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.

A new $12,000 Baptist church has been opened at Petrolia.

Manitoba's contributions to the India famine fund amount to $13,000.

An earthquake shock was felt at Hamilton on Friday morning.

Prohibitionists are organizing for the plebiscite campaign in Quebec.

Ald. Hall has been appointed Assessment Commissioner of Hamilton.

A new railway from Winnipeg to Port Arthur is projected in Winnipeg.

A couple of Paris residents have been fined $10 each for using cancelled postage stamps.

The total shortage in the accounts of the late Treasurer Campbell of Brant County is nearly $25,000.

It is said the G.T.R. will transfer most of their yard work to the Port Huron side of the tunnel.

Rain storms have soaked the western departmental block at Ottawa which was recently damaged by fire.

Ottawa is to have a military demonstration on the Queen's birthday in honour of the jubilee celebration.

Capt. Prevost, the new Ottawa fire chief, will be tendered a banquet previous to his departure from Montreal.

The Government will send a small exhibit of Canadian cereals and wood pulp to the International Exhibition at Stockholm.

The stamp mill in connection with the Kingston School of Mining is now crushing ore from different places night and day.

The Dominion Department of Public Works has been notified that the survey of the Fraser river, in British Columbia, has commenced.

The tender of the Kingston Locomotive Works for the construction of two steel barges for the Montreal Transportation Company has been accepted.

Mr. Alfred Pichette of Montreal fell from the third storey balcony of his house while engaged in adjusting a pulley for a clothesline, and was killed.

It is said that No. 4 Company, R.R.C.I., of Fredericton, N.B., has been selected by General Gascoigne to accompany Premier Laurier to England in June.

Prof. Craig, Government Horticulturist, in the course of a lecture in Ottawa on Thursday night, spoke at some length of Ontario as a fruit growing province.

The Canadian Indian Famine fund contributions have reached the sum of $119,000 and another hundred thousand hupees will be cabled to Calcutta in a few days.

An order has been issued from the Militia Department calling in all the old rifles and side arms, and as soon as these are in the new Lee-Enfield weapon will be issued to the different battalions.

Major Wilson Smith presided over a large and influential meeting of Montreal citizens to consider the question of celebrating the diamond jubilee. A number of committees were appointed to arrange the details of the celebration.

Judgment was delivered in Montreal the other day in a note case, in which the principal was $150, and the interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per day amounted to $5,980. The judge regretted that under the law, which did not prohibit usury, he had to give judgment for the full amount.

Mr. Fielding, Minister of Finance in receiving a deputation on Montreal, representing the Canadian coal interests, said that he still hoped that by lowering the duty on coal the United States Administration was likely to take the same course, but if it raised the duty it was still open to Canada to retaliate.

Inspector McGloguin of Detroit says that Mr. C. M. Copeland of Winnipeg, recently appointed Y. M. C. A. Secretary for Michigan, will be sent back if he comes to Detroit, and an effort will be made to collect the penalty, of $1,000 from the Michigan Y. M. C. A. for violating the alien labor law.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The London Times commends Canada's generosity towards India.

In Mexborough, Yorkshire, last week, a miner named John Tait sold his wife for half a gallon of beer.

Prof. Henry Drummond, the author of "Natural Law in the Spiritual World," is dead. He was forty-six years of age.

The Queen's gifts to the Mansion House fund for India famine sufferers amounts to £1,000. The fund has reached £411,000.

The Queen is taking a direct personal part in shaping the policy of Great Britain in the Cretan emergency, as she did in the German crisis fourteen months ago.

Honorary degrees were conferred on Thursday by Cambridge University upon Mr. Thos. F. Bayard, retiring United States Ambassador, and upon the retiring French Ambassador, Baron de Courcel.

The British imports from Canada increased 166 per cent. in February, and 100 per cent. in the two months of the current year, while British imports from all countries only advanced four per cent.

The entire staff of employees at the Devonport dock yard, numbering 5,000, have been ordered to work overtime for the purpose of hastening the completion of the fitting-out of vessels upon which they are engaged.

UNITED STATES.

Rochester has four mild cases of smallpox.

Robert G. Blain, brother of the late James G. Blain, is dead at Washington.

The New York Central railroad has declared the quarterly dividend of 1 per cent.

Earnings of the N. Y. Central Railroad in February amounted to $3,300,460, an increase of $94,823.

It is expected that the revised United States tariff will increase the duty on coal importations from 40 cents to 75 cents a ton.

Percy Dame, a teller in the Merchants' National Bank at Newburyport, Mass., has confessed to the embezzlement of $7,500.

Thomas M. Bram, mate of the bark Herbert Fuller, has been sentenced to be hanged at Boston on June 18 for the murder of Capt. and Mrs. Nash.

A bill will be introduced into the New York Senate and Assembly placing under censorship of State officials all the newspapers published in New York State.

The United States Department of Agriculture reports that 20 per cent. of last year's wheat crop and 44 per cent. of the oat crop is still in farmers' hands.

The Baroness Bertha Von Bulow, of kindergarten fame will arrive in the United States the last of this month to make an educational tour of the country.

The 800 employes of the Globe Shipbuilding Company, Cleveland, who have been out on strike for nearly two weeks have returned to work, winning the dispute.

Secretary Sherman the other day signed the extradition papers authorizing the delivery to the Australian officers of Lee Weller, who is wanted in Australia on a charge of murder.

Business in the United States continues quiet, according to the reports of the chief commercial agencies at New York. At the same time there is a fair, and to some extent increasing activity in different lines of industry. Steady prices, and increased railway earnings have increased confidence in the satisfactory outlook for trade in the early future. In many directions already the spring demand has commenced with the retailers throughout the country. A more active enquiry is experienced in shoes, headwear, and clothing generally; while in the West and South Agricultural implements are being enquired for. Despite some decreases, prices are usually well maintained, and prospects are reported as most encouraging.

GENERAL.

Prince Bismarck is suffering from neuralgia and cannot sleep.

In the Bombay Presidency up to date 14,856 cases of bubonic plague and 12,204 deaths have been recorded.

The announcement that Japan has adopted the gold standard to premature There is only a bill to that effect before the Diet.

Gen Weyler has issued an order diresting that hereafter all women arrested in Cuba who are suspected of aiding the insurgents shall be tried by court-martial.

It is stated in Berlin that Vice-Admiral von Hollmann, Secretary of the Navy, has tendered his resignation, but its acceptance is refused by the Emperor

It is stated that Gen. Weyler has received positive orders from Spain to end the Cuban war at once, even by going to the extent of selling the island to the insurgents.

The elections to the Austrian Reichsrath were held on Tuesday, and were held for the first time under universal suffrage. The Socialists were badly defeated in Vienna.

A young man in Hamburg occupying a high social position is charged with having insured his wife's life for a large amount, and then put her under hypnotic suggestions to commit suicide.

A French force, under white officers, is occupying the town of Boussa, West Africa, which is within the British sphere, and the British Niger Company is considering the question of expelling them by force.

President Crespo, in his address to the Venezuelan Congress, endorsed the treaty signed by Sir Julian Pauncefote and Secretary Olney, and pressed it upon the attention of the Congress to the exclusion of all other business.

The residence of Mr. Robert Mason, British Consul, in Havana was searched by the Spanish police during his absence, but nothing was discovered. Upon complaint, the chief of police who ordered the search was discharged.

FELL AMONG THIEVES.

The Robbery of a Toronto Lady in Cleveland.

A despatch from Cleveland, Ohio, says:—Mrs. E. A. Fletcher, a handsome and dignified-looking matron, arrived in Clevelend early on Friday morning. She had not been in the city more than five minutes before she had a sample of the cold inhospitable manner in which Cleveland treats her guests. In fact, she had not left the Union station before she discovered that her satchel, containing all her belongings, including her extra clothing and cash, had been purloined by a sneak thief. She reported her troubles to a policeman, who in turn notified the detective, who is always at the station to take care of just such cases. The latter had been watching a rather suspicious-looking man for some time, and for the time being had lost sight of him. When the story was told to the detective he at once suspected the individual referred to, and started on his track. It did not take him long to find him, he being traced to a disreputable house on Hamilton street. The man was promptly arrested, and on being threatened with imprisonment, confessed the crime, and told the officer to whom the Canadian visitor's belongings had been sold. The satchel was subsequently restored to the owner, and the thief sent to gaol. Mrs. Fletcher had come here on a visit.

THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE.

City Belle—I hope your stay in our city will not be short, Mr. De Science.

Mr. De Science (member of the Ornithologists' Union)—Thank you, but my sojourn must be brief. I am here attending the Ornthological Conventon at the Museum of Natural History, and the sessions will soon be over.

What kind of a convention did you say?

Ornithological—about birds, you know.

Oh, yes, yes. How stupid of me! Do you think they will be worn much next season?

COLORED PHOTOGRAPHY

THE GREAT PROBLEM HAS BEEN PRACTICALLY SOLVED.

A Clever Frenchman Discovered the Secre — Experiments by English Experts — The Inventor can Photograph All the Colors of the Rainbow.

According to information which has come to this country, the problem of photography, which has been so long experimented with, and which has been declared solved so many times, only to discover that the announcement was premature, has been at last solved by M. Villedieu-Chassagne, of Paris.

The French experimenter has been at work on various solutions for a long time. It will be remembered that previous efforts to secure chromatic photography have been made with preparations in powder form and on the negative M. Villedieu-Chassagne overthrows both of these principles and uses solutions instead of powders and operates upon the positive instead of the negative.

Within the last fortnight experiments have been made in London by Sir H. Trueman Wood, the secretary of the Society of Arts, and Captain W. D'Arcey, with a view to testing Villedieu-Chassagne's process.

While both of the English experimenters started in upon their inquiries with decided scepticism, they were converted, if not entirely, still to a very notable degree, to the French inventor's theories. The Villedieu-Chassagne process was originally suggested by Dr. Adrian Bansac, but the recent development of it has gone very far toward destroying all of the details of the Bansac process, leaving only his theory behind.

The demonstration took place in a laboratory of King's College, in London. The gentlemen who were present were Professors Thomson and Herbert Jackson, of King's College; Sir H. Trueman Wood and Captain D'Abney. According to the description of the experiments which is given by the secretary of the Society of Arts the colors of the natural object are produced with a wonderful similarity in the photograph. Sir H. Trueman Wood says:—

PRACTICALLY SOLVED.

"To say that Villedieu-Chassagne's process enables photographs to be produced in natural colors would not perhaps be strictly true, since coloring media are introduced, but the result of the process is a photograph in the colors of nature, a faithful reproduction in color of the object photographed, and so for all practical purposes it may be said that the long sought object of photographing in colors has actually been botained."

Villedieu-Chassagne insists at present on keeping secret the nature of the four solutions he employs; but this secrecy will be broken, he promises, upon the perfection of the recording of the invention in the various countries of Europe. A negative is taken on a gelatine plate prepared by treatment with one of his solutions. This is developed and fixed in the ordinary manner. It shows no trace of color. From it a print is taken on glass or paper, the plate or paper being especially prepared by treatment with the same solution.

The transparency of the paper print in no way differs in outward appearance from an ordinary positive, and shows no trace of color by transmitted or by reflected light. The print is then washed over successively with the three colored solutions prepared by Villedieu-Chassagne, of blue, green and red, and the print takes up the appropriate colors in appropriate parts, the three colors giving by their various combinations all varieties of hue.

Sir H. Trueman Wood, in commenting upon this phenomenon says:—

"How it is that this power is selective absorption is given to the components of the photographic image—principally, of course, metallic silver—is, it appears to me, the interesting question connected with the process. The action is certainly previously unknown, and it will as certainly repay scientific investigation."

The English investigators declined to be convinced by the mere inspection of the finished result, and the inventor demonstrated all the details of the process to them. They took a number of photographs themselves on the day before the experiment.

SIMPLE COLORING.

The light, they say, upon that occasion was extremely bad, the sky being overcast, an dunfavorable atmospheric conditions prevailed. Notwithstanding this, however, the positives, which were within twenty-four hours after the negative, showed with perfect distinctness, when treated according to the Villedieu-Chassagne process, the colors of a bunch of flowers which the secretary of the Society of Arts had bought at Covent Garden. The combination of colors in such a subject can be readily understood. Photographs of subjects not possessing such brilliant tints were equally successful.

The experiments of the Englishmen were confined to gelatine films, but the inventor treated with complete sucsess some paper positives he had brought from Paris. These are described as looking like ordinary silver prints, toned with gold.

Captain D'Abney, in describing the quality of the solutions, declares that the coloring is of a very simple nature.

"There are three dyes," he writes—"a crimson red, a grass green and a very good blue, all in solution and probably mixed with some other ingredient besides water. There is what we may call a mordant, in the shape of a colorless liquid, containing, I should say, albumen and salt

"The last liquid is brushed copiously over the face of the positive on the silver print and the blue dye applied a little at a time. It was declared that the coloring must take place in good daylight. The blue dye rapidly takes hold of those portions of the surface which represent in monochrome blues in the original.

"For instance, a china vase will take the blue tint, and the face or hands a faint amount of the same color. The green dye is applied in the same manner, and the greens in the original make their appearance in the positive as do the red tints. Finally, the print or positive presents a picture in colors, underlying which is the dark brown silver image. It appears that the image takes up selectively these three colors, but why it takes them up it is hard to see. I have a portrait done by him in the manner described, and the negative has evidently been retouched with a pencil. It is hard to understand why a pencil mark could be the cause of selective absorption of the colors. That the success of the process does not depend upon the inventor's intervention is quite evident. Were it the negative which took up the color one might understand the matter better."

COST OF DIFFERENT LIGHTS.

Expense of the Different Sorts of Artificial Lights.

The director of the electrical company of Cologne has made a comparison of the cost of the different sorts of artificial lights, reduced to the same standard of illuminating power. As the cost of materials for illuminating varies in different localities, he has taken the cost of coal gas at ninety-one cents per thousand cubic feet; of alcohol for use in incandescent lamps, at thirty cents a gallon; of coal oil at fifteen cents a gallon; and of electricity at one and three-fourths cents per hectowatt. Supposing the "manstis" of the incandescent gas burners to last 400 hours, and to cost fifty cents each, and other apparatus to have the average life, he finds the most expensive ordinary light to be that from the incandescent electric lamps, which cost ten cents per hour, for a given amount of illumination. Next comes the light from ordinary gas burners, with openings in the form of slits, which cost six cents for the same illumination. Argand burners, are, light for light, about 20 per cent, more economical than the other sort. Next to these come incandescent lamps burning alcohol, which give light at half the price of the ordinary gas burner. Ordinary coal oil lamps give light much more cheaply, the cost per unit of illumination being little more than one-fifth that of an incandescent electric light, but the modern gas lights with incandescent mantels are still more economical, furnishing for one and three-quarter cents per hour the same amount of illumination as incandescent electric lamps at ten cents. Electric arc lamps are about 10 per cent. more economical still, and are the cheapest sources of artificial light at present known to us.

BIRTH MONTH STONES.

The very latest craze in many of the fashionable capitals is the wearing of birth-month stones, and, strange to say it emanated in remote Poland. Women there, according to an old legend, are saved all manner of ills by wearing the guardian charm of the month in which they were born; and men, too, if given such gems by a woman are also saved and benefited. Here is the true list. There are varieties, but the one given is direct from Poland:

January—Garnet; constancy.
February—Amethyst; sincerity.
March—Bloodstone; courage, wisdom.
April—Sapphire or diamond; free from enchantment, innocence.
May—Emerald; success in love, discovers false friends.
June—Agate; health and prosperity.
July—Ruby; corrects evils of mistaken friendship, discovers poison.
August—Sardonyx; means conjugal felicity.
September—Chrysolite; antidote to madness, frees from sadness and evil passions.
October—Opal; hope.
November—Topaz; fidelity; prevents bad dreams.
December—Turquoise; prosperity.

A TROUBLESOME WOMAN.

President Kruger's Contemptuous Reference to the Queen.

A despatch from Bloemfontein, Orange Free State says:—President Kruger, of the Transvaal Republic, has arrived here with the view of arranging for a closer union between the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. He was entertained at a public luncheon, and replying to the eulogistic toasts of President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, he said he was not there to controvert the Queen's rights. Time, he added would show he had always defended her Majesty—(cheers)—and he had told his people to respect her. He expressed the hope that the two Republics would form indissoluble ties, but he never had any idea of the Free State being absorbed by the Transvaal. Continuing, President Kruger said he knew he had to abide by the London convention, but the Queen was a troublesome woman, and it was therefore necessary to deal with the question of union with the utmost caution. He hoped some day to see a union of the whole of Africa.

ALL WEDDINGS ON ONE DAY.

At Plongastel, in Brittany, all the weddings of the year are celebrated on one day. In February last 34 couples were simultaneously joined together in holy matrimony. The ceremony was very pretty, all the brides and bridegrooms wearing Breton costumes, and walking in procession round the town, followed by their fathers and mothers, their brothers, their sisters, their ccousins, and their aunts. The wedding breakfast was laid out in detachments, hardly a building in the village being exempt from making room for a portion. There were 2,000 guests distributed among the lofts, barns and kitchens; plates were conspicuous by their absence and a dish of food was supplied to every four persons. The festivities lasted for a week, and included many curious old Breton customs.

HEALTH OF THE RULERS.

ILLNESS OF ROYALTY IN FOUR COUNTRIES OF EUROPE.

Speculating About the Life of the Czar—Man of Nerves—Emperor of Germany Never Free From Pain—Close Kinship of Marriage the Cause of the Trouble.

A correspondent, writing from London says that there is no exaggeration whatever in the whispered reports of the feeble health which afflicts the Czar, the next two heirs to the Austrian crown, the Prince of Naples and the Emperor of Germany. Any of these personages is liable to the sudden grip of the dread enemy.

As for the Czar, his real trouble is consumption, and a long life for him is impossible. His present illness, ascribed to neuralgia of the face, is really brain worry. It is not caused by the slight wound which he received a few years ago from the attack of a would-be assassin in Japan, but by the unfortunate illness which came a few weeks ago to the Empress and frustrated the hope of a male heir to the throne. True, there is the Emperor's brother, but he is slowly dying of consumption, and the Czar himself is of opinion, that were he to die, and the crown devolve upon his little daughter, she and the Empress, who would be Regent would certainly become the speedy prey of the regicide's bullet or bomb. Russia would never submit to the regency of a German princess.

THE FAULT IS IN MARRIAGE.

The health of the young Prince of Naples has not been improved by his recent marriage to the Princess of Montenegro. As for the Emperor William, he is never entirely free from pain, and it is now stated that the ulceration of the ear is gradually extending to the brain, and that must mean madness or death.

The cause, perhaps, of this general condition of affairs in so many royal families must be traced to the close kinship of the marriages they contract, and the unfortunate laws which prevent crown princes from choosing wives from the ranks of their healthy countrywomen, not of royal lineage. The Queen and the Prince of Wales are ardent reformers in this direction, as is shown by the marriages they have permitted their children to contract. True, the Prince of Wales rather contradicted himself when he allowed his youngest and most delicate daughter, Princess Maud, to marry her first cousin, Prince Charles of Denmark, but it is no secret that for a time he strongly proposed the union, on the plea of consanguinity only.

A NERVOUS CZAR.

Naturally, the reading of the speculations as to what would happen in case of his "going off" has not improved the Czar's nerves. The slightest noise makes him so irritable that [illegible] are fired except by his special sanction, and at one or two reviews of troops of recent occurrence there has been scarcely any firing. The sound of a bell is said to entirely discompose his Imperial Majesty, and those churches within earshot of the palace where the Emperor happens to be staying have of late ceased to appeal for congregations from clanging steeples.

The Czar's dislike to loud talking is a matter which is somewhat irritating to his relations and immediate courtiers. He himself speaks very low, and, unless you stand very close to him, a difficulty in the case of such an exalted personage, you cannot hear a word he says. It is whispered that his Majesty succeeded unwittingly in forcing tears from the eyes of his aunt, the Princess of Wales. She is devoted to her nephew and tried in vain to have long conversations with him. Her Royal Highness is unfortunately very deaf, and the Czar would not raise his voice even for her. Finally conversation became impossible, and the Princess had to content herself with sitting in silence with the young Emperor's hand clasped in her own.

THE SINGING MASTER.

A songstress sigh'd to be a star,
A star divine of singing,
And famous masters, near and far
She sought, bright silver bringing.

But, sad to say, her silver spent,
Her dearest hopes departed,
Homeward, at last, the singer went;
Forlorn and broken hearted!

She would have died, had not beside
Her way she saw a hermit,
Whose hut behind the hills did hide,
Till one could scarce discern it.

He drew her in and from his soul
He breath'd of song a shower;
That through her heart did swell and roll
With dreamy spell and power.

Her silv'ry voice he taught to trill
With bird-like ease and rapture;
And left her smiling on a hill,
The world by song to capture.

"Dear master, stay, for what you've done,
I'll gold and silver borrow:"
"For love I teach and love alone," her
Cried singing-master Sorrow!" G. Jr.

SAD DOMESTIC NEWS.

Daughter—Bridget has been remarkably attentive to her duties lately.

Mother (sadly)—'I have noticed it.

Yes, she has stopped slighting her work, and pa's shirts and collars and cuffs are starched beautifully. She walked twenty squares last Saturday afternoon to see a woman who had promised to show her how."

My! my!

And lately she has begun studying cook-books, and asking me all manner of questions about the desserts and other dishes which I have always had to make myself. She seems determined to master every department of housekeeping.

Alas! It is as I feared. She is going to be married!