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.

There are already $400,000 worth of new Dominion bills in circulation.

Archbishop Langevin is a patient in St. Boniface Hospital suffering from typhoid fever.

John W. Colclough, collector of customs at Rat Portage, dropped dead from heart disease.

The mounted police in their progress to the Yukon only travelled eighteen miles in ten days.

Mr. F. J. Rastrick, of Hamilton, architect and civil engineer, is dead after several weeks' illness.

Count Louis de Louzo of Bulgaria is travelling in Manitoba as advertising agent for Washburn's circus.

The Ottawa city assessors believe their returns will show a population of 53,000 an increase of 2,000 for the year.

It is expected that Mr. D. L. Moody the well-known evangelist, will visit Montreal in the middle of next month.

Montreal priests are not to ride bicycles in the city. This is the injunction given at the last ecclesiastical retreat by Mgr. Bruchesi.

There is a rumour in Ottawa amounting almost to a certainty that the next meeting of the Federal Parliament will be in the first week of February.

The trouble at the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary continues, and the convicts appear determined to keep up the row until tobacco is restored to them.

Mr. Joseph Letoile, of Ottawa, inventor of the submarine searchlight, has a scheme on hand to reach the Klondyke by balloon, starting from Ottawa.

The Winnipeg Tribune announces that a big grain dealers' combine has been formed to control the wheat crop and defraud the western farmers.

The Canadian Cotton Mills Company have decided to sell the whole products of their mills direct to the trade, instead of through an agent, as heretofore.

The London Street Railway Company's roadbed and rolling stock have been assessed at $230,000, and the company's taxes will probably be increased $5,000 over last year's figures.

The latest advices received from England at McGill University announce that Principal Petersen is rapidly recovering from his recent indisposition, and that he expects to sail for Canada in the course of a few weeks.

Mr. W. A. Hastings of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company denies the statement that a combination has been formed to beat the Northwest farmers on their wheat sales. His company has never had any connection with a combine.

Dr. L. H. Davidson acting dean, and Judge Wurtele, professor of real estate law, have resigned from the staff of McGill University, as a result of the trouble in the law faculty, incident upon the appointment of Prof. Walton, of the Scotch bar.

Postmaster-General Mulock states in connection from the profit from the sale of jubilee stamps that they will add at least a quarter of a million dollars to the receipts of the year over and above what would have been realized in the sale of ordinary stamps.

The Council of the Hamilton Board of Trade considers it desirable that a route should be opened as soon as possible through Canadian territory, as the trade of the Yukon country is now largely in foreign hands in consequence of inadequacy of communication through our own Dominion.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A sensation has been caused by the statement that the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir presumptive to the throne of Austria-Hungary, married a middle-class lady in London last week.

A strong company to exploit the Klondike region was recently organized in London by Lieut.-Col. Domville, who will shortly reach Montreal and organize a fully equipped expedition to the gold regions, which he will lead personally.

Bristol is showing a keen desire to secure a large share of the Canadian trade, and Mr. Girdlestone, the general manager of the Bristol docks, sailed last week as a representative of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Shipping, to work up a better connection with Canada.

UNITED STATES.

Sir Julian Pauncefote's term at Washington is likely to be extended for a year.

Rev. G. B. F. Howard, a convict in the Ohio penitentiary, is reported to have escaped.

Owing to the scarcity of apples in Canada, Canadian buyers are in Kansas contracting for the crop.

At a fully attended Cabinet meeting in Washington on Tuesday the question was considered of affording relief for inconsiderate Klondyke immigrants who are stranded and hungry at Dawson City.

Jackson, Miss., is completely demoralized and business is at a stand still on account of yellow fever. The people continue to pour out of the city until two-thirds of the population have gone.

GENERAL.

Yellow fever is spreading in Nicaragua.

Carlotta, ex-Empress of Mexico, is so dangerously ill that her death at any moment is expected.

The wheat crop of Sicily and Calabria this year will range from one-half to two-thirds of an average crop.

The officials of the Vatican have strictly enjoined the Spanish priests from participation in the Carlist agitation.

Louise Michel, the notorious French Anarchist, is going to the United States in October on a speech-making tour.

Despite the invasion of the flying locust, the reports received concerning the Argentina wheat crop are of a most encouraging character.

It is stated that the Ambassadors of the powers at Constantinople have all received instructions enabling them to come to a full agreement on the basis of Lord Salisbury's proposals.

Following the report that Emperor William intends to visit the Queen at Balmoral comes the statement that the Emperor is anxious that the Queen should visit him either at Coblenz or Potsdam in April.

Gangadhar Tilak, the native member of the Bombay Legislative Council, and publisher of the Kesari, has been found guilty of publishing editorials inciting the natives to disaffection, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

Two steamers collided in the River Volga near Astrakhan. One sank and while she was going down her passengers, panic-stricken, jumped into the river. Many of them succeeded in reaching the shore, but 40 persons were drowned.

During the civic parade in the city of Mexico, on Thursday, while President Diaz was walking with public functionaries from the palace to the Alameda he was attacked by a man, who sprang upon him from the crowd, and attempted to assassinate him with a dagger. The man was disarmed, and handed over to the police.

BURNED TO DEATH.

A TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE IN THE VILLAGE OF PORT ALMA.

Three Girls Perish in a Fire — Narrow Escape of the Remainder of the Family Through a Window in Their Night Clothes.

A frightful catastrophe occurred at Port Alma, about five miles from Chatham on the shores of Lake Erie. At three o'clock Friday morning Preston Heward, a well-to-do citizen of the village, was burned out of house and home, and among the burning embers of the building lie the charred remains of his three daughters, aged respectively sixteen, ten and six years. Just how this dreadful accident happened will never be known, though the supposition is that the fire which destroyed the dwelling and caused the frightful death of the children originated from some live coals which had been thrown into an ash barrel adjoining the house. On Thursday the members of the family had been working hard making preparations for a threshing bee, which was to have taken place at Mr. Heward's farm on Friday. This will probably account for the family sleeping more soundly than usual. At three o'clock in the morning Mr. Heward was awakened from his sleep by a feeling of suffocation. Upon making investigation he discovered his house in flames and made every effort to alarm the household. But his efforts were in vain, the flames having gained such headway that escape was impossible. The lower part of the house was a seething mass of flames, and the only possible way of exit was through the window. Of a family of six children, three boys and three girls, only the boys are left. The daughters perished in the flames. Those who did escape, Mr. and Mrs. Heward and three sons, got out by way of windows with only their night clothes on them. The daughters had been awakened, and it was thought they had left the building, and at one time, the eldest, a bright, winsome girl of sixteen summers was seen to rush back, evidently to save her sisters. In doing this she sacrificed her own life. Among the debris can be plainly seen the charred bodies of two children, the third being buried, probably about the centre of the pile. Two of the sons also had narrow escapes, being burned about the hands and feet. John Macdonald, who lived with the stricken family, only saved himself by jumping through a window after finding his exit through the door cut off by the flames. Mrs. Heward's injuries are serious, though not considered fatal, yet anxiety is felt that she may not recover from the shock. The grief of the neighbourhood over the terrible affair cannot be conceived. The disaster is so appalling that many cannot realize that it has fallen.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

Doing good is the only certainly happy action of a man's life.—Sidney.

The readiest and surest way to get rid of censure is to correct ourselves.—Demosthenes.

Rest satisfied with doing well, and leave others to talk of you as they please.—Pythegoras.

Deference is the most delicate, the most indirect, and the most elegant of all compliments.—Spenstone.

There is no dispute managed without passion, and yet there is scarce a dispute worth a passion.—Sherlock.

He is happy whose circumstances suit his temper; but he is more excellent who can suit his temper to any circumstance.—Hume.

A firm faith is the best divinity; a good life the best philosophy; a clear conscience, the best law; honesty, the best policy; and temperance, the best physic.—Franklin.

Nothing is so great an instance of ill-manners as flattery. If you flatter all the company, you please none; if you flatter only one or two, you affront the rest.—Swift.

Nature loves truth so well, that it hardly ever admits of flourishing. Conceit is to nature what paint is to beauty; it is not only needless, but impairs what it would improve.—Pope.

Of all vanities and fopperies, the vanity of high birth is the greatest. True nobility is derived from virtue, not from birth.

EDMONTON TO THE YUKON.

TWO CANADIAN ROUTES SAID TO OFFER ADVANTAGES.

The Freight Rates Would be Low—No High Mountains to Cross and Navigation Comparatively Easy — A Saving of Nearly Three Thousand Miles to the Klondike.

The great gold discoveries and the consequent rush of gold seekers have made the Yukon district the most talked of region of the world. The Yukon and how to get there is the all absorbing topic. The two routes now almost solely used are those via Behring Sea and over the Chilkoot Pass. These routes, however, owing to physical difficulties, do not permit of the proper and full development of the Yukon district.

The gold bearing area of the Yukon is larger than that of any other region of like character on the globe, and the greatest of all problems to be solved by those interested in the mining industry there is how to transport supplies and equipment to the various mining centres at reasonable cost. One point seems to be settled, and that is that the Yukon can never have cheap supplies if only the Behring Sea and Chilkoot Pass routes are to be used.

Canada already realizes that if the Yukon gold fields are to be developed to her profit there must be established a new all land route on Canadian territory and one which can be relied upon all the year round.

CANADIAN ROUTES AVAILABLE.

There are now two practical all Canadian routes and both can be put in good condition at comparatively little cost. One of these is by the Pelly and the other by the Porcupine branches of the Liard. That by the Porcupine is practically a water route, down the Mackenzie from Athabasca Landing, ninety miles north of Edmonton, to Peel River portage, across which portage the navigable waters of the Porcupine are reached. This route is being taken by most of the Edmonton men who have started for Klondike, and it has many advantages as a cheap means of getting supplies into the far North.

The Pelly River route from Edmonton to the Klondike is partly by land and partly by water, but is very nearly an all land route. As compared with the Behring Sea and Chilkoot routes it is much the shortest and easiest. The distance between Edmonton and the heart of the Klondike is but 1,400 miles, while by railway communication to the Klondike by way of the Chilkoot it is 1,600 miles and by the sea route 4,400 miles. Of the 1,400 miles a little more than 1,000 are overland and about 400 are steamboat navigation on the Yukon and Pelly. Eight hundred miles are through a grass growing country of moderate climate. This route can be kept open much longer than any now in use, as it is not interfered with by high elevations and is greatly influenced by the chinook winds. It has been traveled throughout its whole length by scientific men of the highest repute in the employ of the Canadian government, and their maps and reports are available to every one for information regarding it. At several important points it touches the navigable water system of the Mackenzie, and at other points passes within reaching distance of the Ominica and Cassair diggings, besides crossing the gold bearing Peace, following up the gold bearing Liard and down the gold bearing and very little prospected Pelly. Wagon roads, pack trails and boat routes form the through connection at present. It is because of the inconvenience of these changes in the mode of conveyance that it has not yet been used by gold seekers en route to Klondike.

FROM EDMONTON TO THE KLONDIKE.

The following table of distances by the Pelly route is of interest:—

	Miles.
Edmonton to Peace River crossing	260
Crossing to forks of Nelson	240
Forks to junction of Nelson and Liard,	120
Nelson to Dease up Liard	160
Dease to Pelly	170
Pelly to junction with Lewes	220
Junction to Klondike,	200
Total	1,370

The first few hundred miles of this route have been mapped by Professor Dawson, director of the Dominion Geological Survey, and his maps, together with a complete descriptive report of the route, may be procured from the Geological Department at Ottawa.

The other Canadian route, already mentioned, is popularly known as the Mackenzie route. There are really two routes classed together under the name of Mackenzie. One, by way of the Liard River, has the advantage as a cattle trail and as offering the longest possible season in which miners can get in and out of the Yukon district; the other, a water route by the Mackenzie, is the better route for present use, as it enables miners to take in supplies in large quantities at low cost.

LOW FREIGHT RATES.

The Mackenzie water route by sections is as follows:—Edmonton to Athabasca Landing, ninety miles, wagon road, freight, ninety miles, wagon hundred.

Athabasca to Grand Rapids, 167 miles by boat. Flat boats built at the landing, carrying ten tons, cost $75 to $100.

Grand Rapids to McMurray, eighty-seven miles; portage of half a mile, after which boats are let down the rapids by a line.

McMurray to Smith Landing, 287 miles, good navigation.

Smith Portage, sixteen miles; charge for portage 50 cents a hundred.

Fort Smith to Peel River, 1,287 miles, air navigation all the way.

Rat River comes into Peel River from the west, only about twelve miles above the entrance of the Peel into the Mackenzie delta. Flat boats can be taken up this river some miles. Then the canoe route must be taken for thirty miles to flat boat or steamboat navigation on Bell's River, which enters the Porcupine from the northeast, at its most easterly bend. New boats would probably have to be built on Bell's River for the voyage down the Porcupine; or canoes could be taken up the Porcupine by the more direct route to the gold fields. From Bell's River to the junction of the Porcupine with the Yukon, 400 miles, can be run in flat boats in from five to eight days. To this point the whole journey is down stream, except the thirty-five miles between the Mackenzie and Porcupine.

The chief advantage of this route is the low rates for freight, but on the other hand, the open season is short, not more so, however, than the Behring Sea and Yukon River route.

SOME ROYAL TITLES.

The Kings and Queens of England were not always styled "His" or "Her Majesty," or after the pattern of that bestowed upon Victoria—"Her Most Gracious Majesty." Henry IV. was styled "His Grace;" Henry VI., "His Most Excellent Grace;" Edward IV., "High and Mighty Prince;" Henry VII., "His Grace and His Majesty;" Henry VIII., "His Highness," and afterward "His Majesty." Subsequently the English Kings were styled "His Sacred Majesty." While on the subject it may not be uninteresting to give the meaning of some royal titles, thus:—King means father; Kaiser and Czar, Caesar, or autocrat, a contraction of Samodeerebeta. Duke means leader; Emperor, commander; Hospodar, master of the house; Khan, provincial chief; Landgrave, land reeve; Margrave, border reeve; Nizam, ruler; Pharaoh, light of the world; Shah, protector; Sheik, elder, and Sultan, ruler.

FROM THE GOLD MINES.

Haven't Seen a Paper at the Klondyke Since March.

A corporal in the northwest mounted police writing home to his friends, gives some interesting details as to Klondyke and life at the mines. After describing the difficulties of reaching the gold fields he says: "That is, bar none, the richest gold camp in the world. Men wash out thousands of dollars a day; $200 and $300 a pan is nothing. Wages are $15 a day and up. All our men who were here have made fortunes and taken their discharge, and I hope to do the same. Things are a frightful price here. Hair cut and shave $2.50. Flour $1 a pound. Fresh meat is unknown. We live on bacon and beans. But we can catch all the salmon we want in the river, and occasionally we get a moose or cariboo. There is no coinage here. We get paid in gold dust and nuggets, which we carry in little leather sacks. When you pay a bill you hand over your sack, they weigh out what they want, and hand back the balance." The concluding sentence of the letter gives one some idea of how out of the world, so to speak, Klondyke is. The letter is dated June 18, and the writer asks if there is a European war, as there are rumors of it, and they had not seen a paper since March 28.

THE RETIRED BURGLAR.

A Lively Experience That Was All Over in About a Minute.

"I never actually slid down a toboggan slide," said the retired burglar, "but I think I can form a pretty fair idea of what it's like from an experience that I had once. I was poking around in a house that I was in and I had just come out of a room on the second floor where there was a man asleep that struck me somehow, as being pretty restless, and I hadn't more'n got through the door into the hall when I heard this man holler:

"'Here he is Jim!' and saw him jump out of bed and come b'ilin' after me, and at the same minute I saw a man come rippin' and rampin' out of a door down by the other end of the hall.

DOG SMOKES CIGARETTES.

Denver has a dog that smokes cigarettes. He is a cocker spaniel and lives in a cigar store. He is only ten months old, but he is a confirmed fiend and is cross and peevish until he has had his daily smoke. His owner has taught him a number of tricks, which Billy—that is his name—will perform when a cigarette is offered as a reward. When ready for his smoke Billy seats himself on the cigar case, permits a pair of spectacles to be adjusted to his nose, and then daintly takes the lighted cigarette in his mouth. He puffs away with a beatific expression on his intelligent face until the fire gets so close to his nose as to be uncomfortable. Then he drops the stub and remains quiet until the spectacles are removed.

WHAT ITLAY'S KING GIVES.

King Humbert's generosity in charitable works is said to be fabulous. A petition hardly ever remains without an answer. His Majesty spontaneously gives presents to those persons to whom he does not wish to grant subsidies. These presents are generally of two kinds—a golden clock with the royal arms or a broach set in diamonds. His jeweler supplies him each year with five hundred clocks and one thousand brooches. King Humbert never goes to the theater save on the occasion of an official solemnity. He says that he finds no pleasure in artificial life. "I play a part every day," he says, "in the political and official comedy. What can the other comedians teach me?"

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Few Items Which May Prove Worth Reading.

A new letter box has an electrical attachment which rings a bell in the kitchen when a letter is dropped into it.

Two-thirds of all the letters that pass through the post-offices of the world are written by or sent to people who speak English.

On some of the Western ranches the cowboys use bicycles, instead of horses in herding the cattle, while the ground is free from snow.

A bee stung David M. Kepley, of Louisville, on the top of the nose. His face turned purple and for hours the doctors thought he would die, but he recovered.

In the basement, of the Rev. Dr. Hancher's Methodist church, in Kansas City, is a room where bicycles are checked, and another where babies are checked while the mothers attend divine service.

Miss Phoebe McThoy, who for the past seven years has worked as a servant in Flushing, N.Y., has been informed by her uncle's solicitors, in Scotland, that her uncle has left her a fortune of over $1,000,000.

A Brooklyn burglar entered a room in which a young lady lay peacefully sleeping. He admired the pretty picture and stole a kiss. The lady screamed, the house was aroused, and the burglar was captured.

In 1858, Mrs. Margaret Kircheff, of Teignmouth, Eng., went to bed in good health, saying she would remain there until she died. She kept her word, and died there the other day, having spent thirty-nine years in bed.

An immense phonograph is in course of construction for the Paris Exposition of 1900. The apparatus will be of such large dimensions that it is expected it will make the human voice heard by an audience of 10,000 persons.

Nothing of importance, not even a crime, ever happens in Baltimore, a little town in Windsor County, Vt. In 1810 its population was 207; since then its inhabitants have been constantly decreasing in number, until to-day they are only 59.

Jules Bunnell, of San Marcos, Texas, was out of work and his capital was about ten dollars, so he thought he ought to marry. He did so, and a week later, failing to obtain employment, he and his bride committed suicide by taking morphine.

Joseph R. Flynn, a private of the Thirteenth Infantry, was attacked by a mosquito at Governor's Island, N. Y., and lanced under the right ear. Over three-quarters of a pint of blood flowed from the wound before the bleeding could be stopped.

A race-boat made of hardened and polished cement has been invented by an Italian named Gabellini. Steel bars one-third of an inch in diameter form the frame, and on this is a thin wire netting. The netting is then lightly covered with cement.

Some buildings on a large sheep pasture near Cloudman, Cal., took fire from a locomotive spark. A later train on the same road was held up by the owner of the sheep pasture, who, rifle in hand, compelled the trainmen to assist in extinguishing the fire.

With the aid of his dog, W. C. Woodward tried to drive his seventeen cows home. The whole herd, with lowered horns, made a dash for the dog, and the animal fled to its master. Mr. Woodward was knocked down and severely trampled by the enraged cattle.

A shadowy ghost said to have just come from the realms of shade, made its appearance at a spiritualistic meeting in St. Paul. A doubting lady jabbed a hat pin into the ghost's leg, and the meeting became as lively as a circus. The ghost roared "Murder!" and threw in a few curse words.

Madison Johnson, a colored man, of Columbus, Ohio, has just had a new pair of shoes made for him, and they are whoppers. The size is No. 22, they are sixteen inches long, six inches wide, and each shoe weighs seven and one-half pounds. Johnson's height is eight feet seven inches.

A quarrelsome husband in Montgomery County, Kansas, so abused his spouse that at last she committed suicide. She felt a note in which she wrote: "It is the general belief that people who commit suicide go straight to Tophet, but it cannot be any warmer there than my husband has made it for me here."

A tiny mouse, not more than an inch and a half in length, stepped over the foot of a lady in Topeka. To escape the little animal, which to her seemed a vicious monster, she jumped upon a red-hot stove, and there stood in terror, her skirts gathered close, until her burning shoes forced her to beat an inglorious retreat.

At a public dance in Washington, Kansas, there was a variety of amusements—dancing, drinking, fighting. After one serious affray, when two of the combatants, were being carried home for repairs, and the festivities had been temporarily suspended, a member of the floor committee exclaimed: "On with the dance; let joy be unconfined."

A motor tricycle, run by electricity, was tested by its inventor, George Duncan, of Jamaica, N. Y., It ran away with him, and he could not stop it. After covering several miles at great speed, he ran into a pile of soft earth, and there he pitched headlong from it. Here, while the machine was lying on its side, the wheels continued to revolve for many minutes.

A number of hornets fixed their nests between the walls of the residence of William Harold, at Mill Valley, Cal. They amused themselves by stabbing the various members of the family at odd times. Mr. Harold tried chloroform on the insects, but it only gave temporary safety to the victims. Then he tore open the side of the house, and removed the pests and their nests.