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.

Seeding operations have been started in Manitoba, but they are not general.

The steamer Lake Superior brought 140 English farmers bound for Manitoba.

Lizzie Greifenhahn, a ten-year-old girl, was killed at Guelph by a falling wall.

Two Ottawa tobacconists were fined on Monday for selling cigarettes to minors.

Engineer Kemp of the Winnipeg waterworks was killed by falling into the big flywheel.

Two men were arrested at Hamilton in the act of robbing Mr. James Beatty of that city.

A Point St. Charles woman made several attempts to drown her two-year-old baby girl, but was frustrated each time.

Debentures for new Western Fair buildings, amounting to $25,000, have been authorized by the City Council of London.

Thomas Taylor, one of the household of the Governor-General at Ottawa, was accidentally shot on Saturday, and died in a short time.

Col. Lake, of Ottawa, will visit England in May to supervise the supplies of arms and batteries recently voted by the Dominion Government.

On Saturday Mr. Justice Robertson sentenced Mrs. Bell at Ottawa to life imprisonment for murderous cruelty to her two grandchildren.

The St. George's Society of Hamilton has accepted the propositon of Col. Davidson of the 48th Highlanders to visit that city on May 24th.

Grand President O. K. Fraser of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association has issued a circular asking the members to exclude politics from the organization.

A convention of the Board of Trade of Quebec, meeting in Montreal, passed resolutions favoring preferential duties throughout the empire, but opposing Imperial federation.

Mr. E. H. King, formerly general manager for some years president of the Bank of Montreal, died at Monte Carlo on Tuesday night, where he had gone in search of health.

A large deputation of Montrealers interviewed the Government at Ottawa on Saturday, and asked for a grant of $500,000 to assist in holding a great international exhibition in that city.

News comes from Winnipeg of the killing by Indians near Trout Lake of one of their number, who was sick and acted strangely under the belief that he was a "wehtigo," or man-eater.

The Mayor of Vancouver has received a letter from Toronto proposing to open a home at Vancouver to which a portion of the surplus female population of Ontario may be sent for distribution in the districts of the North-West, where there is a demand for wives.

General Superintendent Whyte, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, left Winnipeg for Fort William on Wednesday, to superintend final arrangements now being made for the opening of navigation previous to the shipment of about four million bushels of grain by the lake route east.

The new loan of the city of Montreal, bought by the Bank of Montreal, is in forty-year four per cent. stock, and the purchase price is one hundred and five pounds one shilling sterling for every hundred pounds of stock, the most satisfactory terms ever obtained by any Canadian city.

It is proposed in London to erect a monument to the memory of G.A. Sala, and to make a pecuniary provision for his widow.

Israel Gollancz, a learned young Jew, has been appointed to the new lectureship of English literature in Cambridge University.

The burial of Lady Mountstephen took place in Lemsford Churchyard, adjoining Brocket Hall, Lord Mountstephen's Herfordshire seat.

GREAT BRITAIN.

It is expected that Sir Redvers Buller will be sent to Egypt in June.

It is reported that ten thousand British troops will be sent to the Soudan in the autumn.

Mr. James Payn, the novelist, has retired from the editorship of the famous Cornhill Magazine.

Lord Dufferin, the British Ambassador to Paris, will retire from diplomatic life about the middle of July.

Major-General Sir Frederick Carrington has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Matabele campaign.

It is not expected that the bill prohibiting the importation of live cattle into Britain will be passed this year.

There have been 201 fresh cases of smallpox at Gloucester, England, making a total of 6,302 since the epidemic broke out.

The ten thousand British troops that will be sent to the Soudan in the autumn will include three battalions of the Household troops.

Out of respect for the memory of Lord Leighton, the council of the Royal Academy has decided not to hold a banquet this year.

It is rumoured in Aldershot camp that the Ninth Lancers have been ordered to get ready to start for Egypt to take part in the Soudan campaign.

Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, president of the Grand Trunk railway, will sail for America on the 25th inst. He will make a tour of inspection over the road.

A beautiful window will shortly be dedicated in St. George's cathedral, Southwark, to the memory of Mr. Oxenford, the London Times' dramatic critic of many years ago.

The remarkable expansion of the Anglo-Canadian trade is shown by the imports from Canada into Great Britain, which increased by seventy-one per cent. during March, and by ninety per cent. during the first quarter of the year. The exports to Canada increased seven per cent. during March, and twelve per cent. for the three months.

UNITED STATES.

President Cleveland has offered his services as mediator between Spain and Cuba.

The Lexow Greater New York bill has passed the New York State Senate by 34 to 14.

Karl Mathias, of Toledo, Ohio, claims to have discovered the Egyptian process of mummification.

The United States Senate in Executive session on Thursday ratified the Behring Sea arbitration treaty.

Four life-saving stations, on Lake Ontario, situated at Fort Niagara, Charlotte, Big Sands, and Oswego, were opened Thursday.

The electro-therapeutist and the bacteriologist of Bennett Medical College, Chicago, claim that by the application of the Rontgen rays epidemics of all kinds will be impossible in the future.

Inspector Fitzpatrick of the Chicago police, does not believe Holmes committed twenty-seven murders. Some of those whom he said he killed are alive. He probably murdered ten persons.

George G. Jacoby and Moritz Nichoals, wholesale liquor dealers, of Minneapolis, Minn., have been arrested, charged with counterfeiting the labels of Hiram Walker's Club whiskey.

The old Pennsylvania Railway depot in Philadelphia was burned, with the car-sheds and a number of passenger coaches. Two firemen were killed by falling walls and a number of men injured.

The United States Senate has at last ratified the treaty with Great Britain providing for the appointment of a commission to assess damages for the seizures of Canadian sealers in Bering Sea.

GENERAL.

Spaniards and Cubans have begun killing their prisoners of war

Egyptian troops and friendly Arabs have defeated the forces of Osman Digna.

An official denial has been published in St. Petersburg of the alleged Russo-Chinese secret treaty.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has ordered suppyl of bicycles for the women of his harem.

It is reported that Emperor William has accepted an invitation to visit the Queen at Osborne in August.

A despatch from Cairo says that several men of the Staffordshire Regiment, now at Wady-Halfa, are invalided by

The prefect of Police in Paris has decided that an unmarried woman thirty years of age is an old maid.

A large majority of the Volksraad will oppose the visit of President Kruger of the Transvaal to London.

It is announced that Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria will shortly visit Berlin as the guest of the Emperor.

A despatch from Venice says that Emperor William and King Humbert have decided to prolong the Dreibund until 1902.

The Imperial crown and regalia were removed from St. Petersburg ot Moscow on Wednesday to be ready for the approaching coronation.

Reports are in circulation that the condition of the Czarewitch, who is visiting Nice for the benefit of his health, has become seriously worse.

It is thought that the recent fatal duel between Count von Kotze and Baron von Schrader will result in the passage of stringent anti-duel laws.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria has arrived in St. Petersburg from Constantinople. The Czar gave a banquet in his honor at the Winter Palace.

The situation in South Africa is very serious, and it is feared that Buluwayo may be captured by the Matabeles before reinforcement can reach that place.

A mounted British force had a brush with the Matabeles near Buluwayo, killing fifty of the enemy and driving them back with only one trooper wounded.

The recent defeat of the dervishes in the vicinity of Suakim has had a very salutary effect upon the tribes who were wavering between supporting the Khalifa and the British power.

the extreme heat and the hard march.

Li-Hung-Chang, the distinguished Chinese statesman, has arrived at Ceylon, on his way to Moscow, where he will represent China at the coronization of the Czar.

A nurse who had been one of the palace attendants since the birth of the Crown Prince of Greece in 1868 died on Monday, and the King and Royal Princes attended her funeral on Wednesday.

It is learned in Paris that in view of possible events in the Soudan orders have been issued to increase the supplies and armaments of the French military posts in South Africa.

The United States Charge d'Affaires at Constantinople has been informed by the Turkish Government that the trade expelling Christian missionaries from Asia Minor has been repealed.

There are rumours in Rome to the effect that France and Russia are organizing the barbarous mountain tribes in Africa to pour them down upon the adjacent possessions of European nations.

An official despatch from Buluwayo says it is impossible to estimate the numbers of the enemy. The whole country is now in the hands of the rebellious natives it will require a large force of troops to dislodge them.

A lot of dynamite left at Gwelow by the South Africa Company's miners fell into the hands of the Matabeles. They did not know its properties and managed to explode it, the result being that about 200 savages were killed.

The owners of the British steamer Crathie have been condemned by the Rotterdam Court to pay 585,500 florins damages to the North German Lloyd Company for the sinking of the steamer Elbe by collision in January of last year.

CONSUMPTION OF WHEAT.

The consumption of wheat in Britain is reckoned at six bushels per head per annum, which, on the basis of an estimated population of 38,900,000, makes a total consumption of 233,400,000 bushels.

USELESS QUESTION.

Wife—I dreamed last night that you gave me a lot of money.

Husband—Did you have any change left?

WHAT UNCLE SAM IS AT.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT THE BUSY YANKEE.

Neighborly Interest in His Doings—Matters of Moment and Mirth Gathered from His Daily Record.

Denver boasts a worm farm.

A law suit to recover pew rent was brought last week by a church in Saco, Maine.

Opals of fine quality and in considerable numbers have recently been discovered near Genesee, Idaho.

Calvin Flint, of Williamstown, Vt., who was 88 years old last January, has split 40 cords of tough firewood this winter.

Two Mount Vernon, N. Y., policeman had a running fight with revolvers, each mistaking the other for a burglar. Neither was hurt.

Columbus, Ga., has broken the record. A man was convicted and fined the other day before the recorder for not returning an umbrella.

There died in Philadelphia last week twevle persons more than 80 years old, eight men and four women, and of these three were more than 90 years old, one being 98.

A woman working in a factory at Colma, Mich., for seventy-five cents a day, last week fell heir to a fortune of $62,000 through the death of an uncle in Germany.

The only rocking chair in the neighborhood of Marcellus, Mich., 60 years ago was owned by Eli Ridgly. It was loaned for miles around to sick neighbors. The chair is still in use.

In the United States there are 13,176 miles of street railroad lines. About 10,238 miles are operated by electricity, 578 by cable, 409 by steam dummy engines, and 1,951 by horse or mule power.

Seven brothers, the youngest 65 years old, and the eldest 84, recently had a re-union in Fresno, Cal. They are members of the Funck family, and have three sisters between 60 and 70 years of age.

Thomas Huey, of Bloomington, Ill., stole a stove, fire and all, from a neighbor's kitchen, emptied the fire out, sold the stove for old iron, and bought whiskey with the proceeds. He is now in jail for a month.

The use of nets in fishing for sturgeon is rapidly supplanting other methods of taking the big fish in the Upper Columbia and Snake rivers. The nets are from 600 to 900 feet long, and the meshes vary in size between 12 and 10 inches.

The Western Packing Company, which was started at Portland, Oregon, specially for the slaughter of range horses and their conversion into meat, has ceased operations after killing 7,000 horses. They could not sell the meat.

A good example to refer to of the negro's capacity for eating watermelons is that of a Dalton, Ga., negro, who last week ate, at one sitting, on a wager, a 55 pound watermelon of last season's crop that had been preserved in cotton seed.

A colored man living near Nason's Orange County, Va., is gradually turning white. His body is covered with patches of clear white skin, which are gradually growing larger. Similar cases have been noted, but they are not common.

At Batesville, Ind., Clarence Greeman, aged 7, was riding a tricycle to which a large dog was hitched. The dog saw a cat across the street and started after it, the tricycle struck a stone, threw the lad against a tree, and crushed his skull.

Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador has been more conspicuous socially since the Venezuelan dispute arose than ever before. He entertains lavishly, his manners are delightful, and he is one of the most if not actually the most, popular diplomat at the capital.

It is said that Denmark wants to sell to the United States the three islands in the West Indies which she owns—St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John. These islands have an area of 118 square miles, and a population of 32,000, mostly negroes. Their trade is very small.

Mary L. Donahue, niece of President Luke of Burlington, Iowa, College, after suffering for years as the result of an accident, and undergoing surgical operations for abscess, claims to have been cured by Christian science treatment, although all the physicians had said she must die.

Two farmers met on the highway in Gibson county, Tenn., the other day, and, after the custom of the region, stopped to swap horses. The trade was agreed on finally by one farmer receiving the other's horse, and a shepherd dog, a rooster, fifty cents, and a pint of whiskey to boot.

A new sea anchor has been invented by Michael McCarthy, of Middletown, Conn. The anchor is filled with oil in such a way that the oil is diffused over the waves as the anchor is tossed up and down, and so a comparative calm is created in which the vessel may ride out a storm in safety.

Among Americans who have made a distinguished success in Europe lately is the artist Edwin A. Abbey. He has been exhibiting a collection of paintings at the rooms of the Fine Arts Association in London, and society flocks to see and admire them. Mr. Abbey himself is much sought after socially.

Lexington, Ky., has an old people's club, of which the youngest member is eighty-nine years old. There are three members ninety years old, one ninety-one, two ninety-three, and two ninety-four. The club meets at the house of one of the members each week for pleasure and mutual improvement.

Florida is on the verge of a big boom in tobacco growing, according to all indications. There are fully 800 applications for seed tobacco on file in the Florida State Department of Agriculture, and tobacco growers' associations are being formed in almost every county in the State. Both cigar and plug tobacco are to be grown.

Chicago is a great market. During the year past the cattle receipts aggregated 2,591,060 head. Hogs received during the past year, 7,910,000 head, an increase of 427,000 over last year. The receipts of sheep foot up for the year 3,385,000 head, an increase of 285,000 over last year. The receipts of horses reached 113,000 head, an increase of 16,000 head over 1894.

A nurse in Los Angeles, Cal., is holding the baby she was hired to care for as surety for the payment of her wages. The mother of the child fell behind in her payments to the nurse, and finally the nurse refused to surrender the child until she was paid in full. The case is to come up in court on habeas corpus proceedings. The nurse's lawyer claims that a human being can be held as security for a debt.

There are 50,000 women and children in New York city working from ten to sixteen hours a day. In the far east and west side stores women and children are often employed until nine or ten o'clock, until after midnight on Saturday, and occasionally a half a day on Sunday. There are 20,000 children under sixteen employed frequently sixteen hours a day. The average wages of cash girls is $1.50 a week, and they are fined for absence, tardiness, and mistakes. As a rule merchants do not allow the wages of saleswomen to exceed one per cent. of their sales.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

Items About Some of the Great Folks of the World.

All the money for the beacon in memory of Tennyson has been subscribed, the monolith for the shaft has been successfully quarried in Cornwall, and the monument will be set up in the fall. Of the $4,750 subscribed, $1,250 came from the United States.

President Kruger, of the Transvaal Republic, has some queer notions of freedom. To a delegation who visited him not long ago and urged compulsory education, on the ground that it was the custom in other countries, he said:—"Yes; education is compulsory in other countries, but so is military service. This is a republic, and people may keep their children in ignorance if they please."

Talking of parliamentary success, there is a story that Mr. Disraeli once said of Sir William Harcourt, "He has the three essential qualifications for success in politics—a fine person, a loud voice, and no principles." This saying was repeated to Sir William Harcourt, who observed that, "leaving out the first two qualifications, it might almost be applied to 'Dizzy' himself.

The Marquis di Rudini, Italy's new Premier, was born in Sicily sixty years ago. His name first became known throughout Italy through his defence as Mayor of the palace of Palermo, when the city was sacked by a mob that ruled for five days. He led the sorties on the rabble himself, and displayed such intrepidity and good judgment that he forced the rioters to retire and disband, when he soon restored order.

M. Faure, President of France, is taking great interest in the welfare of the French soldiers. A few days ago he visited the barracks of some of the regiments in Paris, went to the kitchens, and ate some of the food which is furnished to the soldiers. He summoned an active general and told him the food was not good enough. The President intends to see that it is better. M. Faure is exceedingly popular in the army.

One refreshing thing about Dr. Jameson is that he has no desire to court notoriety. Since he went to England to undergo trial for the Transvaal raid he has been besieged with offers of marriage, and now it is reported that the publishers are after him to induce him to write a book. The impression gained from the expression of his face during the trial is that he is very much bored by the hero-worshippers.

"The German Empress," says London Truth, "is in a very unsatisfactory state of health, and her condition causes much anxiety. The Empress is to go to the baths of Kreuchnach when the season opens, and she will spend most of the summer at the island of Rugen, in the Baltic. The delicate state of the Empress' health is the true reason why the intended trip of the Imperial family to the south of Europe has been abandoned."

M. Custot, who about a year ago was appointed head of the administration of the Casino at Monte Carlo, in the place of Count Bertora, has just resigned. The administrator at the Casino has absolute power over several thousand employes, whom he can dismiss or promote at his pleasure. Enormous sums of money also pass through his hands. The post is a very well paid one—£6,000 a year, a house, carriages, and various perquisites.

The London papers reported Mr. Gladstone "as hard as nails" on his return the other day from the Continent. As one of them expressed it, "he leaped out of the saloon on the Charing Cross platform with the agility of a man to whom a continous journey of twenty-six hours is as nothing. He gripped Mr. Armitstead's hand, remarked that he felt that he had made an unlawful journey by traveling without him, and then spent a few minutes in vigorous handshaking and vivacious conversation with his friends. Mrs. Gladstone is looking much better than when she left England, and has regained the freshness of color and cheerfulness of manner which make her one of the most charming old ladies in England.

A MOUSE SCARER.

The latest scientific novelty is a patent phosphorescent mouse frightener which is guaranteed to scare superfluous rats or mice out of the most rat-ridden house. It is the life-sized image of a cat, modeled in plaster of Paris or terra cotta, painted and bewhiskered with realistic effect. It is made in a sitting position, its head turned sideways, and its eyes staring straight ahead. These eyes are thickly coated with luminous paint, and shine grewsomely in the dark. All that is necessary is to place the cat on the floor near a mouse hole and wait for results. The unfortunate nibbler dares not come out while the frightful cat apparition stands in front of the hole, and the mouse starves to death.

INCREASE OF POVERTY.

Mistress—That young man who called to see you last night Jane, staid very late.

Jane—It was my brother, mum.

But Jane, I have noticed thirty-seven en different men in your company within the past two years, and each one, you said, was your brother.

Yes, mum. Poor folks allers have large families, mum.

PERILS OF BALLOONING.

EXCITING EXPERIENCES WHILE HIGH IN THE AIR.

Some Extremely Awkward Positions to be Placed In—Aeronauts Must be Exceedingly Cool-headed.

One of the most successful and daring balloonists is Clarence G. Eckhart, who is at present in the west, giving hot air balloon ascensions and parachute drops. I called at his tent one afternoon recently, says a newspaper writer, where I found him lying upon a cot reading.

Mr. Eckhart is 24 years of age, of spare build, and weighs but 120 pounds. He has been in the business nine years, and, as the average life of an aeronaut is said to be but two years, his unusual good fortune is manifest.

His balloon is 60 feet high, 120 feet in circumference, and weighs 180 pounds. He is at present using hot air for inflation, it being impossbile to obtain gas in the smaller western towns. The parachute—18 feet in diameter when spread—the trapeze and rigging add 50 pounds. This with his own weight, 120 pounds, gives a total weight of 350 pounds. As the lifting force, when the balloon is well filled, is 650 pounds, there remains an ascensional power of 300 pounds—quite sufficient for exhibiting purposes.

TRICKS OF THE TRADE.

For inflating the balloon a long trench is dug and the top covered over. At one end of it the fire is put in over the other is suspended the empty linen monster, the lower edges being held tightly to the ground to prevent the heat from escaping. One man stays inside to guard the slowly filling bag from sparks.

Until the balloon is well filled Mr. Eckhart uses hard wood barrel staves to fire the trench; but just before he is ready to make the ascension, cup after cup of gasoline is thrown in upon the coals. This explodes and produces the intense and quick heat desired for lifting power. It is the fear of insufficient lifting power that makes an aeronaut nervous—the fear that he may not be lifted quickly enough to clear the dangerous high buildings and church steeples. It is not thought of soaring above the clouds that causes apprehension.

"Is not the moment that you cut loose from the hot air balloon an agonizing one?"

"No, not if you have a well rigged parachute of proper size for your weight. A 6 foot diameter is supposed to carry 30 pounds. The one I am now using is only eighteen feet in diameter. My weight being 120, it is carrying 30 pounds more than it should. It is one that I used in sending down a dog while with a circus. Of course it descends faster than parachutes usually do; but by using the hoop I employ I make it open out more quickly, giving me a shorter shoot, and consequently a less severe jerk."

"How high do you like to go before cutting loose?"

PRETTY HIGH UP, THIS

"As high as it will rise—usually from 4,000 to 7,000 feet—unless I encounter an undesirable upper current. In that case I cut the rope immediately. It is the undesirable currents that raise the mischief with parchutes. It is all up with a man then; he had just as well say his prayers. But an experienced aeronaut can do much to avert such a catastrophe by carefully drawing down on the ropes running to the highest side. I recently got into such a scrape. For a moment my parachute was within an inch of going over. With fortunate presence of mind I worked on the ropes and avoided a fall. Clutching the bar and yelling 'Oh, God! save me!' will avail nothing when your machine strikes trouble in midair. There's but one thing to do; look about and see what the trouble is, and if possible correct it. Of course this requires a cool head, but a man whose brain is capsized by the first threatening of danger had better stay out of the balloon business."

"Have you had many accidents?"

ALMOST AN ACCIDENT.

"No, but I had a thrilling experience one afternoon in an Iowa town—one I shall never forget. I was billed to make a 6,000-foot ascension, with a parachute drop. The weather was fine—a motionless atmosphere, a clear, blue sky. I had a hot fire, and the balloon filled quickly. Then the gasoline was thrown in good quantities, the monster tightened with the intense heat, I gave the signal and we were off. I cleared the buildings with a bound, and soon was safe in the free air above. The balloon had good life and travelled well At about 3,000 feet I encountered a strong air current. To cut loose here would have been to disappoint my audience, so I determined to take my chances of getting back through it with the parachute, and went on. I soon passed into a fine, quiet atmosphere again. At about 6,300 feet the balloon ceased to rise. It began to drift slowly southward toward the river, so I cut loose. After a short drop downward the parachute opened. All went well until about half way down, when it suddenly closed. For the first time in my experience I was badly frightened. I had never known of such a case before. I began to fall rapidly. A few moments later, to my surprise and joy, the parachute opened. I landed safely in a wheat field. My first thought was to examine the parachute and find an explanation for its queer working. The rigging was all in perfect order. It had simply shut up and then re-opened. It was puzzling. Had I been superstitious, I might have charged it to the prank of some mysterious denizen of the air. My final conclusion was that I had encountered two opposing air currents, which, with a short eddying force, had for an instant closed the parachute. It was the only solution I could find."

DRINKING MADE EASY.

Hunker—Staggers has a pretty easy time of it."

Spatts—In what way?

Hunker—His wife drives him to drink and a cabman drives him home.