

NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

FIVE MINUTES SELECT READING.

Summary of Foreign, Domestic and War Items.—Concise, Pithy, and Pointed.

DOMESTIC.

A married hotel clerk and an unmarried girl have eloped from Trenton.

The widow of the late Chief Joseph, of Oka, has been married to Francois Fret.

The Salvation Army at Kingston now numbers about 290, and there are converts every night.

Montreal firms are joining in pooling their Winnipeg consignments and chartering special trains.

Mr. D. Barry, advocate, of Montreal, has entered an action for libel against the *Post* Newspaper Company.

R. J. Green, supposed to have been drowned in Burlington Bay, on Sunday, August 21st, has turned up in Hamilton.

A man named Conroy, missed from St. Anne la Pocietiere a day or two ago has been found frozen to death in the woods.

Dr. Abel Hann, an American, was arrested in Brantford recently for threatening to shoot A. Yonge at Cainsville.

Some 120 men have quit work in the Canadian Pacific Railway machine shops at Winnipeg on account of the new check system.

The Dominion Artillery Association recently held its annual meeting at Ottawa, when the Governor-General delivered an address.

In the House of Assembly at Halifax, a bill giving the Government the sole power of appointing sheriffs passed its second reading.

Mary Ann Sinnot has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Montreal for writing a threatening letter to a gentleman named Edwards.

Nazaire Hair, while working in Pinkerton's stove factory, Montreal, had his right arm seized in the machine and torn away.

UNITED STATES.

At Havana, Ill., the river is six miles wide, and the approaches to the bridge are swept away.

At Lewisville, N. H., a French-Canadian named Willey, shot a rival whom he found with his lady love.

At a Michigan lumber camp, a man chopped off another's head with an axe. The murderer was lynched.

The schooner Willie Joyce, of Portland, on a Newfoundland herring voyage, is given up as lost with her crew of seven.

Chief of Police Graves, of Port Huron, has been reinstated, the charges made against him not having been proved.

At Milford, Mass., thirteen school-children, thrown from a large sleigh, struck a tree, and nearly all were picked up unconscious.

Patrick Cunningham, from New Brunswick, aged about thirty-eight, was found dead in his bed at the Schindehette House, Bay City, Mich.

One of the professors at Dartmouth, N. H. College, has been serenaded with horns and his windows broken and fence pulled down.

George Bark, at Buffalo, in a quarrel with a widow named Finster, snatched up a claw hammer and striking her two heavy blows on the head fractured her skull.

There is great excitement over a remarkable silver discovery on property owned by a Methodist parson twenty miles south of Tucson, in the Santa Rita Mountains.

GENERAL.

Hamburg has consented to enter the German Custom Union.

Washington's birthday was celebrated at Rome by the Americans.

The Melbourne general election has resulted in the defeat of the Ministry.

The steamer Heckla, which went ashore near Lourvig on the 18th, has broken up.

Edwin Booth was presented with a silver laurel wreath at Hamburg.

The British Government has again demanded from Spain the release of the Cuban refugees.

The law against American hog products goes into effect in Germany a month after it is published.

Chinese authorities have withdrawn the fabricated charges against the clerk of the American arm at Shanghai.

The Chinese Government is energetically pushing on reinforcements to its western frontier, threatened by Russia.

A sensation has been caused in England by the fierce denunciation of Mr. Parnell and the Land League by Mr. Forster in a speech delivered in the Imperial Commons.

A Simple Fire-Escape.

The horrors of the Milwaukee and other recent fires are deepened by the reflection that so many of the victims might have been saved, had they been provided with the simple appliance of a rope, a pulley, and a hook; the hook to be fastened to the window sill, the rope to be looped around the body, under the arms of the person using it, who will then let himself down on the outside, by the rope, which plays freely through the pulley. Nothing could be simpler, or more certain. A contrivance like this would occupy but a small place in the traveller's hand bag. There are strong small wires enclosed in wrappings that can be made available for this purpose, and which are not larger than one's little finger. They are quite large enough to sustain the weight of a man, and their value in saving life would be priceless. Hotels and similar buildings should be supplied with these fixtures, one for each room in the house, and there should be a permanent staple under the window sill, to which to attach the hook of the safety rope. There is quite as much reason for keeping these ropes and pulleys at hand, as there is for providing steam vessels with life preservers, and the law which makes the latter obligatory, might properly extend its mandatory provisions to the former, and require more safeguards for the security of the public from the dangers by which they are menaced.

The Frontiers of Madness.

Such is the title of an interesting lecture recently delivered by Dr. Ball in his course at the Paris Faculty of Medicine. The generally received opinion that folly and reason are separated by a strictly drawn mathematical line is, according to Dr. Ball, quite erroneous. There is a broad frontier, he says, between sanity and insanity, which is peopled by millions of inhabitants. Dr. Ball holds that the number of persons perfectly reasonable on all points throughout the entire period of their existence form but a minority of mankind. The world abounds with people, he tells us, whom a strict scientific diagnosis would condemn as mad, or more or less "touched"; yet at no time of their life would it be permissible to put them under restraint. Such people are to be seen occupying honorably and successfully every position in life and society; we see them in the mirror which reflects ourselves!

Dr. Ball was recently consulted by a young man who was engaged to be married, but who found it impossible to visit his intended bride because it would involve a journey of some length in a railway carriage, and he could never enter one without feeling a desire to jump out as soon as the train was in motion. He was advised to accustom himself gradually to this mode of travelling by taking short journeys on the suburban line, but he could never get beyond Anteuil; there he had to leave the carriage for fear of accidents. Homicidal impulse is likewise met with. Thouviot's case is the oft-quoted. For years this unpleasant person was tortured with a burning desire to kill some woman or other, but he never felt the slightest wish to take the life of a man. He battled with the impulse for years, but at length it got the better of him. One day he murdered a young girl, a perfect stranger to him, whom unfortunate chance threw in his way in the kitchen of a restaurant. Dr. Ball was consulted some time ago by a painter of considerable talent, who was a prey to these murderous impulses. He had married early in life, his family was large and his cares and anxieties large in proportion. At about eight and thirty, without physical ailment of any kind, or any specially unfavorable turn in his affairs, his mind began to be affected. If he saw a mirror he experienced a desire to smash it; near a window he felt a temptation to jump out; he never got a bank note in his hand that he did not feel inclined to tear it in pieces. These morbid promptings presently assumed a more formidable shape; he began to be assailed with a temptation to strangle his children. His little daughter was dying of croup, and he spent night after night by her bedside nursing her with the utmost tenderness. "Yet," said he to the physician, "at the moment when I was praying, with tears in my eyes, that the child's life might be spared, I was tormented with a horrible desire to take her out of the cradle and throw her into the fire. Even now," he added, "as I speak to you I feel a most intense desire to strangle you; but I check myself." The doctor never saw this patient again; a circumstance which he has perhaps no reason to regret, for as he was a man of powerful build he would have been an exceedingly "ugly customer" had his sanguinary impulse proved beyond his control. But up to that time, as the doctor remarks, he had kept them successfully in check. His nearest friends did not even suspect that he was subject to them. He fulfilled all the duties of life in a correct and exemplary manner. No doctor could have certified to his being insane. Yet assuredly he was on the "borderland" of insanity.—*St. James Gazette.*

The Probable Exclusiveness of Heaven. Do you not sometimes wish the way were broad? But the fact still remains that the way is narrow, and if one would enter he must strive with his might. But why, you may ask, did not God make the way broad? Why, indeed? Would you have heaven a place like unto earth? You might as well ask whether Heaven would be Heaven if it were no better than earth. If the gate, the way, were broad, all would go there. Do you think it would be conducive to happiness to go where the good and evil are living together? In your daily business relations you are thrown in contact with bad men at every step. Would you wish such a state of affairs all through eternity? No; the heaven we hope for and look forward to must be a pure, happy, and blessed place. There must never be one ripple of trouble or shadow of sorrow to disturb the repose of that holy place. Now, in order to secure such a heaven nothing must be permitted to enter the gate that will defile. The gate is not narrow of itself, it is simply too narrow for sin to enter. Can there be any just complaint because sin is shut out? As well might one complain that a drunkard is not permitted to join a temperance organization, or an ignorant a scientific association. The church is likewise exclusive. None can enter its straight gate without the credentials of morality.—*Rev. T. P. Marsh, Chicago.*

Tinned Salmon.

The principle seat of the American tinned salmon industry is on the Columbia River, Oregon. Upon this river, during the year 1881, there were employed in salmon-catching no fewer than 1,760 boats, manned by 4,000 men, chiefly Scandinavians and Italians. The hauls are made by gill-nets and seines, and each boat, it is said, will take on an average 2,000 fish during the season, which lasts from the beginning of May to the end of July. The work of canning the fish is performed by Chinamen, who are remarkably expert in the various processes of cleaning and cutting up the fish into suitable pieces, filling the cans, and sealing them hermetically. A pound of salmon is put into every can, and in packing for market the cans are made up into cases of 48 each. The industry is rapidly growing. In 1866 the product of the Columbia River fisheries was 4,000 salmon; in 1881 it was 530,000. During the latter year it is estimated that the quantity of salmon packed by the 32 canneries on the river was 19,000 tons, and toward the close of the season there was such an enormous catch that hundreds of tons had to be thrown away; so that the industry is evidently capable of further development to a very considerable extent.

LATE NEWS NOTES.

The river is now low enough to allow teamsters to use their landings at Cincinnati.

Subscriptions have been opened in Berlin, for the sufferers by the floods in America.

Two well-known Nationalists, implicated in the storage of arms at Clerkenwell, have left for America.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that no constitution nor amnesty will be granted on the occasion of the Czar's coronation.

All the temperance and prohibiting measures introduced in the New Jersey legislature this session were killed.

A meeting of the Irish National Land League recently condemned the presence of "leaves dropping police" at its meeting.

The Porte has instructed the Governor of Tripoli to personally apologise to the Italian Consul for the insult offered the latter.

The German Bundesrath has approved unanimously of the bill prohibiting the importation of American pigs, pork, or sausages.

A bill has been introduced into the Ohio Legislature giving justices of the peace original and final jurisdiction in all liquor questions.

At the session of the Grand Lodge of United Workmen, Guelph was selected as the place for the holding of the next annual meeting.

The German Ambassador to the Vatican, replying to Cardinal Jacobini's letter, insists on the submittal of all ecclesiastical appointments to the German Government.

Since the publication of Carey's disclosures a number of Irish-Americans and farmers' sons in the counties of Armagh, Monaghan and Louth have been secretly leaving for America.

The Quebec citizens' meeting, on the water supply was largely attended, the Mayor presiding. A resolution was adopted averring that a second pipe, or other means of increasing the water supply was an absolute necessity.

The first annual meeting of the British American Short Horn Association has been held at Toronto. Mr. J. Drynan, M. P. P., presided. In his opening address he complained of the large number of spurious pedigrees which had been registered with the Agricultural and Arts Association.

The Danubian Conference has approved of the proposal for a mixed commission to control the Danube from Galatz to the Iron Gates. Austria, Bulgaria, Roumania and Servia to be permanently represented on the Commission, and the other Powers appointing members in rotation. Servia will not be represented on the European Commission to have jurisdiction below Galatz.

The surveyor of the Port of San Francisco seized on the steamer "City of Tokio" opium valued at \$15,000. It was concealed in the water tank, the only access to which was by the shaft well. It is considered impossible that opium could have been concealed there without the connivance of some of the officers of the ship. Others seizures are expected.

It is believed that if Mr. Parnell speaks on Mr. Gorst's amendment it will be briefly, as he thinks the debate on the Phoenix Park murders premature while the trial is pending. The Parnellites are greatly dissatisfied with Mr. Parnell's intention to move an amendment to the address, arraigning the Executive of Ireland for its administration of the Crimes Act.

The Coxheath Mining Company on Wednesday took out a silver license at the Mines Department at Halifax, N. S. covering their entire copper areas in Cape Breton, owing to the ore showing a larger percentage of the richer metal as greater depth was attained. It is said these recent developments add considerably to the value of the property, and are arousing some excitement amongst mining speculators.

A Washington despatch says: The steamer "Asheley" reported lost in China, was a laughing stock among naval officers. She was a paddle wheel, thin plated iron ship of 1,370 tons displacement and double ender. She was built in 1863 for purposes of river navigation during the war and was used in the blockade. A number of similar vessels were built at the same time. Two or three were lost and the rest were sold, except the "Monocacy" now on the Asiatic station and the "Tallapoosa" greatly altered from the original plan.

Michael Doyle, of St. Louis, a brother-in-law of General Macadaras, suspected of being "Number 1," says Macadaras has not been connected with any Irish movement since the Fenian fiasco of 1865. Doyle is in constant correspondence with Macadaras. The latter is an invalid, and constantly travelling with his wife. There is no secrecy in his movements. Macadaras was in Egypt during the whole time covered by the Phoenix Park murder conspiracy, and while the plotting was going on against Mr. Forster he was at a mountain resort in France.

M. Jules Ferry the Premier submitted to President Grevy the following list of members of the new Cabinet and their respective portfolios: Ferry, Prime Minister and Minister of Public Instruction; Challemeil Lacour, Foreign Affairs; Waldeck Rousseau, Interior; Martin Feuillee, Justice; Charles Brun, Marine; Meline, Agriculture; Herisson, Commerce; Cochery, Posts and Telegraphs; Tirard, Finance; Thibaudin, War. It is stated that M. Ferry has requested the President to sign decrees placing all the provinces serving in the army on the retired list.

Antiquity of the Doll.

Dolls are of greater antiquity than many may imagine. They are traced back to their "probable" first appearance in puppet shows. The practice of sending them from France to foreign countries was very early date. In the royal expenses for 1391 figure so many "lives" for a doll sent to the Queen of England; in 1496, another sent to the Queen of Spain, and in 1577 a Henry IV. wrote in 1600, before his marriage to Marie de Medicis: "Frontenac tells me that you desire patterns of our fashion model dolls."

Tobogganing.

A tobogganing hill should be as nearly perpendicular as possible, with, at the bottom a long level stretch, over which the sled can fly with the impetus derived from its descent. Two or three passengers make its descent. The toboggan is placed in a load, the lady or ladies being placed in the front and the steersman sitting behind. The front and the steersman placed on the verge of the precipice, the lady steps in and sits down with her feet against her skirt tucked or disposed in the curve and her skirt tucked around her, and her escort sits down behind, having a short stick in each hand with which to steer. The steersman lets his hands trail on either side, and digs one stick or the other into the snow, according to the direction in which he wishes to turn the accursed craft. It is the correct thing to turn out in a blanket coat and leggins, with moccasins, and upon your head a red or blue toque—a Phrygian cap of worsted. Having bidden adieu to your friends, you gently push your frail sled over the brow of the hill and launch yourself into eternity. Such of your readers as has ever fallen out of a balloon will have a good idea of the sensation of the amateur tobogganist during his first slide. There is a sense of going in the head and in the pit of the stomach, and the nether world rises up and hits you all over very hard. A slippery and elastic board with 300 pounds weight upon it, launched down a hill of ice or snow a quarter of a mile long or thereabouts, with an inclination of say seventy degrees, gathers a tremendous headway in the course of a few seconds; the crisp diamond-dusty particles fly at your eyes like spindrift at sea before a hurricane, and a spray of shrieking silver is ground up by either steering stick. In a few seconds you reach the glacial, and change the plane on which you move, the sled giving a bound that makes you think of riding a frisky dolphin; then away it careers for hundreds of yards above the level, till finally it stops perhaps a mile away from the starting place, allowing an admirable opportunity for flirting with your fair fare during the return walk. Of a bright, moonlight night, with the air keen and the heavens overflowing with stars, there can be no more glorious sport. But it has its perils. If you lose your head and fail to keep that of the toboggan straight the sled will broach-to and spill you and your fare down the hill, with a display of ground and lofty tumbling such as Greenwich never witnessed on the jolliest of fair days. Fortunate will you be, if, while you and your Dulcinea are for the moment standing on your respective heads, another toboggan does not sweep down and take you in your respective mid-drifts with a force of say 144-foot tons. Or, still worse, in a long course, where there are trees to thread and maybe a gate or two to pass through, you may tilt head-on into a post or a stately maple. Not until you have been into such an accident do you fairly understand what is meant by "match-wood" and "a dull thud." Luckily as the lady is in front she acts as a sort of buffer, but her lot under such circumstances is not a happy one, as before she has fairly realized that she has been hurled against a tree she receives you in the back with no less crushing emphasis.

Chit-Chat.

It is now fashionable to speak of the night robe as a nap sack. The best fire-escape is when your wife gets up in the morning and makes it. Mr. Nettle was recently married to Miss Thorn. That's what you might call a prickly pair. David Fender, "popping the question," in a letter, concluded thus: "And should you say 'yes,' dear Mary, I will truly be your D. Fender." Sloutherby says his wife hasn't done very much shopping this winter, although she did go down town the other day to buy a muff "just to keep her hand in." A bouncing big wild cat was killed in the suburbs of Cincinnati the other day, and several thousand men of Cincinnati staid at home the next evening for the first time in years. A fashion item says that the favorite color of undressed kids for street wear is dark tan. The fashion originated in Africa, where all the undressed kids seen in the streets are dark tan color. A girl in New York was recently arrested, being disguised as an old woman. If all the old women who appear in the disguise of girls were arrested the jail would have the appearance of sardine-boxes. Passionate love: "I tell you," exclaimed Brown, "that Charley is wholly unselfish in his affection; he loves the very ground that she walks on." "Yes," replied Fogg, "when she is walking on her father's estate."

When a California man sees "no cards" at the end of a marriage notice of a friend, he remarks that "that girl has put some of her pious notions into Jim's head, but he'll get over them after he has been married a while."

"How can I leave you, my darling?" murmured a lover in tones of distressing tenderness, as he observed both hands of the clock approach a perpendicular on the dial. "Well John," responded the girl with wicked innocence, "you can take your choice. If you go through the hall you will be liable to wake up father, and if you leave by way of the back shed you'll be likely to wake up the dog."

Improved Sleeping Cars.

Two new sleeping cars are being constructed by the Pullman Company on what is called the English pattern. These carriages differ from those at present in use in having side entrances, thereby dispensing with the end platforms, and in being divided into four compartments, so as to combine the comfort, and, to a certain extent the privacy of an English first-class carriage with the convenience of the sleeping car. Each compartment contains cushioned seats as well as berths and beds for four persons. There is a continuous passage from one end of the car to the other for the use of the attendant, but ordinarily each section is separated from the rest by doors and curtains. The new cars are each rather over twelve yards long, and weigh about thirteen tons. They were built in America, shipped to England in sections, and put together and finished at Derby, and have been named "Balmoral" and "Calross."

FLOATING PARAGRAPHS.

Augustus Harris, lessee of Drury's Theatre, gave a free performance of pantomime "Sinbad," on the 5th inst. to more than 4,000 of the poorest children of London.

While the attacks upon the Jews and Christians in the East, Casper, the Christian merchant of Salonik, has an astonishment far and wide by having his entire property to the Jewish community.

A new invention for instantly extinguishing machinery from any part of the building, by pressing an electric button connected with the engine valve, will doubtless save many lives.

They say now that if you tamper with your pipe the tobacco smoke will injure your nerves. We follow this ourselves—and also leave out the tobacco which is a still greater improvement.

The public, who used to assemble in crowds in the Castle Yard, Dublin, to witness the arrivals at the Lord Licentiate's levee, were for the first time excluded from the Goldstream Guards; policemen in uniform lined the hall, and detectives guarded the stairs leading to the Throne Room.

The *Spectator* says that the late Mr. Seaver got a seat among the Germans at the Passion Play by telling the authorities that he was an Elector of New York. The minds of the United States Germans consorted for a time on equal terms with the Marshals of France, as a fellow-countryman.

One of those dreadful scientific mistakes won't let us eat anything for fear of being poisoned is on the rampage again, and sulphuric acid in our sugar is the most liver and kidney complaint, and honey-comb is made artificially and fed on glucose, and even eggs (shells) are manufactured!

Dr. Robert, in the *Edinburgh Journal*, gives the incredible number of four hundred in a thousand as the rate of Madris, and over a hundred for other places. Cause, insufficient food, shocking filth, great numbers never better themselves in their lives! Where are Chinese now?

In the three of the principal hospitals in Paris is the Sisters of Charity, about about a hundred, are at once struck by ordinary male and female disease. This step has been enforced upon the administration of Public Assistance by the Paris Municipal Council, who have the continuation of their annual cost of seventeen millions of francs upon its execution.

Gas of unprecedented cheapness has been made, if the promises of a Chicago chemist are kept. His process of manufacture is based up all the usual by-products—like gas, ammonia and fixed carbon—in the production of gas. Nothing will be left but a liquid slag. Every atom of sulphur and carbon in the coal will be turned into gas. Instead of ten or twelve thousand of gas from a ton of coal, he will obtain 1000 ft. et. Test works are to be at Elgin.

The *Economist* justly says that the draw of fractional currency is a great number of people who have been sent small sums by mail, and who have the objection to its usually patchwork condition can be easily overcome by issuing it with new when it is torn or worn. It is a nuisance to send silver in letters, age stamps won't always answer, and doesn't want to draw a money order quarter.

ODDS AND ENDS.

At a recent Vermont agricultural convention of eighteen men, each of the 500 counted 13,000 to the losers' 500.

When you first and fame at the ills of life, remember that the ills which go round without making noise are the most dangerous.

It is stated that, whereas the percentage of Irishmen in the British Army was formerly above 70 per cent., it is now only 22.

"I wish to state," writes a prominent letter, "that I have procured an amendment that will wake up the congressional committee as the service is over."

"How seldom it happens that we get into the business," said one of the other. "Very, and have you noticed how seldom the business is broken?" replied the other.

Diogenes, finding the water in his bath dirty, asked: "Where can I go and wash on coming out?" "That's what I'll do after a swim in the sea," always was the answer to preserve the smoothness of the skin.

The Turk and the man who stepped on orange skin have much in common. Both are alike in their attitude, and their stance, they both sit down without a chair. The motions of the Turk, with those of the man who steps on orange skin.

Great numbers of the masses of the West Coast of France are still green crabs, which, with the water of their kind, pop, while yet their shells are soft, inside the shells of mussels, and they are open for feeding, and their board and lodging, for they literally eat their host.

"My wife," says Wigglewag, "has just had a box, 'tis one of the most economical I ever saw. Whenever I smoke a pipe the house she makes me blow the smoke out of her mouth, and she is ready to catch the ashes for me, while the stump that is left she washes with water and treats the flower-pots with it."

Longfellow was gifted with a natural into character, and always said "I would to the right person." On being asked to the late Nicholas Longfellow, Cincinnati, a joke-witted old gentleman who dearly loved a quibble, referred to the similarity of the syllable of the name. "Worth" makes the name want of it, the "follow," replied Longfellow, quoting Pope's famous line, and making of the best repartee on record.

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