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.

Rev. Alexander Grant, of Winnipeg was drowned in the Nepigon River.

Two new cases of smallpox have developed in Westmount, a suburb of Montreal.

Steamship rates on grain from Montreal and Liverpool have nearly doubled within a comparatively short time.

John Flack, a resident of St. Catharines, was on Saturday morning run over by a runaway team, and instantly killed.

The Dominion Governent, according to a Winnipeg dispatch, is considering the question of opening a route into the Yukon via Edmonton.

It is expected that the telegraph line from the head of Lynn canal to the Klondyke can be built before the winter.

A despatch from Winnipeg says that there will be no difficulty in placing farm hands in Manitoba as soon as they arrive.

By a majority of 15 a local option by-law was carried in Wainfleet Township, Welland County.

A reorganization of the Militia Department which will effect a saving of many thousand dollars will take place.

Thomas Telford, of Kingston, who recently disappeared in London, Eng., has been found in a hospital there. He had been sandbagged and robbed.

A war map of the Dominion of Canada is in process of preparation. It will show all the roads, bridges, towns, villages, farms, blacksmith shops and stores.

Manitoba millers have advanced the price of flour in Montreal 25 cents a barrel, the third raise within the past few weeks, largely due to the increased cost of wheat.

Thieves entered Garland's general store at Portage la Prairie, and Mr. Ormand, the caretaker, fired on them. One of them returned the fire, wounding the caretaker in the left shoulder.

Premier Greenway, who has been in Southwestern Manitoba, reports that the crops have decidedly improved, and are looking better than they did at this time last year.

Mr. E. A. Wells, of Alexandria, Egypt, writes to the Dominion Department of Trade and Commerce suggesting Egypt as a good field for the development of Canadian trade.

Mr. Joseph Lavergne, who represented Drummond and Arthabaska in the House of Commons, has been appointed a Judge of the Superior Court of Quebec for the Ottawa district.

A company has been organized in Montreal for the purpose of sending an expedition to the Yukon district upon the co-operative plan. The miners engaged are to have a share of the profits.

Regulations respecting the issue of leases to dredge for minerals in the submerged beds of rivers in Manitoba and the North-west Territories have been made by Order-in-Council.

An order has been issued liberating Mrs. Omier, of Gatineau Point, who was tried for murdering her husband, but she refused to leave on the ground that she is afraid of sunstroke this warm weather after her long incarceration.

Referring to the mission of Mr. E. E. Sheppard, of Toronto, to open up trade between Canada and Mexico, a City of Mexico despatch says Canadian lumber will find a market, as well as various lines of manufactured goods, if properly introduced.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Countess of Craven, nee Carnelia Martin, of New York, has given birth to a son.

Viscount Garnet Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief of the British army, is seriously ill.

It is stated that a site has been selected in Killarney for a Royal residence in Ireland.

The Imperial Government has decided to build a harbour and graving deck at Simonstown, in Cape Colony.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier will sail for Canada on the Labrador on the 19th inst. Sir Louis Davies will leave Liverpool on the 26th inst.

The Chief Justice of Canada, Sir Samuel Henry Strong, is now sitting daily as a member of the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council.

Mr. McLeod Stewart, the ex-Mayor of Ottawa, had an interview the other day with Lord Lansdowne, with reference to the Georgian Bay and Ottawa Canal, and he was promised all the assistance in the power of the Secretary of State for War.

The King of Siam arrived on Wednesday at Portsmouth, where he was received by the Prince of Wales. He had luncheon with the Queen at Osborne house, and tea with the Prince and Princess of Wales on board the royal yacht Osborne.

In the House of Commons on Monday evening the Government grant of eighty thousand pounds towards the jubilee celebration was opposed by some of the Irish members, but was carried by a vote of one hundred and sixty-two to twelve.

Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain stated in the House of Commons that the denunciation of the German and Belgian treaties was the unanimous wish of the self-governing colonies, who desired to deal with the United Kingdom on preferential terms.

UNITED STATES.

It was 104 in the shade in Lincoln, Neb., on Saturday.

Seven persons were killed by Friday's cyclone at San Jose, Ill.

Three thousand men engaged in the building trades went on strike in New York.

New York post-office inspectors assert that the foreign mails are being systematically robbed.

Judge Tuley decided on Friday that the Chicago ordinance establishing a vehicle tax, including bicycles, is void.

The Prince of Wales will attend the autumn military manoeuvres at Hamburg September 3rd.

Erastus Wiman has taken out his final papers in New York, which makes him an American citizen.

It is reported from Perry, O. T., that outlaws have killed Quannah Parker, chief of the Commanche Indians.

The Washington authorities admit that beyond any possible doubt the Klondike gold fields are in British territory.

The Glucose Sugar Refining Company, with a capital stock of $40,000,000, has been incorporated at Trenton, N. J.

A non-union roller, employed in the Scottdale, Pa., iron and steel works, was shot and killed by union men on strike on Saturday.

Elisha Boulder Glenn of Newark, N.J., celebrated his one hundred and third birthday on Friday, and hopes to live to cast a vote for Bryan at the next United States Presidential election.

An ultimatum has been presented to the Peruvian Government by the United States Administration requiring the immediate payment of the McCord claim.

Mr. T. V. Powderly, formerly Master Workman of the Knights of Labor, on Tuesday took the oath of office in Washington as Commissioner General of Immigration.

Charles W. Spaulding, ex-treasurer of the Illinois State University, and former president of the Globe Savings Bank, has been found guilty at Chicago by a jury in the third trial. The charge was hypothecating $25,000 in Macupin County bonds.

Prof. Elliott, of Cleveland, thinks that Mr. Foster, who was sent to England in regard to the seal question, is a diplomatic failure. He has secured nothing from the Salisbury Government. The Canadians are in control of the situation, and at the coming conference they will skin Mr. Foster as they "skinned" him before at the Paris tribunal.

GENERAL.

Nearly 100 persons have been drowned in Silesia.

It is reported that a reign of terror exists in Portugal.

It is reported that Belgium will endeavor to arrange a commercial treaty with Canada.

Yellow fever is ravishing the Spanish troops, and is proving the best friend of the insurgents.

Floods at Johannisbad, Bohemia, have caused great loss of life and destruction to property.

The Japanese Government has ordered from Germany a nine thousand ton battleship.

Trouble has arisen on the Turko-Persian border, and both Governments are despatching troops.

General Weyler commander of the Spanish force in Cuba, will grant amnesty to 1,500 exiles.

The steamship Mariposa sailed from Sydney, N.S.W., for San Francisco on Tuesday with 450,000 sovereigns.

Capt.-General Weyler has signed an order expelling from Cuba two New York newspaper correspondents.

The Carlists expect that Don Carlos will be at the head of his forces in Spain before the end of February next.

Owing to the expected bad harvest the Russian Government intends to prohibit the exportation of grain this year.

The Emperor and Empress of Germany arrived at Cronstadt on Saturday, and were cordially received by the Czar.

There has been a veritable epidemic of suicide in Paris for some weeks past, the heat adding to the number of cases.

The cloudbursts and inundations which have devastated the eastern part of Germany have caused a serious loss of life.

The Vatican, including the Pope himself, is actively engaged in a campaign to stimulate the revenue from Peter's pence.

The Cologne Gazette says that the proposal of Germany for European control of Greek finances has been accepted by the powers.

A Chinese pirate captured the British steamer Pogu on July 14, murdered the captain and seven of his crew and plundered the ship.

Advices by the steamship Miowera confirm the reports of the massacre of white gold-hunters and native assistants in New Guinea.

A paper published in Rome, Italy, declared the resignation of Secretary of State Sherman is necessary, as his diplomacy is irritating all Europe.

There were disturbances at Tetuan, near Madrid, on Monday, arising out of a private dispute. The rioters used guns and several persons were wounded.

Much interest is taken in French naval circles at the discovery of a composition which is alleged to have the marvellous property of rendering vessels invisible beneath the rays of electric searchlights.

The Japanese Government is said to be seriously embarrassed financially, arising out of the increased demands in every direction on account of Japan taking her place as a civilized nation.

According to reports from Madrid, received at London, the Portuguese Government is setting the constitution at defiance, and adopting the most stringent repressive measures.

Grave charges are being formulated against the Boers. It is said they supplied the Matabele with arms, and exacted very heavy bribes from the South African Chartered Company.

The great volcano of Mayon, on the island of Luzon, one of the Philippine group, has been in violent eruption since June 24, and it is estimated that thousands of the inhabitants have lost their lives.

The report that Mr. Cecil Rhodes and Mr. Alfred Belt has personally paid two hundred and fifty thousand pounds to the Transvaal Government in indemnity for the Jameson raid is officially denied.

A despatch from Athens says that a sharp engagement took place between 2,000 Turkish troops and the armed population of the villages lying between Metsovo, Trikala and Kolarrytes.

Senor Calbajer, a Cuban refugee, who arrived at Tampa, Fla., on Sunday, says that the insurgents attacked the village of Marnano, killed 49 Spanish soldiers, wounded 120 and took possession of the place.

Owing to the amendments to the peace agreements introduced by Tewfik Pasha, the discussion of which would occupy a couple of weeks, it is expected that the powers will send another ultimatum to expedite the Porte.

A newspaper in Bombay prints a highly inflammatory article, attacking the Indian Government for "the prosecution of obscure persons," and for "making an absolute police regulation do duty as a secret assassin."

According to a Tokio paper, the Formosa rebels seem to have an understanding with the high officials of China, and their plan is to attack foreign offices and residences, and otherwise molest foreigners, so as to start international trouble.

The Japanese Minister to the City of Mexico, in an interview, says that Japan, while having no desire to annex the Hawaiian islands is opposed to their absorption by the United States. Japan would prefer the islands to remain independent.

Japan threatens to make a naval demonstration in Hawaiian waters, and will insist that the United States assume a contingent responsibility in the matter of arbitration of her differences with Hawaii on the subject of immigration and the tariff.

PREDICTION AND WARNING.

What It Means to Start for the Yukon Country Without Proper Preparation.

Here is a prediction: Should the rush to the Yukon country continue, should the multitudes, or any considerable portion of the multitudes now striving and pressing to get off to that region succeed, there will be a tragedy during the coming winter the like of which never has been known in America.

Do men realize that they are starting for the Arctic regions? That the summer is already well advanced, and that winter will set in there by the time they reach their destination? That winter in those hyperborean regions lasts from October to May? That the temperature falls so low that cold performs the effect of ire? That without adequate protection against the climate and abundant food all life will disappear? Do men who have always been accustomed to mild climates realize what it is to winter at the Arctic circle?

Life there is possible during the winter only as careful preparation is made to support it. Food, clothing and shelter are indispensable. Exposure there is no trifle, as in our mild climates. Exposure there means sure and sudden death. Along the Alaskan and British Columbian coast the climate, tempered by the ocean, is not severe; but the gold fields lie in a vast river basin behind a high mountain range, at great distance from the coast, and very far toward the north, where all the rigorous conditions of an Arctic winter prevail. Water will not flow, the streams are frozen to the bottom. Even in summer the ground thaws only at the surface. Transportation over mountain ranges, where rugged trails furnish the only lines of passage, is so slow, costly and difficult that scarcity of supplies is inevitable. If large numbers succeed in getting over the mountain ranges into the basin of the Yukon, accessible with difficulty in summer and not at all accessible in winter, it may be set down as certain that the greater proportion will perish.

This is no safe adventure, like the rush in former times to the gold mines of California. Climate is a fact that must be taken into account. In mild climates men may take their chances for food and shelter; in severe climates they cannot. It is a sure prediction that, should any great numbers succeed in getting into the Yukon region this fall, there will be a tragedy the like of which has not been known to the world since Napoleon's Russian campaign.

A good deal of grub will change hands at Dawson this winter at the point of the revolver. Where there is only about half enough provender to go around, the man that draws first will continue to acquire food. This was the situation in the Fraser diggings, near as they were to civilization. The extremity will be accentuated in the polar regions.

ROYAL BUT POOR.

Unless Queen Victoria on the one hand and the Czar on the other contribute towards the maintenance of Prince Francis Joseph, of Battenburg, and of Princess Anne, of Montenegro, whose engagement has just been announced it is difficult to see how they will ever be able to maintain an establishment befitting their rank. The Prince has at the most an income of $3,000 a year—probably not so much—while Princess Anne is the daughter of a ruler so poor that he is compelled to depend upon the bounty of the Czar, his patron, in order to make ends meet. It is probable, however, that Emperor Nicholas will dower Princess Anne to the extent of 1,000,000 roubles, just as he did in the case of Princess Helene when she was led to the altar by the Crown Prince of Italy. Anne, like her sister Helene, and their elder sisters was brought up at the court of St. Petersburg, under the personal supervision of the now widowed Czarina, her parents being too poor to defray the cost of her education. The late Czar became sufficiently fond of the girls to dower the two elder ones on their marriage just as his son has done for Princess Helene, and is expected to do in the case of Princess Anne. A million roubles, even with the present depreciated value of that much abused Muscovite coin, represents about $350,000 in English money, so that the young couple may in the long run not be so badly off after all.

THE ROAD TO KLONDIKE.

EXPERIENCE OF ONE WHO HAS BEEN THROUGH THE MILL.

A Few Little Things May not be Handy but the Experience is Worth the Money—Your Own Beast of Burden.

L. A. Bickell, writing to the Rossland Record, tells how to reach the Klondike as follows:—

It would be well for those who have the Klondike fever to consider a few of the realities before they attempt the journey. Suppose you leave Rossland on the train Wednesday morning, you arrive in Spokane Thursday evening, and get in Seattle Friday. You have then to wait for a boat to carry you to Juneau, the time being six days. It takes two days on a small steamer to take you to Dyea, the head of navigation. There is where your troubles commence. From the boat your goods are carried on an old scow and polled up the inlet as far as possible, which depend on the tide, and wherever the low water catches you there the goods are dumped. The first thing the tenderfoot does is to look in bewilderment at his pile of goods, gaze with amazement at his surroundings and say, "Good ——, where am I at, and how can I ever get over these hills?" If the party has plenty of money he can get Indians to pack his goods to the summit of the Chilkoot pass at the rate of ten cents a pound, and from there to the head of navigation or Lake Linderman, a distance of seven miles at a rate of five cents a pound, making a total of $15 a hundred.

YOUR OWN BEAST OF BURDEN.

Considering that an outfit will weigh at least $1,000 pounds, it will cost him $150 for packing. Providing he packs it himself it will take at least ten days to pack it to the summit, a distance of nine miles from Dyea, which is a steep ascent all the way until you reach the foot of the summit, when you have to cut steps in the ice in order to retain your equilibrium so as to make the climb of about a mile with a 50 or 75 pound pack on your back. After packing your 1,000 pound outfit to the summit you have to go through the same experience in descending on the other side.

DO SOME BOAT BUILDING.

At Linderman you are at the head waters of the Yukon. The first thing you have to do there is to make a boat. The mosquitoes are so bad you cannot do a thing unless guarded by a veil over your face, gloves on your hands, and a good supply of underwear. Picking out your trees you fell them, make a saw-pit, peel the logs, line them up, and out comes your whip saw and at it you go sawing lumber. It will probably take from four to six days to saw the lumber for your boat, another week to make it—provided you have not forgotten to bring nails, pitch and oakum with you. If you have not got them you will have to tramp back to Dyea for them, for after you leave there the first camp you come to is Pelly, a distance of 300 miles. The boat being built, you launch her, put your outfit aboard and away you go. Six miles is passed, when you come to One-Mile river.

It is a raging, rocky, treacherous stream; the goods are put ashore, and if you have luck you may get your boat through without damage. Then come the arduous task of portaging your goods on your back to smooth water. Reaching Lake Bennett, you may sail along the 30 miles of its length smoothly, provided the wind is favorable, otherwise the oars will have to be called into service. Cariboo crossing, Tagish or Mud lake and Fifty-Mile river are soon left behind. The canyon is about a quarter of a mile long, its walls are perpendicular, and the water of a deep river 100 yards wide is pressed between its sides, a distance of about 50 feet in width. So swift does the stream fly between these walls that a crest is formed in the centre of the stream, which is alive with boulders.

LIKE A MILL RACE.

The quarter of a mile is made in less than a minute. Half a mile below are the White Horse Rapids, a place where many a brave man has lost his life in his eager endeavour to reach the goal of his ambitions, where he imagines the scores of the streames are covered with the glistening yellow metal.

In portaging your goods you encounter a perpendicular bluff, the mosquitoes tormenting the life out of you, your back and shoulders are sore from making a beast of burden out of yourself. The boat is lined down through the treacherous waters, re-loaded, and things go smoothly until you reach Lake Le Barge, which is 45 miles long, if the wind is fair, and you'll think it's 100 if you have to use the oars. Five Fingers, 60 miles below Le Barge, is another dangerous piece of water, and one must take his life in his hands to go through one of the four apertures in a frail boat made with inexperienced hands. Only a half-inch board and a few wire nails separating him from this world and the world to come. And then comes Rink Rapids. If you do not take the right hand channel you are liable to get into trouble there.

SLUSH ICE IS FLOWING.

After this the sailing is smooth, but it is getting late in the season. September is upon you, the days are becoming short, the trees shed their mantle of green and frost is in the air. You have still a journey of about 500 miles to make in a frail craft through an unknown country. The slush ice is commencing to flow. You are benumbed with the cold in your cramped condition. Finally the Klondike is reached. Hopes are in the ascendancy, fame, fortune and life of ease will soon be yours, so you say to yourself. But listen. You want a place to winter. A tent may be a part of your equipment.

WEATHER TO BREED ICEBERGS.

It's not warm enough for the weather at the present time. You want a cabin. Where are you going to get it? You say we'll build one. Where are you going to get your logs? By going up the river they may be obtained, but by the time they are cut down, and by main strength got to the river you will find the ice so thick you will be lucky to get back to camp alive and leave your logs behind you. It is an utter impossibility to get them to camp and put up a cabin by anyone starting from Rossland this time of the year. Perhaps you have enough money to buy one. It takes lots of "dust" to induce a man to give up his home in the face of an Arctic winter where the thermometer will register from 70 to 90 degrees below zero most of December, January and February, the months of October, November, March and April, being considered mild at 30 to 50 degrees below. If you have good fur robes to sleep in, a parkie and fur socks and moccasins you will probably pull through.

BACON A LUXURY.

Provisions have never been known to be plentiful. Bacon sells from 40 to 90c. a pound, and sometimes is so strong and rancid when cooking one is forced to poke his head out of the cabin for a breath of fresh air, but is compelled to come back and eat it. Either do this or do without.

The two companies who control the trade of the entire Yukon were never anxious to have white men intrude upon their territory, for the Indians were their common prey, upon whom they fed with gluttonous appetites.

The days have been dwindling shorter until there is only about two hours daylight out of twenty-four. Being fortunate, you make a location. With the thermometer down to 55 you commence to dig. The ground is frozen too hard. What are you going to do? You will have to do as everyone else does.

BURN THE GROUND.

If you are fortunate in locating in a gulch where there is plenty of timber the work will be that much easier for you. But sometimes wood has to be hauled ten or twelve miles for burning purposes. This is done by building a fire and thawing out the ground, especially in deep digging, the fire is made at the face of the drift and is banked by green cottonwood, which throws the heat in. They must pay their credit bills to the companies in the first place, as a matter of honor. In the second place, as the companies own all the available means of getting out of the country they can keep watch of your actions. It is impossible to get out the way you came in, unless it be in the winter, you cannot very well contend against a stream with a six-mile an hour current in a small boat, especially when it contains so many rapids. You find yourself mortgaged. You must stay until you strike it.

But remember we always hear of the few who make the strikes while the many who go broke are never heard of, I do not deny that there is lots of gold in the Yukon, but I do say that the great majority who have undergone the hardships have never been repaid for their trouble. Again I say, the majority who have gone to this northern Eldorado are disappointed men.

A LITTLE CALCULATION.

To those who comtemplate going all the way by steamer via St. Micheals. It takes fifteen days for a steamer to go to St. Micheal's harbor, provided they have favorable winds and a successful voyage. The risks are numerous of making connections at the port with the river steamers which takes 15 days to make Circle City, when it is daylight 24 hours in a day. At this time of year they could not travel more than ten hours a day on account of the treacherous river, which is filled with sand bars and obstacles of every description.

Calculate when you can get the next boat from Seattle and add these figures together and you will find yourself frozen in somewhere in the neighborhood of the Tannana, some 800 miles below Cloyndyke and about 500 miles from Circle City. Anyone contemplating this trip should consider well what he is doing, especially at this time of year. A means of making a livelihood in the Yukon in winter is freighting. A team of four or six dogs would be a good investment. Provisions are more necessary than money in that country in the winter.

A LUCKY KLONDIKE WOMAN.

Staked Out a Claim and Is Now Worth $250,000.

Luck like lightning, strikes in curious places. It is so in the Klondike. Mrs. J. T. Willis was less than three months ago a poor washerwoman, living in Dawson City. She set out alone for the gold fields of the frozen North from Tacoma, Wash., about two years ago. She was not successful in her prospecting, but she managed to make a fair living as a laundry woman in Dawson City. When the news of the Klondike discoveries of gold reached that place she joined a party of cattlemen and went at once to the new diggings. She staked out a claim as soon as she got there, and it turned out to be a good one. She is now worth at least $250,000. Mrs. Willis has a husband living in Tacoma. He is a blacksmith and a great sufferer from rheumatism. It was his inability to work that caused her to start out for the gold-mining country, resolved to return rich or not at all. Incidentally she has the fame of introducing the first "boiled skirt" among the Yukon miners. She paid $2.50 for the box of starch with which she starched it and $4 a day and board to the Indian squaw who was her first assistant in the laundry.

The Dominion Minister of Militia has authorized the holding of the usual autumn camps of instruction for the militia.

Montreal's reception to Sir Wilfrid Laurier will likely take the form of a Laurier day at the Exposition, to be followed by a banquet given by the Board of Trade.