# 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.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen are at Quebec.

Manitoba crop reports could not be more favorable.

The army worm has appeared in the vicinity of Guelph.

Dr. James Brown, V. S. of Guelph, died from anthrax poisoning.

Nearly a hundred new houses are in course of erection in London.

E. G. Barron has been temporarily appointed City Engineer of Hamilton.

The trade returns for June show a slight falling off in exports and imports.

The late Mr. John Weir, farmer, of West Flamboro', left an estate of over $90,000.

Lieut-Col. Aylmer has been appointed Adjutant-General of the Canadian militia.

Val. Shortis, the Valleyfield murderer, has been seriously ill in the penitentiary.

Lord Aberdeen will probably open the Western Fair at London on September 15.

The Allans are to consult with the Government regarding the fast Atlantic service.

Mrs. Adam W. Pearson dropped dead at Winnipeg on Thursday while dressing her children.

Chief Aitchison of the Hamilton fire brigade has returned home from the firemen's tournament in London.

An Italian peanut vendor is under arrest at Niagara Falls for an attempt to assault a little girl.

Rev. C. H. Shutt, of St. Catharines, is suing certain members of his church for alleged libel and slander.

At Hamilton David Kinner was committed to penitentiary for three years for stealing two kegs of lager.

A big gold strike is reported in the City of Spokane claim on Monte Cristo Mountain, British Columbia.

Hamilton Street Railway Company will be asked to issue two sets of tickets at nine and seven for a quarter.

The militia camps may not be held this summer, but if that be impossible they will be held early next summer.

Annie Hawkins, daughter of a Downie Township farmer was dragged through the field by a runaway horse and killed.

Mrs. William Siblington, a blind elderly woman accidentally set fire to her clothes, and was burned to death, at Sarnia.

The three Port Credit men who assaulted the crew of the Hamilton yacht Hiawatha have apologized and paid the damages, about $300.

Principal Ireland of the Hamilton Art School has received the bronze medal and diploma won by the school at the World's Fair three years ago.

The illness of Lady Tupper in London is not as serious as at first reported, and Sir Charles has in consequence cancelled his proposed trip to England.

The Victoria sealing schooners, supposed to have been wrecked off the north-east coast of Japan by the recent tidal wave, is reported at Victoria, B.C., to be safe.

Justice King of the Supreme Court of Canada has been appointed British representative upon the commission to adjust with the United States Canadian Bering sealers' claims for seizures.

Negotiations have been completed whereby the Michigan Central Railway have the use of the London & Port Stanley line until the expiry of the Walker lease, which has eighteen years to run.

Ex-Governor William Russell, of Massachusetts, who was camping out with some friends near St. Adelaide de Palos, Que., was found dead in his tent on Thursday morning. He died of heart disease during the night.

The Wabash express ran into a local freight train at Thamesville on Friday morning. Both trains were badly damaged. Engineer Booth, of the express, was instantly killed, but the passengers escaped unhurt.

A magnificent yield of fruit is reported in Huron and Perth. The hay is poor, but the advice of the Ontario Agricultural Department to the farmers to sow corn as a substitute in times of drouth has proved of great benefit.

The steamer Hope with the Peary, expedition on board, left Sydney, N.S., at noon, for Greenland. The main object of the expedition is to bring back a forty-ton meteorlite which is located at Cape York. A number of scientists are accompanying Lieut. Peary.

An Act to consolidate the Acts respecting the solemnization of marriage becomes law on August 1st. There are some new clauses in this Act, one of which is that requiring the making of affidavits by both contracting parties. Heretofore the groom was the only person necessary to the legal issuance of a license, but after August 1st the affidavit of the bride must be taken and presented with that of the groom before a license or certificate can be issued.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

Prof. Henry Drummond is dying at Tunbridge Wells, Eng.

In Paris the heat is so great that it has been found necessary to close many of the workshops.

Intensely hot weather is reported in the south part of the British Isles, France and Germany.

The new yacht built for Eugene Higgins, the New York millionaire, at a cost of $500,000, was launched in the Clyde on Wednesday.

At a representative gathering of Irishmen in Ottawa on Monday night delegates were appointed to attend the Irish convention in Dublin in September.

From remarks made on Wednesday evening by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, it is inferred that the Venezuelan difficulty, as far as the United States is concerned, is practically settled.

The withdrawal of the amendments to the Irish land bill offered by Mr. Gerald Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, is being sharply criticized by friends of the Government and has caused much rejoicing among the Opposition.

Lord Salisbury, in the House of Lords on Friday, said that the negotiations with the United States on the question of the Venezuelan claim, were proceeding satisfactorily. On the larger subject of general arbitration, he was proceeding with great caution.

The monument which has been erected in St. Mary's church, Aldermanbury, London, to John Heminge and Henry Condell, who collected and first published Shapespeare's writings after the death of the famous English dramatist, was unveiled on Tuesday afternoon.

An American named Korner, of Buffalo, divorced from his wife, locked his son, a lad of sixteen, up in his room in a London hotel on Thursday, and went out. On his return the boy was gone, and it is supposed he was kidnapped by his mother and aunt. Young Korner is heir to a large fortune.

At the National Rifle Association meeting at Bisley, Eng., on Friday, the Canadian team won the Kolapore cup —one of the great prizes of the meet. The Canadians had to compete with teams from the Mother Country and Guernsey and Jersey. In addition to the cup, the Canadians win eighty pounds in money, given to the Colonial team making the highest score. The highest score. The victory was a popular one, and the Canadians were heartily cheered.

### UNITED STATES.

According to the compilers of the new city directory, the population of Buffalo is now 360,000.

A full wheat crop is not expected in any part of the State of Minnesota, owing to drought.

A wild man, who goes on all fours, is reported to be roaming about Bristle Ridge, near Crawfordsville, Ind.

Cheyenne, Wyo., had a cloudburst on Thursday. Five inches of rain fell in an hour and 40 minutes.

Mrs. Mary Harlan, mother of Senator Harlan, of Iona, is dead at Indianapolis, aged 100 years and five months.

Mrs. Margaret Smith, of 351 Market street, Patterson, N. J., has found her brother, Robert Blackwood, after 40 years' search, according to report.

The Detroit railway is reported to have been sold to R.T. Watson, of New York, who with Thomas T. Johnson, owns the Citizens' Street Railway.

Chicago expects to have a tower which will be the highest structure of the kind ever erected. It will be fifteen hundred feet high and three hundred feet square at the base.

Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, sr., is suffering from a slight attack of paralysis, induced by worry over his son's intended marriage with Miss Wilson against his father's wishes.

Sir Donald Smith, the Canadian High Commissioner in London, has been invested at Windsor castle as Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The driver and four musicians were swept off the top of Buffalo Bill's band waggon while trying to pass under an overhead bridge on Erie street, in Cleveland, on Thursday. Two of them will die.

The report of the Navigation Bureau shows that during the year ending June 30, 709 vessels of 204,000 gross tons were built in the United States, as compared with 682 for last year.

George Clendenning of Montreal is under arrest at Chicago charged with being one of the "long and short" thieves who have been conducting daring operations in that city.

The ringleaders of the Chicago gang of highway robbers have been jailed. One is reported to be Douglas Clendenning, son of William Clendenning, a Montreal banker, who recently failed.

The Kansas Court of Appeals has declared ineffective the law under which divorces have been granted in the State of Kansas for 25 years. Nearly 50,000 divorces are affected by the decision.

Business of every description is unusually quiet, even for this dull time of year, throughout the United States. There is no disposition to speculate, and retailers are conducting their purchases on a more strictly "hand-to-mouth" scale than has hitherto been known. The trouble is in the uncertainty of the financial future in the United States. The outburst of ignorant fanaticism at the Chicago conference has done incalculable harm, both to present and prospective business. The commercial agencies--which naturally present the best side of the shield—tell us that manufacturers are "waiting"—of course they are, but involuntarily.

### GENERAL.

Prof. Andree has arrived at Tromsoe, Norway, and is preparing for his start to the North Pole by balloon.

The Government of Zanzibar has decided to abolish the legal status of slavery throughout Zanzibar, out of deference to the British opinion.

The steamer Tormore, from Cardiff, for Halifax, N. S., is reported ashore at Trepassey, Nfld. Her cargo was coal for the Imperial dockyard at Halifax.

The messenger who carried the news to the Khalifa at Omdurman that his army had been defeated at Firket was immediately put to death by crucifixion.

The insurgents at Apokorona killed the crew of a Turkish bark. Troops pursued the insurgents and fired upon every body they met, killing many women and children.

A despatch from the Island of Crete says that the Turkish authorities are gradually extending the military zone, and occupying new positions daily. Many excesses are being committed by the Turks.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes and Mr. Alfred Belt, directors of the South Africa Company, who were implicated in the Jameson raid, have refunded to the company all the sums drawn by the Johannesberg Reformers.

News has reached Buluwayo that the rebels have occupied a position on the Tati road about twenty-five miles south of Buluwayo, and that they are erecting fortifications. Serious fighting is expected shortly.

Complete returns for the election of members of the Belgian Chamber of Deputies show that there were 105 Clericals, 18 Liberals, and 29 Socialists chosen. This gives the Clericals in the Chamber a majority of 18 votes.

A special from Havana says that a panic prevails in the Spanish army in consequence of the terrible increase of yellow fever during the last few days. It is estimated that fully forty per cent. of the cases prove fatal.

## PERSIAN WOMEN AT HOME.

Sacred from the eyes of ordinary visitors, generally built at the back of the house, and possessing a small courtyard of its own, is the Anderun—the apartment devoted by the Persian to his womenkind, says a writer in London Queen. Here the upper class women live in their little world, and, narrow though it be, they would not exchange it for any amount of Western liberty. They wish for nothing better. So far from being caged birds pining for freedom, a life of wider scope and activity would be eminently distasteful to them. Love, fine clothes, jewels, and plenty of sweetmeats are the ingredients that form their happiness. In Turkey and India the harem doors are being gradually opened to progressive ideas; but in Persia, the land of retrogression and decay, no corner of the purdah has as yet been lifted. Strictly veiled and debarred from all intercourse with the opposite sex (excepting near relatives), Persian women nevertheless contrive to influence political affairs in no small degree. The most zealous apostle and preacher of the Bab was a woman, and the late Shah's mother was a person of much political importance—through her energy and diplomacy he came to the throne. There is, however, plenty of female society, and much time is spent in paying calls, attending funerals and weddings, and the bath; this last is a general meeting place, where the gossip of the neighborhood is exchanged and characters receive no gentle handling.

A man of wealth places the charge of his harem in the hands of eunuchs, who regulate the household expenses, see that undesirable visitors in the shape of dervishes and fortune tellers are excluded, and do their best to keep in abeyance that spirit of intrigue which is as the breath in her nostrils to every Persian woman. Formerly, women convicted of infidelity were horribly punished, and the matter was left in the husband's hands, but cases are now becoming happily rarer. In one small place in which I lived a woman was buried alive, and the populace appeared to think it a just punishment. It is the Shah's royal prerogative to inspect every man's harem, and a visit from the "Asylum of the Universe," is a great event in the lives of the inmates, for if any one of them finds favor with the monarch she is transferred to his keeping, which is considered promotion in her eyes.

When I first knew her, the Khan's wife reigned alone as mistress of the Anderun, though shortly afterward her husband made up the full complement allowed by the Prophet. She had come from the household of Nasr-ed-Din, but had not long enjoyed royal favor, and therefore had been bestowed on the first person worthy of such a mark or honor. She was better educated than any other Persian woman of my acquaintance, even speaking a little French, and possessed a good figure, but plain face, which last was probably the reason of her dismissal. Conducted by a servant through the large rooms of the Khan's palace, I was delivered into the custody of a Seedee slave girl, who received me at the Anderun door, and pulling aside a heavy curtain, showed me into the presence of the Khanum herself. She was seated in a divan of plump, silk-covered cushions near the window, and rose to receive me, revealing the indoor dress of a Persian lady, which at first sight is somewhat startling. A green silk jacket, much embroidered, slashed under the arms, and with hanging sleeves, opened in front over a thin muslin vest; a loose girdle of filigree, studded with turquoises, encircled her hips, and from this depended a silk skirt bouffante, and short as a ballet girl's (the late Shah issued a declaration that women's skirts should end at the knee;) while her shapely legs, innocent of covering terminated in boots of thinnest yellow kid. Out of doors, where I had occasionally seen her in her carriage, she presented a very different appearance; the short skirts were stuffed into baggy tousers, and her whole person enveloped in a chadar of indigo blue, striped with gold, which covered every part except her eyes. Her face was, of course, painted according to thee canons, of Persian beauty, which declares that woman's face must be white and red and her eyebrows as a single line, and her hands were stained orange with khena. She rose to meet me, and with many pretty compliments motioned me to a seat on the cushion beside her, and passed me her kalian (water pipe) of Bohemian glass. I inquired how she liked Bushire, and a gesture of her hands expressed contempt for her present abode. The Khanum (myself) should see Tehran; that was the place wherein to live, with its gardens, mosques, and magnificent baths. "And I," she continued, waxing eloquent over departed glories, "lived in the royal palace; I had slaves and horses, jewels too, and as for my apartments, this (looking round the large room with disdain), by comparison, is the stable of a she camel. In an evil hour an enemy came, dust and ashes fell upon my head, I was no longer of any account, and I am here."

"Have you any children?" I knew the Khan had two sons, tiny, grave-eyed mortals, who took their airing near the tennis ground. A bitter look came over the painted countenance.

"No, I had a boy, beautiful as Mejnoun, strong-limbed as Rustam, but he died, and now I have no sons."

The bitterness was explicable; a childless wife is of small account in the harem, and is easily divorced. Still she was not without hope, and explained the methods of using certain charms, invaluable in such cases. A piece of delicate embroidery lay on a carpet near, and I asked if it were the Khanum's doing. Her doing! No, indeed, needlework was for slaves. Was it true that in Firingistan women performed all manner of hard labor, even as the peasants in this country? The guitar also belonged to one of her women, and if it pleased me I could hear her sing. Had I any jewels? She examined my solitary ring with interest, and learning that it was not my only possession, wondered that I did not wear the others. Jewels enhanced the value of women in men's eyes. They were also a consolation in old age.

The Khanum's religious convictions were vague as those of other Irani women. Allah was great and Omar accursed; she daily repeated the Kebleh (profession of faith) and worshipped at the shrines of holy men. When she died her embalmed body would make the pilgrimage to Kerberla and be buried by the tomb of the sainted Husain. A future state did not come within the range of her philosophy. The large room had long doors or windows opening on the veranda, whence a flight of steps led to the roof, the meeting place in hot weather; it was scantily furnished but the matted floor was nearly covered with valuable carpet; soft heaps of cushions, with ancient-looking chests, seemed the only furniture, and the walls were hung with curious cotton draperies printed with pictures, histories of celebrated characters, together with a few gaudy colored oleographs.

Refreshments were served by a very pretty girl—sweets, cakes, and coffee, muddy, brown, and sugary, in tiny glass cups, decorated with a portrait of the Shah. Then my clothes and handkerchief were sprinkled with attar of roses, which smell haunted me for weeks. On my leaving, the Khanum expressed a thousand regrets. Might she be my sacrifice, she said, but my presence had illumined her life, and bending low she laid my hand against her forehead. At the outer door a servant waited with a tray loaded with fruit and sweets, and covered with a silk handkerchief, which he carried behind me to my house—a mark of esteem and respect from the ex-wife of Nasr-ed-Din.

TRAVELLING HATS.

BONNET FOR ELDERLY LADY.

GIRL'S AND LADIES' COUNTRY HATS.

## SUMMER BONNET AND HATS.

A bonnet for an elderly lady is of light black fancy straw. On the front is a bow-shaped garniture of pleated Chantilly lace, interspersed with three clusters of pinkish violet flowers; behind this is a flat jet-spangled net flower, and a similar flower is placed against both sides.

A brown straw travelling hat has a turned-up back brim and straight crown with sunken top. The crown band is of tan cloth with edgings of narrow brown ribbon. An arrangement of brown cloth loops is on the left side, together with quills and a plume of natural eagle's feathers.

A young lady's hat is a straw sailor with black crown and white brim. Crown band and side bow are of black velvet, with stiff plumes in black and white.

A girl's shade hat for country wear is of light fancy straw, with a white cloth crown band caught by two little tan leather tabs with pearl buttons.

A light straw with saucer-shaped brim is trimmed with yellow ribbon arranged in irregular loops and jabots with pointed ends. A wide-brimmed straw with conical crown has a draped dark green velvet band, around the base of which goes a wreath of feathery green and berries, to which some white flowers are added on the side. The wide-brimmed Alpine hat shown is of coarse brown straw with brown gros grain band.

## NEW MARRIAGE ACT.

**Some Very Important Changes Have Been Made in the New Law.**

The Act of the Ontario Legislature, passed last Session, entitled "The Marriage Act, 1896," which consolidates and amends the Acts relating to the Solemnization of Marriage, will come into force on August 1st. Copies of the Act in pamphlet form will be supplied by all Clerks of the Peace at ten cents each copy, and as there are many alterations, important to be known by the clergy, there should be many enquiries for copies.

The Act declares who only may solemnize marriage in Ontario, viz: Clergy, etc., who are resident in the Dominion, (and it may be added that penalties are imposed by the Statutes of Canada on those who officiate without lawful authority.)

Banns are to be published, (though on one Sunday only,) one week before a marriage in the parish or municipality, etc., in which each party lives, when they live in different parishes, etc., and a certificate of the publication, when in two parishes, is to be given to the Minister who solemnizes the marriage.

Licenses are to be issued on affidavits to be made by both parties, and the degrees of affinity which bar marriage are to be printed on the affidavits and to be explained to applicants.

Banns and Licenses to lapse if the proposed marriage be not solemnized within three months.

Marriages may not be solemnized between 10 o'clock p.m. and 6 a.m. except under special circumstances.

Two adult witnesses are to sign the register and some changes are made in register books.

Several of the provisions need revision and some changes and corrections are still desirable.

## NECESSARILY SLOW.

An 8-year-old boy was being lectured on obedience.

"I told you that you could play with the Wilson boys till 5 o'clock," said his mother. "Here it is 7 and you are just home. Why didn't you come when I told you?"

"I did, mamma."

"Don't tell me a falsehood. Why didn't you come home at 5 o'clock?"

"I started home at 5."

"Then you stopped to play on the way?"

"No, mamma; sure, I didn't."

"Do you expect me to believe that it took you two hours to walk half a mile? I think I shall have to punish you for telling me falsehoods."

"Honestly, I started home at 5 o'clock and came straight home."

The mother led the boy into the kitchen and took down a whip. He turned pale and tears welled up into his eyes.

"Now sir, will you tell me the truth?"

"Ye-es, mama; Charlie Wilson gave me a mud turtle—and I was afraid —to carry it—so I led it home."

## LOST THE TRICK.

Waggles—I'm hungry enough to eat a dry crust, good woman.

Good woman—Sorry I have none. Shut the gate when you go out.