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.

The Russell fire fund now amounts to $22,650.

The G. T. R. will erect a new station at Merriton Junction.

The Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph has 150 students.

The Ontario Legislature has been called to meet on November 30.

The new C.P. R. grain elevator at Owen Sound has been completed.

The Bank of Hamilton has purchased property for an office in Winnipeg.

An expedition will start from Montreal for the Klondyke in a few weeks.

A new issue of postage stamps will be placed on sale about December I.

An insolvency law will likely be introduced at the next session of Parliament.

John Callahan, an asylum patient at London, choked himself fatally while eating his dinner.

John Pollard, merchant of Windsor, N.S., who lost heavily in the recent fire has become insane.

Mr. Ogilvie reports fresh discoveries of gold in the Klondike in creeks tributary to the Indian River.

It is estimated that Prince Edward County will have 130,000 barrels of apples for export this year.

It is expected that the Ottawa and New York railway will be open for traffic on the first of December.

The Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Boston have abandoned their trip to Halifax.

Deputy Minister of Justice Newcomb reports that peace has been restored at St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary.

Guelph has spent $8,000 in sidewalks and $100,000 in buildings, principally private houses during the past year.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier will accompany Sir Louis Davies when the latter goes to attend the seal conference in Washington next month.

A deputation from Montreal on Wednesday urged upon the Government the desirability of having Canada represented at the Paris Exposition.

Sir Louis Davies, Minister of Marine and Fisheries has purchased the residence of Sir John Carling in Ottawa for eleven thousand dollars.

Ferdinand Carriere, the crank from Rimouski who expressed a desire to kill Sir Wilfrid Laurier, has been declared insane and sent to an asylum.

Bert Leedham, aged 16, son of the foreman of the Withrow mines, South Uniacke, N.S., was caught in the machinery on Friday and killed instantly.

The six-year-old son of a rancher named Rudd at West Lethbridge, Man. while playing with a gun, shot and killed his three-year-old sister.

The date of the meeting of the Dominion Parliament has not yet been fixed, but it is expected that the opening will take place about the middle of January.

It is now considered likely that the Allan and Dominion steamship lines will accept the Government mail subsidy and give a fortnightly service from St. John.

A Federal Minister discussing forest fires, expressed his firm conviction that the starting of a fire in a forest should be made a criminal offence, punishable by heavy penalties.

E. H. Haycock, a mining engineer, has obtained a patent for an apparatus by which mining may be carried on in frozen ground at comparatively small expense.

John McIntyre, one of the Windsor, N. S., men arrested on a charge of starting the fire which resulted in the destruction of that town, has been committed for trial.

An envelope marked "Conscience Boodle," and containing $1,050 in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and American bills, has been received at the Finance Department at Ottawa.

An agreement has been entered into between the Hamburg-American Steamship Company and the Grand Trunk railway for a regular monthly service between Hamburg and Portland, Me.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson is Premier of New Brunswick, a reconstruction of the Local Government having been effected. On account of ill-health, Hon. James Mitchell resigned the Premiership.

It is stated that the Dominion Government proposes next session to introduce legislation to increase the retiring allowance of Supreme Court judges from two-thirds to four-fifths of their salary.

Several animals owned near Ottawa were recently found to be suffering from tuberculosis and on the authority of the Minister of Agriculture it is stated that the disease also exists at the Experimental Farm.

The Retail Merchants' Association of Ottawa has decided to ask the Legislature to radically change the present auctioneering laws, and all the municipalties throughout Ontario will be asked to join in this appeal.

As there has been no response to the call to Canadian sculptors for designs for the statues of the Queen and the late Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, which are to be placed on Parliament Hill, the offer may have to be thrown open to British and foreign artists.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Archbishop Machray, who has been ill in England, continues to improve, and expects to return to Canada after Christmas.

The death is announced in London of Francis Turner Palgrave, the poet and essayist. He was seventy-five years of age.

The Imperial War Office denies the report that the British Goverment intends to place two British regiments in British Columbia.

The later shipments of Canadian fruit to England arrived in good condition, with the exception of the grapes, which showed a tendency to drop from their stems.

The coroner's jury in the case of Edward Langtry, husband of the actress, has returned a verdict in London of fleath "due to an effusion of blood upon the brain, caused by a fall."

A conference between representatives of the employers and delegates from the striking engineers in Britain has been practically arranged, the latter having agreed to withdraw their demand for eight hours per day, which has been the great stumbling block in the way of arriving at a settlement of the strike.

UNITED STATES.

President McKinley has issued his proclamation naming November 25th as a day of national thanksgiving.

Five inmates of the county insane asylum at Pennring, Ill., have, it is asserted, been mauled to death by attendants.

Canon Gore, who has been seriously ill in Buffalo, has sufficiently recovered to enable him to leave New York on his way home to London.

The American Public Health Association, in session in Philadelphia, passed a resolution approving of individual cups in the celebration of the communion.

The grand jury at Wilkesbarre, Pa., on Thursday returned true bills for murder against Sheriff Martin and his deputies for firing on and killing striking miners at Latimer, Pa.

Henry George, the single tax advocate, and one of the candidates for the Maybralty of Greater New York died suddenly at his hotel on Friday morning after addressing several meetings. He was fifty-eight years of age.

Governor Atkinson of Georgia, in his message, condemns mob law, and suggests, among other remedies, that the prisoners be armed and allowed to use their weapons in their own defence.

Two carloads of Canadian hides that had been smuggled into the United States from Canada have been seized in Boston. This is the first seizure of hides since the Dingley tariff law went into effect.

Mr. Chauncey M. Depew, one of the presidents of the New York Central Railway, is decidedly of opinion that the wreck at Garrison was caused by dynamite placed upon the track with criminal intent.

An alleged discovery of conspiracy to murder Sheriff Martin has been made at Wilkesbarre by Martin's son. Martin was in charge of the deputies who shot down a number of the miners a short time ago.

According to commercial summaries, furnished by the mercantile agencies of Dun and Bradstreet, the condition of trade shows generally little if any appreciable change since the last returns. In different quarters the unusually mild weather has acted as a deterrent to the ordinary progress of trade, and the demand for certain lines of seasonable goods has been checked. There is no decided increase in any direction. The demand for iron and steel continues good, as it is expected the cost of manufacture will increase shortly. There is a fair demand for woolen goods at steady prices, but cotton goods are weak and stock large. The commercial failures in the United States for the week just ended are 218, compared with 205 for the corresponding week a year ago.

GENERAL.

Count Tolstoi, the Russian author, is reported to be dying.

It is currently reported that Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, has resigned.

General Jamat is likely to succeed Gen. Saussier as commander-in-chief of the French army.

The King of Siam has ordered a member of his staff to be executed for a breach of etiquette, committed at Lisbon.

Sixteen thousand rifles from Hong Kong and Shanghai have been received by Philippine rebels in the west coast of Luzon.

The report that General Castillo, the Cuban leader, has been killed in an engagement with the Spanish troops is confirmed.

Over 12,000 people at Gifu, Japan, who were rendered homeless by the floods recently are now being supported by the Government.

The Catholic mission at Hue, Cochin China, reports that a disastrous typhoon swept over that part of the country on October 22.

Two officials of the Nigata Bank, Japan, together with a broker in the Nigata Grain Exchange, have been arrested for embezzlement.

Over 50 persons were killed and 80 injured in the stampede at Khnieleff, Russia, on Sunday from a church. A cry of fire caused the panic.

A fossil skeleton of an unknown animal, larger than a rhinoceros, is reported at Athens to have been found in a coal mine at Kymi, Island of Eubcea.

News from Lommak, Japan, says that Mr. Landerhout, the Dutch Controller of the village of Sisolla, has been murdered by insurgents. There was hot fighting.

The results of the general election of members of the Newfoundland Assembly indicate that the Whiteway Government will have a much smaller majority in the new Assembly.

Capt Sverdrup is making preparations to go on a North Polar expedition. The Norwegian Government will allow him to use the Fram, and will give him twenty thousand kroner to refit the vessel.

It is reported in Christiania that a whaling boat returning from the Arctic saw Prof. Andree's balloon floating in the water near Spitzbergen. Brakmo, the Arctic explorer, proposes to proceed to Prince Charles promontory to investigate the truth of the story.

An investigation in Athens reveals the sensational fact that the cartridges fitted to the torpedoes during the Turko-Greek war were unprovided with percussion caps, and would have been absolutely useless. Prince George, who was commander of the torpedo flotilla is being roundly attacked.

TELESCOPE HATCHES FOR SHIPS.

An Invention of an Old Sea Captain From Which Much Is Expected.

Capt. G. A. Chaddock, F.R.G.S., a Liverpool navigator, of thirty years' experience in both steam and sailing craft, has invented an appliance which ought to be of immense value to shipowners and their crews all the world over in saving both life and property. The present wooden hatches, laid on from above are easily forced up by the inrush of water consequent upon a hole being knocked in the bottom of a vessel, the results being that she rapidly tips and sinks. The telescopic iron hatches, which constitute Capt. Chaddock's invention, are so arranged that the pressure of water from below would, in such a contingency, bind them more tightly in their places, precluding the possibility of the water rising above the first deck which forms a platform or horizontal bulkhead, preventing the ship from sinking and water from reaching the cargo from above. The improvements give more effective ventilation to prevent cargo heating and sweating and are also capable of being hermetically sealed, so as to neutralize fire, and, generally speaking, water-tight compartments are doubled, the consequent seaworthiness of a vessel being vastly increased. Besides these essential advantages there are many others, as, for instance, more speedy manipulation and no risk of injury by careless handling; bad smells from cargo do not reach the passengers; the vessel would be a salvage appliance in herself in case of stranding, and last, but not least the hatches are particularly suitable for deep-water ballast tanks. The practical effect of Capt. Chaddock's improved hatches will be to multiply the water-tight divisions of a ship in proportion as the number of decks are to bulkheads. Thus a ship with eight bulkheads and three decks would at present have only nine water-tight compartments with wooden hatches, but with the improved hatches and water-tight decks the same ship would have twenty-five compartments, an increase of sixteen extra compartments. Capt. Chaddock's improvements have been submitted to the leading shipowners, underwriters, marine engineers, and other practical men, both in Europe and the United States, and they have spoken of them in the highest terms.

A LONG WALK

In Canada's Unknown Land—Its Material Riches

Alexander McKay has returned to New Denver from a three months' trip in the direction of the Klondike says the New Denver Ledger. His mission north was to examine some galena ledges. He went in a canoe with an Indian guide from Wrangel to Telegraph Creek thence to Dees Lake, and down the Dees River 200 miles and up the Laird River, 26 miles, where he found plenty of galena ledges from two to ten feet wide, carrying about 200 ounces of silver to the ton. The formation is similar to that of the Slocan and McKay thinks it will be profitable mining when the railroad taps the region. Upon the return trip he had to walk 326 miles, owing to rain having swoollen the streams. It took 52 days of hard walking before Wrangel was reached on the return trip. Game was plentiful and many a grouse and porcupine did Sandy stow away behind his belt. On the Laird River every bar prospected showed $3 to $6 a day in gold. He met two Colorado outfits, one guided by Gillespie, of Victoria, going up the Francis Lake to winter. In the spring they intended to push on to Klondike, via Kelly River. McKay says that this is the best route to Dawson City and that he would not be afraid to make the entire trip with only a gun, some salt and plenty of blankets.

A CAREFUL BUYER.

Customer—Keep any fly traps?

Grocer—Best in town. Only successful fly trap on the market. Use 'em in my store all the time. Let me show you one. You see, the flies enter here, pass through this aperture, and are unable to return. Cleans a room of flies in no time. Wrap you up one?

You find them good, practical, efficient traps do you?

Absolutely.

Use them yourself, I believe you said.

All the time. Make one to you real low as the season's nearly over.

You don't have hardly any flies around your store when you use this trap, do you?

You bet I don't. This trap is the best—

All right then. Give me two pounds of dried currants.

DAWNING OF AN AGITATOR.

His Mamma—Don't you know, Johnny, that disobedience to your parents brings its own punishment. Have you forgotten that the commandment says Honor thy father and thy mother, that the days may be long in the the land?

Johnny—Huh! The days are too long already. We want 'em shorter!

A MODIFIED AGREEMENT.

Magistrate—If I discharge you this time will you go clean out of the city.

Musty Mike—Well, I'll go out of the city.

ONTARIO'S GOLD FIELDS.

THE BEST IN THE WORLD AND EASY OF ACCESS.

Some Facts and Figures About the Great Mineral Wealth of this Garden of Canada — The Basis of Prosperity.

A Canadian correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette, London, England, thus speaks of the mineral resources of Canada, especially its good fields:—Canada's opportunity as a mineral country has come. She has waited long, and now, after many years, attention has suddenly and emphatically been called to her wealth by the golden stories from the Klondike. If English investors rise to the occasion, it is not improbable that, in the near future, a "Beaver Meadow," may outrival the Kaffir Circus on the London Exchange. For the moment, the attention of the British public has been centred upon the fabulous wealth of Alaskan fields; but if that long-suffering public is wise it will fight very shy of companies, brought out in London, to operate in that Arctic land. The beautifully vague terms of the prospectus of a company, "formed for the purpose of acquiring at the earliest possible date valuable mining claims" in the region of Esquimaux and Polar bears, should deceive nobody.

THERE ARE OTHERS.

Expectations are, as a general rule, not marketable, and the highly-coloured, fantastic phrases, which on this occasion from the promoter's stock-in-trade, ought not to induce any one to part with his money, even though the promoter be a colonial baronet or an ex-premier, or a chief justice for that matter. Out of the dozen of "Klondike" and "Yukon" companies that have sprung suddenly into existence, there is only one that possesses a claim, or anything else of value, in the new fields. Gold mining on an iceberg is not an attractive proposition at any time, but when Englishmen read the tales of hardship and disaster of the 3,000 men now in the White Pass, they will wisely pause before putting up their pounds, and weigh the advantages and disadvantages of this district with those of other Canadian gold fields.

For there are other Canadian gold fields. The Klondike will serve its purpose if it merely acts as an advertisement for Canada's mineral wealth, and if its riches merely draw attention to the vast and splendid gold fields of Kootenay and of North-western Ontario. It is toward these two districts that the eyes of Canadians are turned; and it is on them that the hopes for Canada's future as a gold mining country are based. They are fields which are accessible, permanent, and of proved value, and which the English public would do well to give attention to as the country for legitimate and splendidly paying investment.

THE KOOTENAY DISTRICT.

Of these two districts the Kootenay is fairly well known, as it is situated in British Columbia, where many English companies are interested. The gold fields of Ontario, the most central of all Canada's provinces, are, on the other hand, a new discovery. They extend along the north shore of Lake Superior to the boundary of Manitoba, almost 600 miles, and have a width of 130 miles, thus forming a vast parallelogram of, roughly, 7,000 square miles. Like the Klondike, it is a country which, by the work of providence and of man, lies just within British territory.

For some years past wonderful specimens of gold have been found in various parts of the great tract of country, and Indians and settlers have brought in tales of its richness; but, until the summer of 1896, no active operations were begun. Prospectors swarmed into the district in the spring of that year, and many companies were formed to work, and as result there are now twelve mills installed and 145 stamps in operation. This is, of course, small, but it is the commencement of a boom which is bound to reach London. In 1896 these mills treated 10,000 tons of ore, which showed an average of nearly $15 per ton—nearly all of this ore being from the surface, and therefore of a comparatively poor quality.

BEST IN THE WORLD.

It is doubtful whether any other gold region in the world surpasses north-western Ontario for the prosecution of the gold-mining industry. In the first place, the ore is free milling to the greatest extent, and therefore can be easily and cheaply worked, with a quick return for a small outlay of capital. The gold is found scattered throughout the quartz by itself, or in combination with sulphur only, the removal of which is not nearly so difficult a process as the separation of gold, silver, copper, and lead when all are found in a conglomerate mass. In fact the ore is free milling to such an extent that 80 or 90 per cent. of the gold may be secured under the stamps, and consequently no great smelting plant is required to treat the metal.

The second advantage is the abundance of water supply, for power and other purposes; the whole area of the gold fiends being a net work of rivers, streams and lakes. In consequence of this fact the need for railway and roads is not nearly so imperative as it would otherwise be, and even the most remote part of the region is not more than forty miles from railway or steamboat. In the last place there is an unlimited supply of timber, suitable for every purpose of the miner, above and below ground, for supports, buildings, and fuel. In western Australia wood for fuel costs $10 per cord, whereas in Ontario it can be laid down at the mine for less than $2 per cord. Labour also is cheap, and, as a result of all these conditions, ore can be treated at an average of $4 a ton. A ten stamp mill, costing $10,000, will easily put through twenty-five tons of ore a day, which, at the value of say $10 per ton, would mean a revenue of $6,500 a month, while the cost of operating would be less than $3,000.

NOT AN EXPERIMENT ONLY.

The district is past the experimental stage; it has been proved. In the Lake of the Woods section is a mine, known as Sultana Island, which is typical of many more to come. Last year a chlorination plant was added to a ten stamp mill, and since then the mine has been working night and day. The shaft of the vein now being worked is down 350 feet, with 1,000 feet of drifting; and the vein has grown richer and larger as greater depths are reached. It varies from 35 feet to 50 feet in width. The output of bullion is $3,000 weekly, and there is over $1,000,000 worth of ore actually in sight. Another typical property is the "Mikado Mine," owned in England by parties who purchased on surface indications. A mill test of 140 tons on this property gave almost $19,000 in gold, and sixteen days' work, ending Sept. 1st, gave a gold brick worth $16,000. Further to the east of the properties there has been discovered by an Indian and one James Hammond, a tremendous reef three miles long, and 500 feet wide at its widest part. When tested, this vast body of ore showed $17 per ton in free gold, beside concentrates.

THE MICHIPICOTEN DISTRICT.

Further eastward still, in the great parallelogram, is the Michipicoten, which, if fond hopes are realized, will prove a second Klondike. News of rich placer and quartz discoveries was brought down from the district last week, and a rush of Americans and Canadians has taken place. A hundred years ago the Hudson Bay Company's reports mentioned the fact that gold existed in the sands of the streams there, but the country was then so difficult of access that no effort was made to get at the deposits. Now, however, the railway takes the prospector within a few miles of Lake Wa-Wa, where the richest discoveries have been made, and as it is a finely wooded country, possessing a moderate climate, there are no hardships such as are met with in the Yukon. Tests of the quartz samples have run very high, and should the report of placers prove true, the boom of Michipicoten will drown that of Klondike.

THERE IS MORE TO FOLLOW.

Numerous and rich as the discoveries already made undoubtedly are, the district is so vast in extent, and has been so recently opened up, that it has only been partially prospected. So far the exploration has been confined to the watercourses, and the great portion of the country inland so to speak, has not even been run over by prospectors. More than this there is no reason for supposing that the gold discovery will be confined to even the great district indicated; for the country rock, which is Huronian and Laurentian, extends over a far wider section of territory. It may be asserted with truth that gold discovery in the district has only just begun; but it may be also asserted, with even more truth, that the wily work of promotion is well advanced. Honest promotion is a useful and necessary work; but, in a case like this, where there is much that is genuine and good, the dishonest promoter gets in his work. It therefore behooves intending English investors to be cautious. Let them have personal knowledge of properties offered, or, at the least, let them have a reliable engineer's report before investing one shilling. Canada's great opportunity must not be spoiled by the bogus schemes of fakirs, who are sure to reach for the pockets of the British public.

ACCUSED OF NINETEEN MURDERS.

Vacher's Record the Most Terrible in the History of Modern Crimes.

There is no longer any doubt that Vacher, the French Jack the Ripper, has the bloodiest records in the modern history of violent crimes. He is now accused of nineteen murders and two assaults on women. He confessed to eleven murders and admits that there were more, but declines to give details. His confessions have been fully substantiated in most cases.

The latest charge against him is the murder of a girl 19 years old named Therese Ply. She was walking on the road near Finarville at 5 o'clock on the evening of April 5 last. The man caught her by the throat and threw her down. The next day she was found dead, her body bearing thirteen knife thrusts, while two fingers were cut from the hands. Investigation led to no results beyond the fact that a tramp, who is supposed to have been Vacher, had been seen on the road by peasants before and after the crime. The wayfarer was described by the countrymen as having spoken in a fantastic manner like the murderer now under examination who has repeatedly declared that he was raised up by Divine Providence as a scourge to humanity.

Another person who was first accused instead of Vacher, has now been cleared of the terrible suspicion. He is a peasant, named Bannier, and he was under arrest for three weeks on a charge of the murder of one of the shepherd lads whose threats were cut by Vacher.

THE QUEEN'S NEW YACHT.

Queen Victoria evidently expects to live for many years to come, for she is manifesting a very keen interest in the construction of her new yacht, which is to take the place of the old Victoria and Albert. Indeed, so eager is she to have the new yacht in readiness for her use next year that she demanded that its construction should be carried on without any interruption day or night by relays of artificers.

LIVE WITH THE DEAD.

Thousands of Egyptians live in old tombs, eating, sleeping, wooing, loving, laughing, dancing, singing, doing all their deeds of daily life and household work among the mummies and sarcophagi.