# 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.

According to the census taken on May 26th, the population of Winnipeg is 31,649.

The high water in the Fraser River is subsiding, and railway traffic has been resumed.

Mr. T. A. Wardell of Dundas has been elected Grand Master of the Canadian Order of Oddfellows.

The crop outlook in Manitoba continues to improve, and the prospects for a bountiful harvest are promising.

The Ottawa City Council has adopted a by-law prohibiting bicyclists going faster than eight miles an hour within the city limits.

Assistant Engineer E. G. Barrow has been recommended for the appointment of City Engineer of Hamilton in succession of the late Mr. Haskins.

John Charlton M.P., has entered suit against the New York Central Railway Company for damages for injuries received in an accident at Tonawanda last December.

United States officers are in Edmonton, Alberta, looking for a man known as Cigarette Charley, who is accused of murdering a son of A.W.G. Ott at Wheaton, Ill.

Mr. George Olds, until recently General Traffic Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been appointed as the representatives of that road on the Board of Managers of the Joint Traffic Association.

A shortage of nearly $4,000 discovered in the books of the late town treasurer of Stratford has been made good by Wm. Lawrence, son of the deceased, who was appointed treasurer on his father's death.

A number of well-known Toronto bankers and financial men, who were interviewed on Friday, expressed the opinion that the adoption of a silver standard by the United States would seriously affect the business relations of the Dominion with that country, and that Canadian investments would undoubtedly suffer.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

A peerage has been conferred upon Sir Hercules Robinson, the Governor of Cape Colony.

The Infanta Eulalie of Spain is in London, where she is entertained elaborately during the height of the present season.

Returns of the British Board of Trade for June show an increase in imports of $6,650,000 and an increase in exports of $13,650,000 as compared with June, '95.

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, on Friday visited, by special invitiation, Marlborough house, and were given a cordial welcome by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Imperial House of Commons has voted in favor of compelling the India Exchequer to pay the expenses of the troops sent to Suakin to replace the garrison troops there who are being used in the Soudan expedition.

Lady Mary Bligh, a daughter of the Earl of Darnley, committed suicide on Sunday night by drowning herself in a pond at Cobham hall. She was in poor health and was despondent over a disappointed love affair.

The Allan State line steamer State of Nebraska, from New York to Glasgow, refused to answer her helm while ascending the Clyde on Tuesday, and collided with the warship Dido. Both vessels had several plates smashed.

Mrs. Anna Hodgins, wife of Mr. Frank E. Hodgins, a Toronto lawyer, while riding a bicycle in London, Eng., on Wednesday, fainted, and fell from the wheel, and died in a few minutes. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict that she died from apoplexy, induced by sun-stroke.

The Town Council of Birmingham has before it an offer from Mr. William Mackenzie, president of the Toronto Street railway, and Mr. James Ross, president of the Montreal Street railway, to purchase the whole street railway system within the town.

### UNITED STATES.

Mrs. Monroe H. Rosenfeld at New York, is recovering from the effects of a five weeks' trance.

Police of Fargo, Dakota, believe they have James Dunham who murdered a family of six in California recently.

Alonzo J. Walling, convicted of the murder of Pearl Bryan, was sentenced yesterday to be hanged on August 7th.

At the convention of the Christian Endeavourers held in Washington, it was decided to meet next year in San Francisco.

The New York Sun (Democrat) has bolted the Democratic platform, and exhorts all Democrats to support Mr. McKinley.

Three commissioners have been appointed by Governor Hastings to investigate the Wilkesbarre mining disaster and discover who is to blame.

By the explosion of a Chicago & Northwestern locomotive boiler at Trombly, Mich., one man was killed and three others terribly injured.

Emil Gebhardt, Charles Habel and William Sauchagrin have been arrested at Detroit, charged with smuggling old iron and steel from the Canadian side.

One of the largest life insurance corporations in New York is discharging a number of its clerks owing to unusual dulness in its business at the present time.

By the explosion of an oil lamp in Buffalo on Wednesday night, a dwelling-house was destroyed, three people were killed and a fourth was probably fatally injured.

The New York Board of Health has made spitting upon the floors of public buildings, boats and cars an offence, punishable by arrest and imprisonment. The law becomes a section of the Sanitary Code.

The Pittsburg, Pa., city auditors have finished their examination of the books of ex-City Attorney Moreland and his assistant, House, and report $297,000 unaccounted for on the books.

O'Donovan Rossa recently recalled to mind an old-time friend who had been sent to the penitentiary, and at once sat down and wrote a letter to Governor Morton, asking for his pardon. He was somewhat startled to receive a reply stating that his friend had been dead for three years.

Business throughout the United States continues unusually quiet, and according to reports from the two principal commercial agencies in New York, not mush change for the better is apparently immediately probable. The dulness has been increased somewhat by unfavorable weather, and considerably by uneasiness as to the future financial position of the country caused by the action of the Chicago convention. Collections are unsatisfactory, and there is a general disposition to curtail credit. Wool is depressed, with no satisfactory activity in the demand for fall goods. Iron and steel is in lessened request, with no prospect of present revival. Boot and shoe manufacturing is still active, but the outlook is weak.

### GENERAL.

Dantzig has a case of Asiatic cholera.

Three thousand houses have been destroyed by floods on the west coast of Japan.

The cattle plague in Australia continues. Entire herds of cattle are being destroyed.

It is romoured that Abbas, the young Khedive of Egypt, will visit Europe during the present summer.

It is rumoured that Abbas, the young Prince of Naples is likely to marry Princess Elena of Montenegro.

Baron Hirsch's widow has donated four million pounds to promote the emigration of Russian Jews to Argentina.

The rumour is again revived that the Transvaal Government has ordered 60,000 rifles from German manufacturers.

A Cairo despatch says it is reported that there are 20,000 Mahdists in Dongolaa, and that they are resolved upon fighting.

A German sub-marine cable company has been formed in Berlin, to lay a cable from Germany to Spain, and thence to the United States.

It is reported in Constantinople that sixty thousand Kurds in the Diarbekir district have revolted and are pillaging the villages indiscriminately.

The town of Cobrin, in the Province of Grodno, Russia, has been burned. Three hundred houses were destroyed, and two thousand people are homeless.

British troops made an attack upon the Matabele position at Theba Imamba on Sunday, and were repulsed. They repeated the attack on Monday, and were successful.

There were seventeen cases of cholera and five deaths from the disease among the Egyptian soldiers at Cairo on Monday, and four cases and four deaths among the British soldiers in the same place.

A despatch from Athens says that Russia is prompting France to occupy Crete and hold it against Great Britain's tenure of Cyprus and Egypt. The British fleet has been so strengthened in Cretan waters as to almost blockade the island.

The new Shah of Persia has announced that henceforth public posts, dignities, and military titles will be bestowed solely on the merits of the candidates, and that no money consideration will be allowed weight in the matter of appointments.

It is related of the late Jules Simon that when he was directed to make an official report on the Paris Exposition of 1889 the amount named for the work was $8,000. He, however, of his own accord, reduced it to $2,400, to the amazement of all office-holders.

## BIRD'S QUEER DEATH.

**Impaled on a Weather Vane, It Swings Until a Skeleton.**

One of the strangest monuments in existence is situated near Cold Spring, N. Y. It is slowly disappearing, and in a short time will have entirely vanished, but it tells a marvelously true tale of the life and death of the being which caused it to be erected.

It is composed of the bones of a swallow which met its death on the weather vane of a barn while in full flight. Everyone has noticed the peculiar driving motion which swallows make while on the wing. It was this method of flying that caused the bird's death. In making its quick dive it evidently miscalculated, or else did not see the vane, which was arrow-shaped, pointing directly toward the swallow.

The farmer who owned the barn noticed a bird perched on his weather vane. The vane was swinging in the wind, but did not trouble the bird, which apparently refused to be unseated. The next day the bird was still there, and the day after as well. The farmer determined to investigate. He found the bird impaled on the vane. He left it where it was and it swung there for months. Why it did not fall to the ground was a mystery until when only the skeleton remained it was found that the sharp point of the vane had penetrated the breast bone. Then the bones dropped apart one by one, and now nothing but the breast bone remains, swinging with the vane, like the gibbeted form of a malefactor in olden times.

## INDISCREET KINDNESS.

Miss Peggy Watson, a village notable in her day, always tried to say the pleasantest things she could; she admired and praised, and did all in her power to make people happy.

She was afraid that Mrs. Berry felt sensitive about being deaf, so when she sat near her one day at the sewing society, she said, smiling:

I don't think you're very deaf, Mrs. Berry.

What did you say? asked Mrs. Berry.

I don't think you're very deaf! repeated Miss Peggy, somewhat louder.

I don't understand you, said Mrs. Berry, becoming nervous.

I don't think you're very deaf! cried Miss Peggy, in a loud, high voice.

Please say that again, urged poor Mrs. Berry.

And then Miss Peggy, with the kindest of intentions, had fairly to shout in her friend's ear:

I don't think you're very deaf!

# HOUSEHOLD.

## SCOLDING WOMEN.

Formerly the "common scold"—the woman who made her neighbors' lives intolerable with her raging temper, her bitter tongue, her slanders and calumnies—was found everywhere. Laws were passed recognizing her as one kind of criminal. There were two forms of punishment by which she was repressed or deterred, or cowed into gentleness; viz., the cucking-stool and the brank. The cucking-stool assumed various shapes, but it generally consisted of a chair on one end of a beam, which rested on a bar so as to make a see-saw. Sometimes the chair was hung from the beam by a chain. The culprit being tied on the chair, the other end of the beam went up and the chair went down into the water, sousing the woman completely. They did this three times, after which they let her go.

Such stools belonged to nearly every parish; like the stocks and the pillory, they formed part of the furniture of justice. For instance, about London. There was one on Bankside with which they ducked the wives of the players. There was one at Ratcliff; one at Kingston-on-Thames, and there was one which stood till the beginning of this century beside the great pond or reservoir of the Green Park.

Apparently the chair and the cold bath did not completely destroy the female tendency to scold, for it was found necessary to invent another punishment which was extensively adopted, although not authorized by the law. This was the "brank," or "scold's bridle," which consisted of a small cage formed by iron hoops to fit the head, with a piece of iron which pressed the tongue and formed the gag. Thus adorned the scold was either led or carried about the town for all the world to see. Sometimes she was placed on a high scaffold. The brank was used in some places down to the beginning of the century. Its disuse, its disappearance, the universal oblivion of the punishment makes one incline to the belief that the scold has also disappeared. However, such is not the case. The disease or infirmity of scolding still exists, but in a much milder form. The mildness of the modern form is mainly due to the improved conditions of life.

Two hundred years ago the village household was insufficiently fed, the quality as well as the quantity of the food was bad, work was hard, men were rough, husbands beat their wives habitually, in cold weather they were thinly clad; in hot weather their clothes were too thick. If there was any indulgence possible, it took the form of beer. Tea did not exist. Children, hungry and cold, cried all day and all night; everything combined to exasperate a woman. What wonder if, from time to time, she lost control of herself and became copiously eloquent over her wrongs? Things have greatly improved. The husband no longer—or very seldom—beats his wife; the food has become cheap; wages have gone up luxuries, formerly unattainable, have become necessaries; the scold is dying out of the land, because there is so little left to scold about.

## PORCH PARTIES.

One who is the possessor of a comfortable, roomy veranda is fortunate now that the summer days have come. No matter how unpretentious a little home may be, a neatly-kept lawn and a veranda covered with vines adds a charm which nothing else could impart. Few things can be so cozy and inviting as one of these porches, shielded by climbing roses or dark, green vines from the light, with some low, cushioned chairs, a hammock strung across and a small tea table, for comfort. And on summer evenings when the family gathers there and a neighbor or two come in for a chat, dull care is for a time forgotten.

The young people gather there to sing and laugh. Possibly one of the number a guitar or mandolin, or even the prosaic "mouth organ" sounds sweetly in the moonlight. Later some lemonade or other summer beverage with some dainty small cakes are dispensed, and so the happy evenings pass.

On pleasant afternoons the housewife entertains her "social few" on the veranda where they have brought their "knitting" in the good old-fashioned way, to chat as housewives will. Here she brings her daintiest china, her delicious coffee, cakes and luscious berries with thick, rich cream, such as city folks never have. What a picture of comfort, beauty and enjoyment. Such small gatherings are a real pleasure, where no formality exists and nothing is elaborate.

There is, however, one thing which mars the unalloyed enjoyment of these porches, and that is, insects, flies and mosquitoes. Insect life is very disturbing, and even if all surroundings are ideal, life is made miserable by their buzzing and torture. In the South, and many places in the North, also, the verandas are enclosed by netting, over which the vines and flowering plants climb, making a veritable bower of loveliness. The cost is trivial, and the comfort secured more than compensates for the money expended.

## SERVING TOMATOES.

Boiled Tomatoes.—Choose smooth tomatoes as near of a size as possible, drop in boiling salted water and boil until they can be easily pierced with a fork, lift out on squares of buttered toast, score each on top crosswise, season with a lump of butter, some salt, pepper and a very little sugar and serve hot as possible.

Stuffed Tomatoes.—Take out the seed and pulp and mix with chopped cold veal or chicken, a little lean cold boiled ham, minced fine, the mashed yolks of two hard-boiled eggs, a sliced or minced onion, a tablespoonful of butter, two tablespoonfuls of grated bread crumbs, with salt and pepper. Put the mixture back into the tomatoes; place them in a pan and set in the oven to bake.

Scalloped Tomatoes.—To prepare it peel large, ripe tomatoes, slice, and sprinkle with salt. Cover the bottom of a baking-dish with a layer of stale bread crumbs, then slices of tomatoes, more bread crumbs, with bits of butter, salt and pepper; continue to arrange the tomatoes and seasoning in this way until the dish is full; spread the top with butter and set in a hot oven to bake an hour. Tomatoes cut open, the centers filled with butter, pepper and salt, and the halves pressed together and baked in a hot oven, form an appetizing entree for dinner.

Stewed Tomatoes.—After being peeled and chopped the tomatoes should be put in a saucepan and set over a slow fire to simmer for an hour; then to every pint of the stewed tomatoes add a tablespoonful of grated bread crumbs, a teaspoonful of butter, a pinch of white pepper and salt each, with half a teaspoonful of sugar, and let cook for half an hour. When done they should be smooth and thick, but not stiff or full of lumps.

Tomato Sauce.—Tomato sauce is delicious with meats, and especially with fish. To prepare it take one pint of canned tomatoes, one onion, four cloves, sprig of parsley, one tablespoonful of butter, one heaping tablespoonful of flour, salt and pepper to taste. Stew the tomatoes, onions, cloves and parsley together for fifteen minutes, then press through a sieve. Return to the fire and add the butter and flour which have been rubbed together to a paste; when thick and smooth season to taste and simmer five minutes longer.

Tomato Salad.—Peel with a sharp knife without scalding, and slice. Make a plain salad dressing or a mayonnaise. If vinegar is used in the dressing do not put it on until the salad is ready to serve. Some cooks slice a small onion in the tomato salad and others use lemon juice instead of vinegar. For a mayonnaise dressing without oil, which many people dislike, the following is very good:

Put the yolks of two raw eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, a dash of cayenne and a pinch of salt in a small saucepan; set over the fire and stir until thick; take from the fire and add gradually, a drop at a time, a tablespoonful of vinegar. Set on ice until ready to use, stir in four tablespoonfuls of cream.

This dressing is used for asparagus, spinach and other delicate vegetable salads. Any vegetable salad should be served very cold to be thoroughly enjoyed.

Sliced tomatoes, ice cold, sprinkled with powdered sugar and lemon juice squeezed over them make a delicious breakfast dish for hot weather.

## WHIPPED CREAM.

To prepare whipped cream for shortcake select moderately rich cream. Very rich cream will beat to butter before it will froth, and cream which is too thin will not whip to a stiff froth. There are various utensils in the market for whipping cream. The whip used by practical cooks is a simple egg-beater, such as may be purchased at from 5 to 10 cents at any house-furnishing store.

The cream should be set (about two cupfuls at a time) in a large earthen bowl, which is placed in a pan of cracked ice and should be rapidly beaten with a whip when it is cold. Begin beating slowly and increase in the swiftness of your strokes until the whole is a stiff froth.

## A RUSSIAN PRISION.

**Inhuman Punishment For the Slightest Violation of Rules.**

A correspondent who was recently released from a three years' imprisonment in Russia for a crime of which he does not even know the name writes an account of the brutal severity with which he was treated. He says among other things:

"On entering the prison of Petropawlovski one feels as if one was in a cemetery. The sight of St. Peter on the threshold, for which one looks involuntarily, is all that is lacking. When I entered my cell I could see nothing, so complete was the darkness; indeed, there is nothing to see, for if there were, the prisoners would assuredly kill themselves with it.

"It was here that I underwent the punishment of the 'tomb.' I was detected in tapping the walls of my cell as I tried to attract the prisoner's attention next door. Then I was carried away to the 'tomb.'

"This is a damp, poisonous pit dug out in the ground, in which it is impossible either to stand upright, to lie, or even to sit down. One remains, in short, stooping so long as one's imprisonment lasts. Stooping, that is to say, aching.

"Here I remained for almost a month, fed on dry bread and water, while the guards jeered at me ceaselessly through a little caging above. Then, when very nearly dead, I was taken to my cell again.

"Surely His Satanic Majesty should give place to the man who invented this."

## TO AVOID SEA SICKNESS.

Prof. Charteris, of the University of Glasgow, says that chlorobrom will prevent sea sickness on short voyages. He says that previous to starting the traveller should take a blue pill at night and citrate of magnesia in the morning. Follow this with a dose of chlorobrom when embarking, remain in the cabin and mal de mer need not be feared. A full dose is two tablespoonfuls. If the voyage is made at night this does should be taken before retiring. If the trip is made in the daytime, half as much will suffice for the first dose, and a second dose will rarely be required. Chlorobrom is not a patent medicine. It is formed of chloralamide and bromide of potash.

## DID HE MEAN IT?

Friend—And are you now out of danger?"

Convalescent—No; the doctor says he will pay me two or three more visits.

# A STUDY OF FATALITIES.

## FIGURES OF ACCIDENTAL DEATHS AMONG INSURED PERSONS.

**Largest Number of Deaths Occurred Among Farmers—Not a Fatality While the Insured Was On An Ocean Steamer.**

With every new invention there are new menaces and dangers to life, and this danger is greater in proportion to the attention the machine attracts and its novelty. It takes but a little while, however, to put in training the legislation looking to the regulation of all new devices, and in this way the danger is restricted or largely removed.

A statistician has been collecting and tabulating a record of deaths of insured persons. By this means it was possible to ascertain age, circumstances, condition, environment, occupation, and all other necessary points bearing on the case, says the New York Ledger.

It is a curious fact that the largest number of deaths occurred among farmers. This is not, however, due to any unusual risk in farm life, but simply to the fact that a large proportion of farmers insure their lives. There are, of course, dangers attending farming, but the healthfulness of the occupation quite counterbalances the hazard. Out of 759 deaths among the policy holders mentioned the largest number were victims to what are classified as railroad accidents. This includes the casualties caused by horse, cable, electric, and steam railroads. Thirteen employes and 120 other persons died from injuries received in this way.

The deaths are arranged in classes, and the second largest is 119. These were killed by falls or by being struck by falling objects. By drowning 118 died.

It is interesting to notice that out of the number not a death occurred while the insured was a passenger on an ocean steamer. This emphasizes what one of our most eminent railroad manager said some years ago, that it is safer to travel by some lines than it is to stay at home. This is certainly

### A FINE SHOWING,

and one that we cannot fail to appreciate, as when one of the greatest of pleasures is coupled with the greatest safety the delight is largely augmented.

Of deaths caused by injuries from horses or vehicles, there were eighty-four. Seventy-six homicides are in the list, and it is commented on that the number of deaths by violence has increased enormously within the past few years. In 1873 they were but 5 per cent. of the whole number, where at present over 10 per cent. are recorded.

Carelessness in the handling of firearms is responsible for seventy-two deaths. In almost all of these cases the persons were alone, and while suicide is in a number of instances strongly suspected, there is, of course, no positive evidence to that effect. So general is the custom of owning and handling firearms that there is no way in which to decrease this danger. It is scarcely possible to incorporate in an insurance policy a clause to the effect that the insured person shall not handle firearms; therefore this risk, great as it is, must be taken.

There were forty-eight poisoning cases. Strychnine, atropine, cocaine, cannabis, indica, and hydrochloric acid caused one death each, aconite and arsenic two, carbolic acid three, chloral five, and opium thirty-four. The opium cases included all preparations of that drug. As far as discovered four chloral and twenty-two opium deaths occurred when the victims took an overdose—whether with intent or not is the question, as most of these persons were habitual consumers of opium in some of its forms. In most of the other cases, where one death occurred, the poison was taken through mistake. The atropine victim died from the druggist's error. Twenty-five persons died from the effects of the heat, three from exposure to cold, three were

### STRUCK BY LIGHTNING,

three perished in tornadoes, and one in the Charleston earthquake. Explosions, burns, scalds, and other accidents resulting from fire caused thirty-one deaths. The elevator, machinery, and various tools are responsible for twenty-five more.

The account closes with a list of miscellaneous casualties, among which are a fall from a bicycle, a blow in the eye with a pitchfork, a fall from a sled, several from asphyxiation from gas, three from goring by vicious horned cattle, and one man crushed to death between a ferry-boot and the wharf. Although railroad accidents are responsible for a number of deaths, none of these occurred among conductors, officials, or section-masters. The building trades were the occasion of thirteen deaths, occurring among people engaged in this occupation. The circular saw ended the days of three men, and four were killed in cotton gins. It is said in defence of some of these latter accidents that they happened to be people ignorant of machinery and only casual visitors or lookers-on.

Such tables as these are extremely interesting, not only from the insurance agent's standpoint, but because they furnish some pertinent suggestions on the happenings and hazards of our every-day life.

## OUT OF THE QUESTION.

I understand you stood for a whole hour in the doorway last night talking to the policeman, Katie? Shure, you wouldn't have me sthand there for an hour and say nothin', ma'am?

## INCONSIDERATE.

First Chum—I'll never speak to that Fred Bumption again. He had the audacity to back out of the parlor the other night throwing kisses at me.

Second Chum—Why, the heartless creature! And you right there within reach!