IN A NUTSHELL.

VERY LATEST FROM THE WORLD OVER.

Items About Our Own Country, Britain, the United States, and Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

The corner-stone of the new Canadian Pacific Railway buildings at Vancouver was laid on Tuesday.

Passenger rates to Alaska from Vancouver have dropped, the fare to Dyea and Skaguay being now $25.

The Molsons Bank, Montreal, started their $125,000 stone block on Hastings street, Vancouver, on Tuesday.

The management of both, the great railway systems at Montreal deny that there is any trouble with the telegraphers.

The Kingston Board of Trade favours the plan of harbor improvements for Montreal to be made by the Dominion Government.

A Hamilton deputation to Montreal complained of discrimination in passenger rates against Hamilton in favor of Toronto.

Three million whitefish fry are being placed in Lake Huron, near Point Edward, on the Canadian side, by the Sandwich fish hatchery.

Allan Robinson is in the hospital at Kingston with a fractured skull. He was struck by a stone from a sling in the hands of a companion.

Members of the Canadian posts of the Grand Army of the Republic are being invited to enlist in the United States army for active service or fortification work.

General Manager Hays held out little hope of the G.T.R. interesting itself in stockyards in Hamilton. The G.T.R. already carries 92 per cent. of all the cattle brought to Hamilton.

Mr. L. A. Hamilton, the Land Commissioner of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Winnipeg, expects a very busy season, particularly in regard to the work in Southren British Columbia.

Mr. J. A. Sheedy, of the Illinois Bridge Works, Chicago, has been appointed master of bridges and buildings on the Grand Trunk Railway system in place of William Crawford, of London, resigned.

There was deposited in the Post-Office Savings Bank of Canada, during March, $236,077, and withdrawn $247,779, leaving a balance on hand of $15,522 912 on the 31st March, compared with $15,534,615 on the 28th February last.

At Hamilton a jury sought to give a man named Geoghegan $800 damages for injuries received while employed by the Grand Trunk, but as the verdict also admitted that Geoghegan could have avoided the accident Mr. Justice Meredith gave judgment for the company.

At a special meeting of the St. Thomas City Council a by-law was passed granting the Board of Education $36,000 to rebuild Central and Balaclava Street Schools. A by-law to grant a bonus of $20,000 t o the Lake Erie & Detroit River Railway will be submitted to a vote of the ratepayers.

Acting-Mayor Hubbard, of Toronto, was interviewed by a deputation of United Empire Loyalists on Tuesday They desired to have flags floated on the civic building on May 18, Loyalist's day. Flags will float over the public buildings in Ontario, and the Minister of Education has given orders to the teachers to instruct the pupils in United Empire Loyalist subjects.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Forty-one lives are thought to have been lost by the fire in Whitwick colliery in Leicestershire.

The report that the Cunard line steamers Umbria and Etruria, have been sold to the United States is denied.

In London the rush of applicants for enlistment in the United States army or navy, continues between forty and fifty English and Irish sailors or soldiers having applied for enlistment at the United States consulate on Monday morning.

UNITED STATES.

E. S. Willard, the English actor, is still ill in bed at Chicago, but is gradually improving.

Rear Admiral John C. Walker, retired may be the successor of Theodore Roosevelt, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Two workmen were killed and three seriously injured by the falling roof trusses on the walls of the State armoury at Newbury, N.Y., on Monday.

The father of the late Margaret Mather the actress, intends to contest his daughter's will, which left everything to her lawyer, Horatio C. King, who says the estate will not pay the debts.

The New York Board of Aldermen unanimously adopted a resolution on Tuesday requesting the heads of the various city departments to grant leave of absence on full pay to all city employees who enter the volunteer army.

Thos. Mead Bram, the murderer of Captain Nash of the barkentine Herbert Fuller, was again proved guilty at Boston. The verdict carried with it the words, "Without capital punishment," under a law enacted since the first trial.

GENERAL.

Hayti will not help Spain in procuring supplies. Spain has no coal in Hayti.

All vessels arriving at St. John's, Nfld., report rough experiences in the ice fields.

An attempt has been made to assassinate the Nawab of Dir., near Chitral, India.

Operations of the Anglo-Egyptian forces against the Dervishes have been suspended until July.

Ex-Prime Minister Crispi, who recently resigned from the Italian Chamber of Deputies has been re-elected.

The report that ex-President Crispo of Venezuela has been killed in battle with the insurgents is confirmed.

Prime Minister Meline, of France, in a pre-election speech at Remiremont yesterday, eulogized the foreign policy of France.

The President of the Haytian Republic, and that of Santo Domingo, have agreed to submit to the Pope their boundary dispute.

A decree published at Vienna, on Wednesday, forbids the importation of American fresh fruits. The action is the result of the San Jose scale scare.

A Berlin paper gives currency to the statement that Spain is negotiating for a loan in England, offering England a tenure of the Philippine Islands until the loan is repaid.

Subject to further regulations, the governor of Shan Si Province, China, has granted a concession to an Anglo-Italian syndicate to work the coal and iron deposits in that province.

It is stated in Berlin that Spain, unable to wait until her orders for guns at Krupps cannon factory are executed, has been trying to purchase guns elsewhere in Germany. She has not been able to secure any yet, as the Government looks askance at all such propositions.

HARRIS'S SLIDE FOR LIFE.

Sailor Lad's Glide Toward Sharks Interrupted by Mizzen Sheer-Pole.

It was off Sangor Island, in the Bay of Bengal, that Apprentice Fred Harris, of the four-masted British bark Achnashie, which has arrived at New York from Calcutta, made his involuntary slide for life.

"It had been a long, tedious trip from Middesboro, England," said Harris, who is from Kent, the other day.

"We could hardly wait for sight of land again. We were now, as nearly as we could judge, only twenty-four hours' tow from Calcutta, Royals, spanker, gaff-topsail, topgallant staysails and flying jib and been hauled down, and a fair wind, a six-knot topgallant breeze on the starboard quarter, pushed us toward the city on the city on the Hugli.

"I was anxious to catch the first glimpse of the lights of India's capital, while Capt. Pasiful also wished to know if the lightship was visible. As I jumped into the mizzen starboard rigging I heard the watch on the forecastle-head pass back word from a sailor who was hanging his clothes to dry on the jobboom stay that two sharks were knocking around the bow.

"It was at one bell of the first watch, and a fine, clear night. I climbed up to the topgallant masthead, but the Calcutta lightship was not in sight. I descended the lee rigging to the mizzentop, all right, but in some way which I cannot explain lost my grip on the futtock shrouds.

"I felt myself drop. There came a bright flash, as the sails appeared to burst into a blaze. I became stone blind, deaf, Kent, Calcutta, sharks were jumbled together in my thoughts, and inside of this single, infinitesimal fraction of a second I lost every sense.

"At eight bells of the middle watch all the world, accompanied with a racking pain in the back and a numb leg, returned to me. I was in my bunk, with my shipmate here standing by.

"They told me that the cry of 'Man overboard!' had been raised at four bells of the second dog watch, but Mr. Wannell, the mate, rushing down from the poop with the binnacle lamp, had found me with my head in the scuppers. The iron sheer-pole between the forward mizzen swifter and the forward mizzen shroud was bent into a V where I had landed on it. The sheer-pole had kept me from gliding overboard and caromed me to the deck upon my side. One of the eight sheer ratlines between the sheer-pole and the mizzen futtock shroud hung adrift.

"My momentum had swept me forty-eight feet at an angle to the mast, defying the laws of gravitation. All that interposed between me and the sharks were eight sheer ratlines and the sheer-pole, which I knocked into seven bells with my left leg."

A STRANGE EXPERIENCE.

First Drug Clerk—I had a queer experience last night. Had just closed up the shop, lain down, and got to sleep, when there was a most violent ringing at the night bell—

Second Drug Clerk—Ha; ha, ha! After a postage stamp, eh?

First Drug Clerk—No. He wanted—

Second Drug Clerk—Ho, ho, ho! Wanted to look in the directory, eh! or maybe wanted to know what street it was?

First Drug Clerk—Nothing of the sort. You might guess all day and not hit it."

Second Drug Clerk—Then what on earth was it?

First Drug Clerk—He wanted a prescription filled.

IN THE BIG WHOLESALE HOUSE.

Commercial Traveler—Who's that swearing and talking so loud, and kicking up such a fuss back there in the private office?

Clerk, nonchalantly—Oh, that's the silent partner.

A QUEEN OF SOCIETY.

In the life of Madame Mohl, a woman, who, without rank, fortune or beauty, held a controlling position in French society, for the greater part of a century, there are useful hints for women who wish to gain influence in the world.

Her dinners were famous. The most learned wise and witty men of every country, were her guests, and she gave much anxious thought to assorting them, to placing them at table, and to the suggestion of subjects which would draw from each the best he could give. The food was plentiful, but plain and simply cooked, and only a white-capped maid served it. There was no display of any kind.

Queen Sophia of Holland, when visiting Napoleon III., expressed a wish to dine with Madame Mohl, who asked a brilliant company to meet her.

"And what will be your menu? asked an anxious friend.

"Oh, Marie must cook us a lobster," said the old lady. "She cooks lobster very nicely.

The usual simple dinner was served, with its sauce of rare wit and wisdom, and the queen was enchanted.

The next day with her suite, she came to call upon her hostess. Madame Mohl, her gray hair in curl-papers, attired in a short jacket and skirt, was busy dusting the chairs, while the linen from the laundry was spread upon the table. When the royal party suddenly entered, the old lady laid down her brush, and after welcoming the queen chatted away as gaily as usual.

"Were you not mortified at being caught in such a dress?" a friend asked the next day.

Not a bit, my dear. I didn't mind it. Neither did her majesty. I suppose it was important to her maid and the flunkey who waited behind her, and they were mortified."

Once as one of her favorites left the room, a fashionable woman asked superciliously, "Who was Madame X. before her marraige?"

Madame Mohl turned. "She is my friend. What do I care for her wases?"

She once said, "It is des ames biennees, well-born souls, not bodies that we need in our friends," a maxim as profoundly true in Canada as in France.

JEALOUSY VS. HAPPINESS.

This is the question that bothers many a wife. And we think, is the question that causes more unhappy differences than any other. To be loved devotedly is the ambition of every woman, but to have that love take the form of exacting suspicion, or a sort of affectionate jailership, is not always desirable.

Opinions galore are given on this topic and we can only judge from the lives that come closest to us, in fact the lives that are lived under our observation.

To begin with, there is a couple, happy as two young lovers, the husband, however, so insanely jealous of his wife that he has broken off even her woman friendships. If she were to walk as far as the gate with another gentleman a tragedy would be the almost certain result. Yet, as we said before, they are both serenely happy. Would they be so, if circumstances brought about a new existence and set up new conditions? Will the wife always be satisfied with this state of affairs? Let us hope so, for it would be a pity to spoil their illusions.

From them our thoughts wander to another couple, who see no reason, because they care more for each other than any one else in the world, why all the other pleasant people should be excluded from their friendships. The wife dances, talks and drives with other men. The husband dances, talks and drives with other women. There is no question of jealousy because there is perfect confidence. When they are together they are not bored. The husband is pleased to have his wife admired and she is happy to find she has not married a freak whom no one else would want.

It is a question hard to decide and one upon which the parties themselves should sit in judgment. One might as well try to dip up the ocean with a teaspoon as to try and arrange a code to go by, for gossips will talk and jealousy will exist until the end of time. Perhaps if we were asked to give our opinion on the matter we would be as bad as the rest in the matter of talk, though differing in sentiment, for it is our belief that jealousy is but another name for selfishness, rather than an indication of any overpowering affection.

At any rate it is something to guard against and to try to control as much as possible.

TO CLEAN PICTURES.

To clean the glass over pictures, dip a piece of chamois in alcohol, wrung nearly dry, and wipe thoroughly, yet lightly. Polish with a piece of dry chamois. The gilded frames may also be cleaned with the alcohol. If oil paintings need cleaning thoroughly, dampen a soft cloth in warm water in which some castile soap has been dissolved. Dry carefully, and then varnish lightly with some thin, clear, French "retouching" varnish. It is well to consult an artist in regard to the best varnish.

TOO MUCH FOR HIM.

I can't understand women at all.

Any new trouble?

Yes; here's a girl who says my blunt remarks pierce her heart.

Agricultural

REVENUE FROM POULTRY.

I want to speak to the farmers and their wives, writes Thos. Fraser in the Globe. Much has been said about cheese and butter and about the raising of suitable cattle for beef. I have nothing to say to the contrary, both the steer and the cow will make money for the farmer, and it will pay to feed them up well. Our Department of Dairying and Agriculture has done and is doing, much good on these lines, but what I want to impress on the farmer and his wife at present is that of raising suitable poultry.

Unfortunately in the past the poor hen has not had a fair show. The majority of farmers to whom I have spoken on this subject will hardly condescend to argue the point, claiming that it's "woman's work." Talk horse, or cattle and he will be interested but hens? Don't talk to me about them; they are a nuisance; look how they dirty up the buggy and harness! No wonder, there being no place provided for them, they roost on the back and dashboard of the buggy and regs where harness is hung up. It is not the hens' fault. Erect suitable and comfortable quarters for them and your buggy and harness will not suffer.

The object of this letter is to overcome this indifference, and although the task appears great still no harm in trying. Will the farmer believe that one thousand hens of either the Plymouth or Wyandote breed will earn one thousand dollars, not clear of all expenses in twelve months?

I know right now, that not one farmer in twenty will credit the statement, it is true, nevertheless, and what is more there are quite a few in Canada who live, and live well, raising poultry alone.

Now, here is a suggestion. If the farmer claims it is woman's work, let her profit by the venture. Let it be done in a business way. Charge up to the hen all expenses, engage help to look after the feeding, gathering of eggs, keeping the houses clean, the farmer's wife has already more than her share now to do, erect suitable and airy hen houses, give them lots of room and light; purchase one or more reliable incubators and brooders, the brooders are as important as incubators, purchase reliable stock and eggs to start with spraying pump, bone cutter, etc.—a complete outfit. All of the above charge up to capital account. Keep a correct record of wages, disbursements for feed, etc. Subscribe to one or more poultry journals, all of which charge to expenses of the hens. Use some common sense and care. You will find that after deducting interest on capital, expenses of management and feeding after one year, every hen will bring you in more than one dollar of revenue over expenses.

Yes, with one thousand hens the farmer's wife will earn more money than the farmer will with 25 average cows. Let every farmer open to conviction dispute this statement. Let him go into the cost of keeping 25 cows, such as the feed, help, etc. Then estimate what the cost of keep will be for one thousand hens. Take the gross revenue from the cows and gross estimated revenue of the hens, deducting cost of each, and he will find "the hen beats the cow."

The experiments made at the Government Experimental Farm will show what the hen can earn. Do not worry about disposing of the cockerels and pullets. There is a market in Great Britain for all that can be produced. Every Farmer in Ontario having an apple orchard will find it of great benefit and profit raising large quantities of poultry. Eggs may be bought by weight in the near future.

PRUNING.

In taking up a tree there is a loss of root, and it must be re-established. The nursery man cannot dig up a tree with all its roots, and it would be of no value if he could. If the top of the tree is reduced to correspond with the loss of roots there will be but little check in the transplanting.

A great many have the mistaken notion that a root feeds. It does nothing of the soft. The principal use of the root is to anchor the tree fast in the soil and to serve as the reservoir for the food which is gathered by the little hair-like growths from the branches of the roots from the soil surrounding them. We found this out when some mice got among our pear-trees and ate all the roots off. They didn't die, but were almost the better for it. A peach-tree may be pruned to a walking stick and do better than one left with the mass of roots with which it comes from the nursery.

With the advent of spring the sap goes to the extremities of the limbs and the growth begins there. In pruning look to the buds on the limbs, and see how you wish the new limb to grow. If inward then let the bud on the inner side be at the end, cutting just beyond it. If outward, then cut so the outside bud will be the last. This gives the chance to form the tree properly, or just as it is wanted. It requires a little thinking, but if the location of the buds is noticed it is not only easy, but interesting.

Cut all roots smooth. To cut them hold the tree in the left hand from the under side up. Cutting from the top makes a wound which will held water, and this will cause it to rot. In setting the tree hold it firm, and with the fingers work the earth down around the roots to press close against them and leave no airholes; fill the earth good, then press it firmly, and finally pound it solid with a mallet. This having the earth close about the root and having every mangled root cut smooth across is of the utmost importance.

GREEN RYE FOR COWS.

Green rye is not one of the best fodders for cows, but it may be used so that its bad qualities may not be so conspicuous as they might be under less judicious management. It certainly does not make good butter, but has such a pronounced flavor in cheese. Most of its effect, however, is avoided by care in using it—that is, by gradually increasing the ration of it from a small quantity at the start. The effect of it on the milk seems to be due to some flavoring substance in it, as is experienced in feeding turnips or cabbages to the cows. We have fed it in the regular course, as it comes in as the first soiling crop for cows, and by beginning with it in a small way mixed with hay or corn fodder, and gradually increasing the quantity, but especially taking careu to feed it quite fresh, and it is cut, there have been no bad results, even in making butter from the milk—and butter seems to concentrate into itself every particle after feeding especially avoiding feed-If there is no urgent necessity for making the change suddenly, we do not apprehend any material difference in the milk that should make it unsuitable for making cheese. Certainly it will be in no way harmful for calves. The only danger that could possibly occur to cows turned on to fresh pasture in the spring would be in their eating too much of the succulent food; and this may be easily avoided by turning them out after the dew has dried off, and bringing them in an hour or so after feeding, especially avodng feeding on the rye while it is wet with rain. This applies to all green fodder in the spring. It might be the easiest way to cut the rye first and feed in the yard or barn for a few days, to accustom the cows to the change. The feed utg first should be sprinkled with salt, which in moderate quantities is a preventative of indigestion from such green fodder as this.

EXTRA EARLY POTATOES.

Some careful tests in starting potatoes in the greenhouse and planting them later in the open ground were made at the Kansas experiment station with fairly satisfactory results. About the middle of February greenhouse flats were filled with sand, and in them were placed good sized potatoes with the seed end up and about one-fourth of the tuber exposed. Each flat contained forty-four potatoes. These were set under a bench in a cool propogating-house, where they received partial light and a temperature of 50 to 65 degrees. Strong sprouts began to grow from the exposed eye, very different in appearance from those of potatoes sprouting in the dark. March 22 these were planted in furrows, the tubers being carefully removed from the sand and planted entire in the same position and fourteen inches apart in rows. Ordinary whole tubers which had been kept in the cellar and sprouted in bulk were planted. As a check, cut seed of the same variety was also planted. Both lots of the whole seed kept ahead of the seed, which had been cut. June 1 the greenhouse sprouts showed excellent young table potatoes, while the others were fully a week later. The difference in yield is not very marked, the chief value being the gain of a week in earliness.

MUTILATING THE TEETH.

It is curious to what an extent the mutilation of teeth goes on among savage nations, and even among certain civilized people, such as the Japanese. With them a girl is never married without first staining her teeth black with a repulsive kind of varnish, and the custom is especially adhered to among members of the richer classes.

On the west coast of Africa a large proportion of the teeth are deliberately broken when children reach a certain age. Both in the New World and in the Old the custom exists of extracting the two front teeth of domestic servants. In Peru the custom has existed from time immemorial, and used to be a sign of slavery in the days of the Incas. This is also the custom of the Congo and among the Hottentots. Teeth are stained in various colors among the Malays.

A bright red and a bright blue are not uncommon, and a bright green is produced with the aid of arsenic and lemon juice. Livingstone related that among the Kaffirs a child with a prominent upper jaw was looked upon as a monster and immediately killed. On the Upper Nile the negroes have all their best teeth extracted in order to destroy their value in the slave market, and to make it not worth while for the slave traders to carry them off.

OUT OF THE QUESTION.

Yes, meditated the Sultan of Turkey, it is quite out of the question for me to become a Christian. I have been reading of the observance of Easter. Just think of my having to provide new Easter toggery for a harem the size of mine.

And he ordered another massacre.