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.

Mrs. Boyd, wife of the late Governor of New Brunswick, died at St. John, on Friday.

The first wheel forged at the Perth car wheel works was turned out on Friday.

Over 1,200 Galician immigrants arrived at Winnipeg on Wednesday.

It is proposed to reduce the Mounted Police force to about 500 men.

The estate of the late Joseph Richardson, of Stratford, is valued at $100,000.

Cornwall will celebrate the jubilee by a citizens' demonstration on June 22nd.

The Mennonites in Manitoba have contributed $350.35 to the India famine fund.

Strathroy has decided to impose a license fee of $50 on vendors of cigarettes.

The Hudson Bay expedition will start, according to present expectations, about the 20th inst.

The annual Canadian lawn tennis championship matches will be held at Niagara-on-the-Lake on July 13.

The Senate has passed the bill to make the 24th of May a perpetual holiday in honor of the Queen.

Ex-President Grover Cleveland will next month proceed to the Thirty-one Mile Lake up the Gatineau, for a couple of weeks' fishing.

The Montreal Police Commissioners have passed a by-law to regulate the speed of bicycles. Eight miles an hour is the limit named.

Brantford has purchased property on the banks of the Grand River for a new public Park in commemoration of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

One officer and six men will be chosen from the volunteer militia of Manitoba to accompany the Canadian military contingent to England in June.

Harold Fetherstonhaugh, the seven-year-old son of Mr. F. B. Fetherstonhaugh, was killed on the street railway track on Spadina avenue, Toronto, on Friday evening.

Mrs. Ann Sturdy, ex-Matron of the House of Refuge at Hamilton, has begun an action against ex-Mayor Tuckett for $5,000 damages for alleged slander.

The Government have decided to increase the pay of civil servants by merit only, and to abandon the statutory increase of $50 a year hitherto in force.

All the circumstances connected with the death of Joseph Heloquin, night watchman of the Star Brewing Company at Montreal, point to deliberate murder.

The Chinese residents of Ottawa are moving against the levying of a special tax of ten dollars on their laundries, and intend to refuse paying in order to make a test case.

After this all the employees in the Grand Trunk shops throughout the system will work five hours a week more than they have been doing during the past two or three years.

Capt. Larkin of St. Catharines has been awarded the contract for the Iroquois section of the St. Lawrence Canal deepening. The amount involved is in the neighborhood of a million dollars.

The salary of Principal Merchant of the London Collegiate Institute has been raised from $2,000 to $2,200 per annum. The attendance at the institute has nearly doubled since his appointment.

A Mormon wedding ceremony was performed in the Latter Day Saints' chapel, Toronto, on Wednesday night by Apostle Evans, of London. The contracting parties were Anson W. Burton and Miss Amelia Braden.

The Dominion Bridge Company and the Detroit Bridge Company have been given the contract to reconstruct the Victoria Bridge at Montreal. Mr. Wm. Gibson, M.P., will do the masonry work.

Messrs. M. & N. K. Connolly have secured a contract from the Government of Uruguay for the construction of a canal 16 miles long. The contract price, it is said, is in the neighbourhood of $10,000,000.

The Controller of Customs has decided that matrices for linotype machines are accessories for printing presses, and are dutiable at ten per cent., instead of thirty per cent., as brass manufactures, under the old tariff.

Officials of the Michigan Central and Canadian Pacific Railways met at Hamilton to perfect the plans for the joint operation of the T., H. & B. line. It is said the C.P.R. trains will start running between Toronto and Buffalo on May 30.

The officers of the Canadian expedition which will start shortly to test the navigability of Hudson bay and straits are commissioned to plant the British flag in the Arctic region for the purpose of asserting sovereignty rights where no rights are at present respected.

Prof. Robertson stated to the Committee on Agriculture in Ottawa on Thursday morning that arrangements had been made for providing the best mechanical refrigerators in seventeen steamships leaving Montreal this summer to take the perishable products of Canada to the British market.

Mr. G. W. Ross, the Ontario Minister of Education, in an address the other day to the students and staff of the Normal and Model schools, at Ottawa, said that the Normal school term would in a short time be extended to at least ten months so that the teachers might receive a proper and much-desired training.

The proposal to establish a Railway Commission is being considered by the Dominion Government. The duty of the commission would be to constitute a check upon wildcat schemes, to see that money raised upon the securing of railways is devoted to the purpose for which it is obtained, and generally to safeguard the interests of the public and investors.

The insurance companies chartered in Canada have decided not to insure barges known as pineflats carrying grain. The pineflats engaged in grain carrying between Prescott and Montreal have a total carrying capacity of 500,000 bushels. If the pineflats are excluded the grain will have to be taken to Montreal by the railways, which, it is claimed, would mean making the St. Lawrence route prohibitory and would drive the grain trade to Buffalo.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Mrs. George Linnaeus Banks, an English poet and novelist is dead.

The miners' eight-hour bill was rejected in the British House of Commons.

Lord Rosemead, Sir Hercules Robinson, the former Governor of Cape Colony, arrived in London on Friday.

Mr. Gladstone is in splendid health. He walked home from church on Sunday to Hawarden Castle, a distance of half a mile, in a boisterous storm.

In the Imperial House of Commons on Wednesday the Merchants' Shipping bill was read a second time. The object of the measure is to guard against insufficient crews as well as unseaworthiness.

Thomas Wood, who was sentenced on Friday, in London, Eng., to five years' penal servitude for fraudulently advertising loans, had previously served ten years in a Canadian penitentiary.

At the Transvaal Investigation Commission on Friday, the Duke of Abercorn stated that the directors of the British South Africa Chartered Company had no knowledge whatever of the Jameson raid before it took place.

UNITED STATES.

The exhibition of kinetoscope pictures of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight is to be prohibited in Pueblo, Col.

A large number of the prominent citizens of Buffalo intend to celebrate the Queen's diamond jubilee by a dinner.

Joseph Thorne, inventor of the Thorne typesetting machine, died in New York, on Monday, aged 72.

About twelve hundred plumbers are on strike in Chicago against the employment of more than one helper in each shop.

Mrs. John Higgs, at Glenham, near Matteawan, N.Y., on Tuesday gave birth to triplets, one of which has three eyes.

Reports from many towns in Southwestern Michigan say an earthquake shock was felt for several seconds Sunday night.

Mrs. Mary O. Bates, who had hanged herself at Biddeford, Me., and whose death was announced after nine hours of unconsciousness is reported to have revived.

The arbitration treaty has been defeated by the United States Senate. The vote stood 43 yeas to 26 nays, not the necessary two-thirds required by the constitution.

The Rev. Dr. Rainsford, rector of St. George's Episcopal church, New York, is suffering from a severe attack of gout and has left for Hot Springs, Va., where he hopes to obtain relief.

The Buffalo Commercial, referring to the defeat pf the arbitration treaty, says the rejection of the treaty by the Senate closes an episode that does the Republic no credit, and lends additional belief in the degeneracy of the Senate.

At its session on Thursday in Chicago the National Association of Railway Surgeons changed its name to the International Association, and elected Dr. Hutchinson, of Montreal, first vice-president, and Dr. Riordan, of Toronto, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements. The next meeting will be held in Toronto.

Commercial trade reports indicate a general steady, but slow, increase in the movement of trade, and there is a more speculative spirit in the air than for some time past. In some lines production largely exceeds present requirements, and prices are consequently depressed, but there is a gradually increasing consumptive demand. Wheat has been weak lately, but later it has advanced. The enquiry for cotton goods is dull, and a heavy output is still on the market. Print cloths are again lower, and mills are continuing the output in excess of current needs. Much the same can be said of woollens, though there is an increasing demand; the price of wool is firmer. Some furnaces in Pittsburg and Pennsylvania have stopped work. Leather and hides are both weak in price.

GENERAL.

It is semi-officially denied that Prince Hohenlohe, the German Imperial Chancellor, has resigned.

A despatch from Accra, Gold Coast Colony, says it is reported that Chief Samory, hitherto friendly to the British, has captured Lieut. Henderson's mission at Wa.

The Duc d'Aumale died on Friday at Zucco, Sicily, from cardiac apoplexy, caused by the shock he experienced on hearing of the death of the Duchess d'Alencon in the Paris fire.

Five of the Barcelona Anarchists convicted of participating in the bomb outrage, were shot on Tuesday morning. They shouted "Long live Anarchy" just before the order to fire was given.

There is a movement on foot in Australia to send twenty thousand sheep and five thousand bullocks to England as a contribution towards the dinner which the Princess of Wales is promoting for the poor of the London slums during jubilee week.

PROVERBS AND THEIR OPPOSITES.

Proverb—Marry in haste, repent at leisure.

Opposite—Happy is the wooing that's not long a-doing.

Proverb—Out of sight, out of mind.

Opposite—Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Proverb—A rolling stone gathers no moss.

Opposite—A sitting hen gathers no feathers.

Proverb—A stitch in time saves nine.

Opposite—It's never to late to mend.

Proverb—There's honor among thieves.

Opposite—Set a thief to catch a thief.

Proverb—Discretion is the better part of valor.

Opposite—Nothing venture, nothing have.

WAR NEARING THE END.

THE CONFLICT BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

Hard Fighting at Velestino—Crown Princess and the Mob—The Stampede at Larissa—Critical Position of the Greek Royal Family.

A THREE HOURS' BATTLE.

The Athens' correspondent of the London Standard, under date of Wednesday, says:—"There is great rejoicing over the receipt of an official telegram from Pharsalos saying that the Turks have been repulsed and the Greeks hold their positions after a three hours' battle. The despatch says Crown Prince Constantine and Prince Nicholas fought courageously in the front rank, risking their lives a hundred times, and they had an ovation from the whole army when the fighting was over. The Government has forwarded to them its warmest congratulations, assuring them they have celebrated their father's name to-day in the most admirable manner. The King and the Cabinet have also addressed a manifesto to the troops, congratulating them upon their courage and patriotic devotion.

"The public is overjoyed, and is already forgetting earlier blunders of the campaign.

"A decisive battle is expected at Pharsalos to-morrow, Thursday."

THE FIGHT DESCRIBED.

The Athens correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, under date of Wednesday, says:—"The following is the official despatch from Major Pallis, Chief of the Staff of the Greek forces in Thessaly, describing the fight at Pharsalos:—"The Turks attacked our advance posts at two o'clock. Since yesterday evening their movements had indicated an intention to cut off our left wing, and to-day they attacked our front. Our advance posts retreated, as they were fighting against very much superior numbers, and took up a position in front of our right wing. An artillery duel ensued along an extensive line. The enemy's infantry advanced in perfect order at three points, and in large numbers, but they were speedily checked by our infantry. The respective losses are as yet unknown. The Crown Prince took a very active part in the combat, and advanced within range of the Turkish fire, greatly inspiring the men. Prince Nicholas was equally active with the right wing, and directed the fire of his battery against two Turkish batteries. His coolness greatly encouraged the troops. We maintain all our positions intact, and the engagement will certainly be continued to-morrow (Thursday). We calculate about 15,000 Turks attacked our right wing. They rushed down the hill slopes in vast numbers. The enemy was our superior in both artillery and cavalry, the calibre of their guns was larger, while their number was almost double ours. We had no cavalry because our only squadron has been used for scouting, and had gone to Trikhala."

A FIERCE BLOW.

There was a striking feature in Friday's cavalry charge. Col. Mahmoud Bey was fired upon by a Greek officer, who sent four bullets from his revolver in the direction of the Turkish officer, Mahmoud Bey then galloped ahead of his men, and with one fierce blow with his sword completely severed the Greek officer's head from his body.

IN FAVOUR OF INTERVENTION.

A London correspondent cables as follows: "England, as Mr. Curzon announced in the House of Commons to-day, is again pressing the question of intervention, this time with success. It is beginning to be recognized in St. Petersburg, Berlin and Vienna that the political friendship of England and France has become a genuine factor in the situation, and its influence is already felt.

"It is no secret that England is in favour of stopping war immediately at any cost, and of restoring the status quo ante bellum in every respect, France practically endorses the policy of Lord Salisbury.

"The impression grows stronger in all quarters that the submission of Greece to Turkey and the powers will soon be forthcoming. It is not expected to take the form of suing for peace or mediation, the latter least of all, for Greek feeling is more bitter against the concert of Europe than against Turkey. King George would prefer to negotiate directly with the Sultan rather than through the powers. Indeed, he declared recently that he would never under any circumstances seek the intervention of Europe.

"It is not unlikely that the end of the hostilities will take the form of a brief armistice. This gained, nobody believes that fighting will ever be resumed.

"Instead of hoping for Turkish success, official Europe is now earnestly desirous that the Greeks should gain some advantage in the field. The interests of European peace were considered best served by Turkish victories of the outset of the war. Now the situation is reversed. The Sultan is naturally convinced that he is invincible, and daily becomes more defiant

FIERCE FIGHTING.

The Turkish army is bivouacked in the eighty villages surrounding Pharsalos captured from the Greeks. The battle began at nine o'clock in the morning. After skirmishes between the advance posts of the opposing forces the Greek artillery opened fire with great precision. But the Turks pushed forward exposing themselves to the enemy's fire with the greatest sangfroid. The Greeks then made a fatal error in leaving the commanding positions which they occupied and retiring upon the plain, which was commanded on all points by our batteries, which were brought into action so soon as the Greeks left the hills. The scene which followed was both interesting and cruel. The Greeks from all parts of the plain were converging towards a stone bridge crossing the river, which was the only means of getting over. The mass of humanity at this point was constantly growing when the Turkish artillery began. The Turks obtained the exact range of the enemy, and shell after shell fell and exploded in the midst of the fugitives. The havoc created by the shrapnel shots was terrible. Gradually, however, through this decrimating fire, a greater part of the Greeks traversed the river.

The Turks, who were then covering the plain like bees, met with a strong resistance while attacking Vasili, where the Greeks, from hidden positions, opened a furious fire. But the Turks advanced with marvellous temerity, and captured the village, not by gunshots, but by purely the moral effect of the fear which their splendid insouciance in the advance inspired in the enemy.

Owing to the fact that it was not intended to commence the decisive engagement, until Friday, the Turkish division intended to take the enemy in flank only arrived half an hour before the close of the combat, having marched thirty miles.

The artillery played a leading part in the fighting, although the Greek guns, while they opened well, ended badly, while ours were served even better than usual.

The Turkish attack upon Valisi was made without any previous plan. The men were ordered to capture the place, and they advanced quietly, shooting as though hunting. The Greeks maintained a withering fire. I saw a Turk wounded in the leg advancing to the attack on all fours.

During the day the Turks captured a mountain battery and eighteen mules, a great quantity of ammunition and provisions, and the personal effects of the Greek Princes. Crown Prince Constantine and his brother, Prince Nicholas.

SLAUGHTERING THE GREEKS.

The Greeks, in retiring across the plain towards the town, suffered terrible loss from the murderous fire of the Turkish artillery. During the retreat the Greeks had to cross the river by a single bridge. As the Greek troops were massed at that point, the Turkish artillery, getting the exact range, wrought fearful havoc among the enemy. Nevertheless, the Greeks fought desperately until nightfall. Eighty of the surrounding villages were also occupied by the Turks, who captured a mountain battery and 18 mules, a great quantity of ammunition and provisions, and the personal effects of the Greek princes, Crown Prince Constantine and Prince Nicholas.

IT LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE.

NATAL ARMY RESERVE MUST BE IN READINESS.

The Boers Patrol the Border—They are Ordered to Report Suspicious Movements—A Call to Afrikanders—The Boer Parliament Repeals the Alien's Immigration Law.

A special despatch received in London from Cape Town says that the army reserve of the Colony of Natal has been notified to hold itself in readiness for active service.

It is further announced that the authorities of the Transvaal have instructed their field-cornets thoroughly to patrol the native border, and report instantly any suspicious movements. Finally the despatch says that a circular from the Transvaal has been distributed in Cape Colony and in the Orange Free State, calling upon the Afrikanders for help. It says:—"We do not want your money or moral support. We want you to come and help us."

A despatch from Pretoria says:—The Volksraad held a protracted secret session on Wednesday to discuss the answer to be made to the despatches of Mr. Chamberlain, British Secretary of State for the Colonies, which demanded a repeal of the Transvaal immigration law.

On Thursday the Volksraad repealed the law, not because it was a breach of the London convention, but because it was distasteful to neighbouring States.

Mr. Coster, the Transvaal State Attorney, has tendered his resignation in disapproval of the repeal.

The position taken by Mr. Chamberlain on the subject of the Transvaal alien immigrants law, No. 30, of 1896, was stated in his despatch to Lord Rosemead, the British High Commissioner at the Cape, under date of December 15th, 1896. He said to Lord Rosemead:—"Inform the Government of the South African Republic that her Majesty's Government cannot, in view of article 14 of the London convention, admit that the Government of the South African Republic has a right of expelling or restricting foreigners who are not shown to have failed to conform to the laws of the Republic, and that her Majesty's Government reserves the right of rejecting to proceedings under the Act which may amount to a breach of the convention."

"Inform the Government of the South African Republic that her Majesty's Government is advised that the alien immigration law infringes article 14 of the London convention, inasmuch as by it new and burdensome conditions, in most cases probably impossible to fulfil, are imposed on persons who under the convention are at full liberty to enter and reside in the South African Republic on condition of conforming to its laws.

"You will state that her Majesty's Government appreciates the repeated assurances of President Kruger that the Government of the South African Republic had no intention of departing from the terms of the London convention, and therefore feels confident that it will not attempt to enforce the law."

In a letter to Lord Rosemead explaining the reasons for the despatch Mr. Chamberlain said the British Government could not accept the alien immigration law as an ordinary police law within the terms of article 14 of the London convention, which declares that all persons other than natives conforming themselves to the laws of the South African Republic shall have full liberty to enter, travel, or reside in any part of the republic. The alien immigrants law provided that such persons would not be at liberty to enter or reside in the republic unless they could sho waffirmatively that they had the means or ability to support themselves. Mr. Chamberlain argued that as the only condition imposed by the convention is that they should conform to the laws of the republic, the new law would be ultra vires, and moreover would impose a "further condition of a burdensome nature which it might be difficult for many of the poorer, though perfectly respectable immigrants to satisfy."

BATTLE OF PHARSALOS.

AGAIN THE TURKISH TROOPS DRIVE THE GREEKS BACK.

Held Their Own When the Sun Went Down on Wednesday, but They Retreated in the Night—The Powers Now Offer Intervention—Lord Salisbury's Speech at the Primrose League.

The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at Volo, under date of Wednesday, says:—"The biggest battle of the war began near Velestino this morning. As a result of it the Turkish force of 40,000 men has been repulsed. The Turkish plan was to seize the hills on the north dividing Pharsalos from Velestino."

THE LOSS ON BOTH SIDES.

A special despatch from Athens asserts that the losses of the Greeks in the fighting at Velestino and Pharsalos were certainly one thousand killed and wounded, while the Turks lost fully six thousand killed and wounded.

WEDNESDAY'S FIGHTING.

The London Daily Mail's correspondent with the Turkish forces at Pharsalos, telegraphing Thursday morning, says: "Yesterday's (Wednesday) battle was most sublime as a spectacle, and the most decisive of the entire war. It was not intended at the beginning that the fight should be a regular pitched engagement, but on the arrival of Edhem Pasha at the outposts a furious firing began. The weather was cool and the sky somewhat cloudy, after a thunderstorm. The village of Pharsalos could be seen huddled as it were under a line of low-peaked hills. Higher and round about were black hills rising behind others, while between this and the village ran a small stream known to the ancients as the Raipeus, crossed by a bridge. At the railway, between the stream and the village, were Greeks in an excellent position, well defended by earthworks. Their advance line consisted of two brigades, and their reserve of two half brigades, altogether about 20,000 men. As against these were 50,000 Turks.

"The artillery began the engagement the Greek practice being much better than usual, but after about two hours they began to retire across the river. This was a great mistake, as they were thus enclosed between the river and the mountains with no room to deploy. The sight was superb. In many cases the Greeks fought with the courage of despair. Great black masses forming the rear guard to hold the bridge, covered the whole rich green plain, and the endurance and dash of the Turks were magnificent, too. I reached the battlefield with a regiment whose men immediately began to run forward, dancing under fire, and shouting like children when they saw the enemy. The Greeks repulsed them vigorously, and followed up the repulse.

"The Turks had formed in a semicircle of thundering batteries and crackling battalions. The division on the extreme right tried to cut off the retreat to Domokos, while the remainder of the force flung itself upon Pharsalos. The battle was but little like the battles described in books. There was no firing of volleys, no bayonet assault, no rush, no cheering, but only a steady, leisurely advance into open in perfect order. There was some individual firing, and the soldiers shouted, "Allah, Allah," till the constant repetition swelled into one heavy, monotonous shout, like the 'hear, hear,' of the House of Commons. I saw some men suddenly fling up their hands and fall face downwards, but the Greek fire in the main was ineffective. Before five o'clock the last village north of the river had been taken. Then the village of Vasili and the entrenchments near the river were stormed with considerable loss to the Turks, and the battle ceased. At nightfall the flanking division established itself behind the Greeks, and cut off the best line of retreat to Athens."

TO PROTECT THE DYNASTY.

A despatch from Berlin says it is reported there that the powers have decided to land their troops at Athens to protect the dynasty, Greece having declined the proffered mediation, and Turkey being willing to negotiate on easy terms if Crete is evacuated by the Greeks.

LORD SALISBURY'S VIEWS.

At the annual meeting of the Primrose League, the Marquis of Salisbury, discussing the Greco-Turkish question, said:—"The main object of the European concert was to prevent a European war," adding that the belief prevailed that all danger of such a war was finally dissipated, and the peace of Europe, apart from the local conflict, had been placed on a better basis, and had better hope in its future, than ever before. Her Majesty's Government, the Premier also said, would do its best to end the bloodshed. In his concluding reference to the war, the Marquis of Salisbury said:—"The opening of the Eastern question was greatly dreaded, but it has now come like a nightmare. There has been great terror that any outbreak in the south-east of Europe might lead to a general blaze, but it is to be hoped that the danger is past, and that we may look clamly on the larger interests involved. It may be that Turkey has exhibited proofs of strength which few suspected, and perhaps a better future is open to the dominions of the Sultan. Their Government may improve or maybe the Empire will collapse, as many have feared. In either case we are justified in believing that all changes will be conducted under the sanction of peaceful deliberations."

PHARSALOS EVACUATED.

It was ascertained at daybreak that the Greeks had evacuated Pharsalos during the night time. The majority of the Greek forces are retreating on Demokos. The baggage and artillery took the main road, and the infantry crossed the hills.

ON A BYWAY.

Has he proposed to you yet?

No—not directly, but he keeps telling me that he entirely sides with the Greeks in their annexation schemes.