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.

Hamilton has decided upon August 5 as the date of its civic holiday.

The Cornwall Canal will be ready for navigation by the last week of April.

Over 100 buffalo have been seen in the vicinity of Fort Smith, Athabasca, during the past winter.

A despatch from Bombay says that the plague has broken out among the British troops at Calaba.

It is said that at the approaching convocation of Queen's University, Lady Aberdeen will be made an LL.D.

The total cost of the work done by the Dominion Government for the improvement of Toronto harbour was $356,034.

Vital Roy, aged 60, was asleep on the I.C.R. track one mile east of St. Vallier, Que., when the Halifax express killed him.

Mr. E. P. Hannaford, late chief engineer of the Grand Trunk is suing the company for damages on account of his dismissal.

The huge steel arches of the bridge that will take the place of the railway suspension bridge at Niagara have been placed in position.

The Manitoba fund for the relief of the India famine sufferers now reaches $17,560.73, of which nearly $2,000 is from the school children.

It is intimated that the negotiations in connection with the fast Atlantic service have reached a shape that an announcement may be expected before long.

Senator Macdonald of British Columbia has introduced a bill in the Senate to make the 24th of May a perpetual holiday in honor of her Majesty.

Inspector Scarth left Ottawa on Saturday night for Regina. From that place he will take with him some twenty mounted policemen to the Yukon district.

Mr. J. A. Kinsella, instructor of buttermaking at the Kingston Dairy School, has been appointed as assistant to Prof. Robertson, Dominion Dairy Commissioner.

The Canadian Pacific railway have deposited plans for the Crow's Nest Pass railway with the Railway Department, which is an official intimation that they are ready to construct the road.

With the approval of many of the Boards of Trade, the Government will soon appoint commercial agents to South Africa, the Mediterranean countries, Mexico and other places to promote trade relations.

The Internal Economy Committee of the Dominion House of Commons has decided to compensate Restaurant-keeper Parnett for the abolition of the House of Commons bar last season.

Trouble has arisen between the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific railways owing to the new tariff of passenger rates to the Kootenay district issued by the Grand Trunk, and a rate war is threatened.

The union bricklayers of Montreal went on strike on Friday. They are at present receiving 30 cents an hour and working ten hours a day, and they ask for a change to 35 cents an hour and nine hours a day.

The Dominion Government's proposed amendments to the Civil Service Act will be sweeping in their nature. It is said that all new appointments will be during pleasure, instead of during good behaviour, as at present.

The Government has granted $300,000 to the Grand Trunk for the improvement of Victoria bridge, the condition being that the Intercolonial is to have running powers over the road from Levis to Montreal.

Capt. Yates of the Oregon Asiatic Steamship Company is en route to Ottawa to submit a proposition to the Dominion Government for the establishment of a line of steamers between British Columbia ports and Central America.

It has been decided in Ottawa by a meeting of military authorities that the jubilee regiment will be made up of volunteers from the different corps. They will leave Montreal on June 1 by a troopship for Liverpool, whence a train will convey them to Aldershot. Two weeks will be spent there, and one in London.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Archbishop Plunket of Dublin is dead.

Major Sir John Willoughby, the only one of the Transvaal raiders to serve his full sentence, has been discharged from the jail.

Mr. Edward. Blake's motion in the British House of Commons setting forth that Ireland was overtaxed was defeated on Wednesday by one hundred and sixty votes.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, in full robes of office, attended the bar of the Imperial House of Commons on Monday and presented a petition praying the Commons to take into consideration the financial relations of Great Britain and Ireland.

In the British House of Commons the other day Mr. Chamberlain said he was unable to state the number of Colonial Premiers who would visit London during the diamond jubilee. No formal conference had been arranged, but the Government would be glad to have the co-operation of the Premiers in all matters of common interest.

UNITED STATES.

Navigation has opened at Chicago.

A Canadian Society was formed in New York last night.

Governor Adams has signed the bill abolishing capital punishment in Colorado.

The New York press says Daniel S. Lamont may become president of the Northern Pacific Railway.

Mrs. Leopold Vandamme, at Norwich, Mich., has given birth to five children within the past 12 months.

Table hands and finishers in the Chicago tanneries have decided that a general strike should be declared.

Masked men in the vicinity of Lancaster, Ky., have threatened to kill tollgate keepers if they presist in collecting tolls.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railway is to have a rail and lake line between Chicago and Milwaukee and the eastern seaboard.

Mlle. Haritles Pachiri, a Grecian lady at the Buckingham Hotel, New York, is reported to have been robbed of diamonds worth $5,000.

Abraham Ephraim Elmer, of Utica, N. Y., claims to be one hundred and fifteen years of age, and the oldest man in the United States.

Eastern capitalists have, it is said, bonded immense copper mines near Carson City, Nev., and will build a mill and smelters at once.

Between 30,000 and 60,000 steam fitters and plumbers are on strike in New York as a result of a practical lockout on the part of the bosses.

The breaks in the levees in Mississippi have allowed a vast tract of country to be flooded and the inhabitants barely escaped with their lives.

Former Ambassador Bayard will return to the United States May 15th from England, and former Ambassador Wayne MacVeagh from Italy April 30th.

Representative Spalding, of Michigan, has introduced a joint resolution in the House at Washington providing for the annexation of Hawaii to the United States.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the American Bell Telephone Company the directors were re-elected, and it was voted to increase the capital stock from $23,643,000 to $26,015,000.

The United States Senate has authorized the Secretary of the Navy to place a vessel of wars and a chartered merchant vessel at the disposal of the collector of the port of New York for transporting contributions of wheat, flour and corn to relieve the famishing poor of India.

The Supreme Court at Washington has decided that the Oceanic Steam Navigation Company was responsible to certain passengers for damage done to baggage in crossing from Liverpool to New York, although the tickets of claimants contained in fine type a waiver for damages to persons or property.

Commercial reports from the United States indicate little, if any, change. Business is dull, and the outlook uncertain, but employment is more general in various lines of industry than was the case a few weeks back. Prints and woollens are in steady and appreciative request, and the wool mills are everywhere busy. The decision of the Supreme Court in regard to trusts has, for a time, detrimentally affected the iron trade, but the check is only expected to be temporary. The political situation in Europe is affecting markets in the United States and elsewhere detrimentally, but in business circles prospects are considered good.

GENERAL.

President Kruger has suspended his grandson for insulting Great Britain and the Queen.

It is reported at Bombay that the plague has broken out among the British troops at Calaba..

A Paris despatch says that a new Atlantic cable is being manufactured at Calais and will shortly be laid.

President Faure has been officially informed of the approaching visit of the Russian Emperor and the Czarina to France.

The British brig Aeronaut, from Santa Fe, December 31, for Hamburg, has been abandoned at sea. Her crew have arrived at Barbadoes.

The Newfoundland Government has decided to enforce the act which prohibits French fishermen from St. Pierre taking bait in Newfoundland waters.

M. Hanotaux, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Comte de Mun, the well-known clerical Deputy, have been elected members of the French Aca-

The Cretan Committee will not accept the fifty thousand roubles offered by demy.

the Czar for the families of the refugees .They ask no aid from the Czar while Russian warships take part in the blockade.

SPAIN'S DOWNFALL.

Her Troops to be Withdrawn From Cuba At an Early Date.

A special from Washington says:—"Spain has decided at last to cease offensive military operations in Cuba at the beginning of the wet season, now only a few weeks away. She is preparing to withdraw all her active forces from the interior, and to send back to Spain large numbers of men. Their occupation of the ports and of strategic positions will be of a tentative character. The three troshas will be practically abandoned. This is the downfall of Spain in Cuba, but even in her humiliation and bankruptcy she assumes the role of a conqueror, bestowing favors on the conquered. It has been given out by the Spanish Legation that the meeting of the Cortes, which was regularly set for Easter Monday, has been postponed until some time in July. This is because the Ministerial Council in Madrid dare not attempt their Cuban retreat with the Cortes in session. Action is imperative, and when the Cortes does meet a bill of indemnity will be asked for. The date set for the cessation of hostilities is not to be later than April 15th. General Wevler has been instructed to return to Havana within the week, if possible, but certainly before April 15th. He will find awaiting him a Royal edict prepared at Madrid to be promulgated, setting forth that the war is over."

A RAISE.

You told me last week that you would try to raise my salary, said Briggs.

Oh, yes, replied his employer. Well, I did.. I raised it after some trouble. Believe me, I had a very hard time raising it this week.

DEATH IN THE CYCLONE.

AN OKLAHOMA TOWN WRECKED AND BURNED.

Forty-Five Persons Killed and Two Hundred Injured—Many Slowly Roasted to Death.

A despatch from Guthrie, O.T., says:—A terrific cyclone struck the town of Chandler, 40 miles east of here, at 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening, and the latest news is that 45 persons were killed and more than 200 injured, a dozen of them fatally.

A despatch received at 2 a. m. reported the ruins on fire, and many injured people burned to death. So far 24 dead bodies have been taken from the ruined buildings.

Chandler was a town of 1,500 inhabitants, and was almost completely devastated, only two buildings being left standing, the Grand Island grocery and the Mitchell Hotel.

The known dead are:—Mr. and Mrs. Woodman, Mrs. Henry Mitchell, Mrs. Tom Smith, John Dawson, Attorney; F. Demoff, Emma Dressinger, D. C. Johnston and wife, Mrs. Philip Johnston and child, Mrs. Dr. Lee, A. W. Kellar and wife, unknown woman and baby, five unknown children, ex-Mayor A. McIlherny and wife, George Pierson.

Among the fatally injured are:—Arthur Jewett, Peggy Johnston, Mrs. Frank McCann. D. C. Gooding, Maggie Reaves, Andrew Asher and wife, Mrs. Cullom, Jennie Woodsworth, Alex. Bishop, Arch. Shepard, Mrs. Frank McCall, Mrs. Emery Foster and baby, Nettie Ulan, Wilson King.

Others injured, so far as known, number 16.

The scenes were heartrending, people dying on all sides, with but one physician on the ground who was not hurt. Six persons in one buildingwere pinned down and slowly roasted to death. Darkness came on soon after the cyclone struck and the work of rescue was carried on under the greatest difficulties. The telephone office was carried away, but at 10 o'clock a telephone was connected with the wire two miles away and a message sent here for assistance. A number of physicians and other citizens have left for the scene with surgical instruments, drugs and other supplies.

A later message stated that a large number of people known to have been in business buildings are missing and it is feared they are dead under the ruins. The exact state of affairs cannot be learned until daylight.

Chandler is the seat of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, which, it is reported, has been badly wrecked. Many people are reported injured in the wrecked court house, and the disaster is believed to be much worse than at first thought. The injured will reach over two hundred and there is no shelter and no adequate medical attendance, and it is feared

THE CRETANS BOMBARDED

THE TERRIBLE EFFECT OF THE CAMPERDOWN'S GUNS.

Insurgents Attacking Izzedin Are Driven Off by the Warships of the Powers.

The Canea correspondent of The London Standard describes the fighting around the fort at Izzedin. The garrison consisted of 300 Turks, who had twelve Krupp guns and two Nordenfeldt guns. The guns, however, were trained seaward, and were useless to repel an attack from the landside of the fort. The blockhouse above the fort contained three hundred more troops, with two Krupp and two Nordenfeldt guns. Beyond this position there was a strong stone wall, where the insurgents were massed under the Greek side. It was impossible to say which side began the fighting, but the engagement was in full swing at 8 o'clock in the morning. The Turkish guns in the block-house took but a small part in the fighting, but a Turkish frigate shelled freely, though with small success. An hour later the foreign warships were ordered to fire. The eign warships were ordered to fire. The Prussian warship Grosiastohy opened. She was followed by the British warship Ardent and the Austrian warship Tiger. Each fired in turn, aiming chiefly at the Greek flag.

The fire from the Russian warship gradually demolished the whole wall, every shot from her taking effect. Despite the heavy cannonade the insurgents held their ground stoutly, throwing out skirmishers and driving back the Turkish outposts, although they were compelled to abandon their own principal position behind the stone wall. The British battleship Camperdown began firing

SIX-INCH SHELLS

at the insurgents, who thereupon retired a little distance but continued a heavy fire for a quarter of an hour. When the Camperdown was at the range of 6,400 yards she opened with range of 6,400 yards she opened with her thirteen-inch guns. The effect was instantaneous. Three or four percussion shells burst right in the midst of the insurgent camp, causing them to run for shelter in all directions. The gun practice of the Camperdown was perfect, while the noise of the enormous shells hurried through the still air was enough alone to frighten the enemy. Things were now too hot to last and the flag was speedily lowered and the insurgents hastily retreated, while the Russian and Austrian warships fired with extreme accuracy a succession of sharpnels. The last shell was fired at 10.15 o'clock. The Russian and Austrian warships then steamed away on blockade service and the Ardent round to Suda. The Turks quickly sallied forth and established themselves in the insurgent position, amid demonstrations of delight. They advanced across the open space with great coolness under a continuous fire from the Cretan sharp shooters, who stood their ground until the last moment. They never budged until further resistance was out of the question. At 11.30 o'clock the Turks were pouring a roaring rifle fire into the retreating masses of insurgents. The latter replied with great spirit. Their grand defence excited the admiration of all witnesses. It is evident that they were not discouraged by the odds against them, for they sent a letter stating that they intended to attack the fort at Butsunaria. In the evening of that day the fort was occupied by European troops.

PECULIAR, NOT VICIOUS.

When that Boy Grows Up He Will Be Safe in Any Insane Criminal Court.

"Yes, Johnnie is considered a vicious boy, but he isn't responsible for that."

"Why not?"

"Because he is peculiar."

"In what way?"

"In a great many ways. One day his father told him to go to the store and come right back. He didn't come, and when his father looked for him he was playing ball with some boys in the back lot."

"Indeed!"

"Yes, and that isn't the worst of it."

"No?"

"He hadn't been to the store at all!"

"How strange!"

"At another time his sister said he should not eat so many pancakes; that eleven were enough for any boy."

"Well?"

"Well, he ate thirteen!"

"No!"

"Yes. Not long after this his Sunday School teacher cautioned him against the sin of lying. The next day he broke down the clothes line and said it was Jimmie Harrigan that did it."

"I want to know!"

"Yes, it's a great comfort for me to remember that if Johnnie ever gets in any trouble it will be so easy to prove that he was 'peculiar!'"

ROYALTY AT WORK.

It has been truly said that every charitable institution in Greece owes its prosperity to Queen Olga. The great Evangelismos Hospital at Athens, which she founded, is managed by her in person. Not a day passes but her majesty, accompanied by one of her ladies-in-waiting, spends at least two hours in the hospital, supervising everything, and especially visiting those among the sick who are of foreign birth, and who might feel themselves abandoned in a strange land.

Every contribution—however insignificant—to the funds of the hospital passes directly through her hands before reaching the treasury, and no matter how busy she may be, she makes a point of acknowledging in her own handwriting each donation received. As an instance of her kindness of heart it may be mentioned that she keeps on hand a supply of earth brought from Russia on purpose to be sprinkled on the coffins of those Russians who die in Greece.

The Empress Frederick, too, has not only founded, but also assists and supervises many charitable institutions in Germany, but she devotes special attention and money to the hospitals for sick children, tenderly caring for the little ones in memory of her husband, whose heart was particularly tender toward infant sufferers.

It is of this trait in the emperor's character that the sculptor has taken advantage in the statue erected at Dusseldorf. A new ward had been built to the hospital for crippled children at that place, and "Unser Fritz" was at the opening.

One little cripple forgot its sorrow in admiration of the insignia of the orders that adorned the emperor's breast. To gratify the little one the emperor took it in his arms, and allowed the child to satisfy its curiosity by handling the attractive ornaments. This is the incident that the sculpton has perpetuated.

LIVED THREE CENTURIES.

An Englishwoman Whose Life Was So Long that It Touched in Three Centuries.

At first thought it appears well nigh impossible that one human life could touch three centuries before death came. The English papers have recently been discussing longevity in its various phases and find at least three well-authenticated cases of people who lived to three times change the last three numerals in the year date.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hobbs, a Cambridgeshire lady did so. She was born in 1629 and died on March 23, 1803, in the 104th year of her age, which facts are recorded on her gravestone in the south west corner of the churchyard of Little Wilbraham, about six miles from Cambridge.

Thomas Parr, more familiarly known as "Old Parr," was born in 1483 and died in 1635, at the age of 152 years and nine months, having lived seventeen years in the fifteenth, 100 in the sixteenth and thirty-five years in the seventeenth centuries.

On a tombstone in Llandaff Centre, N. H., is the following: "Widow Susanna Brownson was born Aug. 31, 1699, and died June 12, 1802, aged 103 years." She thus lived in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

JUSTIFIED.

He—Miss Bellacour claims to belong to a very old family.

She—Well, she's justified. There are six of those girls, and the youngest of them must be at least 35.

NEWS FROM THE ORIENT.

TALE OF CRUELTY FROM THE PROVINCE OF QUANG-TUNG.

Man-Eating Tigers Abroad—New Cruisers For the Chinese Navy.

During the famine in Quang Tung, many sufferers were compelled to sell their children in order to save their lives. Among the purchasers was the secretary of the District Magistrate. He bought two girls, aged ten and twelve years. As he was taking them to the passenger boat for transport to Canton he was set upon by soldiers and arrested for kidnapping. He appealed to the magistrate, with the result that his captors were in turn made captives, babooed and finally driven out of the Yaman. The soldiers complained to their commanding officer, who also took umbrage and allowed his men to return and inflict revenge on the magistrate. After beating him the soldiers dragged him to the temple of Mars, and while some made him kneel down, others plucked out his hair and moustache by the roots. The regiment then went into revolt and the troopers have since mutinied.

A TIGER SCARE.

Great alarm prevails throughout the region of Foo Chow, where the rural population is large, on account of the ferocious tigers which the hard winter has driven down from the mountains. First dogs and pigs began disappearing with marvellous rapidity, causing the natives to lock all their stock in buildings. Left without means of subsistence, the hungry beasts gradually grew bolder, and have since been attacking laborers in the forest and even people in their dooryards. A half dozen natives are known to have been devoured. A Foo Chow paper stated that two tigers made a noise about a house which sounded like a knocking at the door. When the head of the family went to the door he was seized and eaten. When he did not return his son went out to look for him and shared the same fate. It is feared that, having tasted human blood, the tigers will become a source of permanent danger. The terror-stricken people have barricaded their houses, and the men will not venture out to work except in small parties.

NEW WARSHIPS.

The Chinese Government has decided to order four more armored cruisers, two fast cruisers and several torpedo-destroyers, all of the English type. This is owing to the great increase recently made in Japan's navy. China will not order any vessel of over 10,000 tons, as she has neither harbor nor docks suitable for them, The programme for several years to come will be to order vessels of 8,000 tons. Voluntary retrenchments made at the palaces of the Emperor, the Empress and the Dowager Empress are to be devoted towards strengthening the new navy.

A NEW ELDORADO.

Gold Seekers' Rich Finds in Yukon Valley.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Mr. Ogilvie, the Dominion land surveyor, who has been shut up about Fort Cudahy all winter, being unable to get out owing to the heavy snowfall, has sent a number of reports to the department during the last few months, pointing out the mineral wealth of the Yukon territory. Last fall he suggested that additional protection should be given to the speculators and those entering the country. The result of this is that an additional company of Mounted Police is now being sent out there from Regina.

Mr. Sifton has just received from Mr. Ogilvie a remarkable report as to the vast discoveries of gold which are made there. Mr. Ogilvie says that at Clondyke, which is some 60 miles south-east of Fort Cudahy, and further into British territory, some men are making from $1,000 to $2,000 per day. This is done by placer mining in the most primitive methods. The report is altogether a most remarkable one, showing gold to be found in abundance.

STOUT HEARTS, THESE.

The heart is not always the delicate organ it is generally believed to be. Dr. William Turner records in the British Medical Journal, a few cases which point to the fact that wounds of the heart are seldom, if ever, immediately fatal. A child two years old was brought to him with a sewing needle driven into its heart, and the needle was extracted without evident harm resulting to the heart of the child. Another case described is that of a soldier in whose heart a bullet was found imbedded six years after he had been wounded, he having died from quite another cause. Several instances are also given of persons living for months and years after their hearts had been terribly lacerated. Indeed, neither gunshot injuries nor penetrating wounds bring the heart at once to a standstill; so that this part of the animal organism is apparently not its most vital structure.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR KIRKPATRICK.

The London Surgeon Who Attended Him Says the Operation Gave Relief but Was not a Cure.

The Ottawa Citizen publishes the following:—"A private letter to a professional friend on this side from Mr. Herbert Allingham, the famous London surgeon who operated upon his Honor Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick, contains a very grave prognosis regarding his distinguished patient's case. In fact, Mr. Allingham believes that, in spite of the relief afforded by the operation measures, Mr. Kirkpatrick's life cannot long be spared. This will be sad news for a public to which the Governor has endeared himself by many general graces and solid virtues."