merely try cases which have been prepared in their earlier stages by attorneys and solicitors, the rules of practice should not be made by them, but by the body of practising lawyers known as the Incorporated Law Society.

What will people in a more civilized era of the world's history, say fifty years from now, think when they read the records of 1895 and 1896, and learn that in those years the Turk was allowed to kill and plunder his Armenian neighbors, to put men to the sword by the ten thousand, and to consign women to a fate worse than death, while all Europe and America looked on without one effective protest? What will these successors of ours think when they learn that whole cities were destroyed, villages actually wiped off the face of the earth, and myriads of people left to die of exposure and hunger, while the tyrannical ruler on the Bosphorus interposed petty objections to the distribution of relief that kind-hearted individuals had provided, lest more of the unutterable atrocities that have taken place should be revealed? How much greater will be the wonder of our grandchildren when they learn that at the same time Europe and America, knowing all this, sent no determined warship to bring the tyrant to his senses! How they will marvel that political expediency could so usurp the place of humanity in the world!

Sir Arthur Colton has been writing hopefully regarding agricultural prospects in England, some farmers having already proved by indisputable facts that the capacity of the soil is far above all that has been hitherto imagined. Sir Arthur records his satisfaction at having grown from English seed a plant of Indian corn nine feet high, with a cob containing six hundred seeds of well ripened corn. Commenting on these facts, the London Christian remarks: "In view of the serious problem which our city populations force upon us—their poverty, their degradation, their separation from uplifting influences—one hail with relief any suggestion from a practical and competent man which promises a change for the better. . . . We have never believed that the world was populated beyond the capacity of the land to support every one. Human ignorance and sin are the enemies to be combated, and the adversity we are passing through is a wonderful school for making ignorance learn."