

# NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

## FIVE MINUTES' SELECT READING.

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

### DOMESTIC.

The Parliamentary crisis continues to absorb attention in New Brunswick.

It is now considered doubtful whether the Quebec House will prorogue before Easter.

The Montreal civic revenue this year is \$1,758,043; an increase of \$25,000 over last year.

A Customs seizure of jewellery at Fort Erie has been made amounting to \$1,000 or \$2,000.

Wells, a bucket-shop keeper, has absconded from Montreal with \$5,000 of other people's money.

The Winnipeg city debentures have been offered on the London Market at seven per cent. premium.

The total amount subscribed in Hamilton for the relief of sufferers by the German floods, has reached \$1,287.

Ramour says that the Montreal Bank has shut down on another large London house, and that a suspension is likely.

A man named Garret Flynn was killed in Vale county, New Glasgow, by a fall of coal in the Pillar works.

The Molsons Bank, London, has caused a writ to be issued against the Globe Agricultural Works Company for \$100,000.

The charge of embezzlement brought against Deputy Sheriff Gibson, of Wentworth, by the sheriff has fallen through.

Cardinal Simoni, in a letter to the Archbishop of Quebec, severely condemns the interference in political elections of the clergy.

Three more bodies stolen from St. Scholastique Cemetery a few days ago, are being looked for in the dissecting room at Montreal.

A Mrs. Nally and her daughter were killed near Canterbury station, N. B., by a sleigh which they occupied being struck by a train.

Magistrate Bartlett, of Windsor, has reviewed the testimony taken at the Maher inquest, and deems it strong evidence against the prisoners.

This year some 50,000 logs will be driven down the Mississippi by Caldwell & Sons. Just what P. McLaren is going to do about it is not known.

Henry Joseph Lyall, who is said to belong to Port Hope, was arrested recently at Hamilton for obtaining money on false pretences and forgery.

Charles Pigeon, a Montreal barber, has disappeared, and so has a Lowell woman named Gilman. Mrs. Pigeon and two children are left behind in Lowell.

The Imperial Government, it is suggested, will assume the expense of sending out ten thousand Irish agriculturists to the Canadian North-west during May and June next.

Holders of tickets in the recent Masonic lottery resident in London have been summoned. Manager Brunton is among the number, to answer to a charge of encouraging lotteries.

Michael and Henry Kinehan and Thomas Craig, were committed at Kingston recently, on a charge of stabbing one McCullough at the Village of Verona, in the county of Aedgington on election night.

Judge Ramsay of Montreal, gave the Grand Jury a lecture upon the sanctity of the oath, remarking that he did not know why some people required an affirmation when there was one included in the oath.

The Grand Trunk Railway for the period between the 12th August and 31 December, shows a balance sufficient to pay the full interest upon the first and second preference stocks and three and a half per cent. upon the third preference.

Mayor Beaudry was elected to the chief magistracy of Montreal over Mr. Henry Balmur by a majority of 212. J. McShane beat Ald. Kennedy by thirty-six in St. Ann's Ward, and W. D. Stroud upset Ald. Proctor with a majority of 112.

### UNITED STATES.

Faas. W. Palmer, of Detroit, has been elected to the United States Senate, receiving seventy-five votes.

A party of ranchmen surprised an Indian camp in Mexico, captured twenty-five squaws, killed ten bucks, and scalped them.

Subscriptions to the Bartholdi statue at New York recently, amounted to \$2,500. President White of Cornell University gave \$250.

John Goodwin, of Chicopee, Mass., was absconded. He was a contractor and owed from seventy-five to a hundred thousand dollars.

The district Attorney, in a communication to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, says the Star Route trial will probably last two months longer.

Rev. Howard Crosby, lecturing before the Master Plumbers' Association, said the New York debt of over a hundred millions is solely from the plundering of politicians.

An official statement of the Catholic Churches in the charge of the Augustinian Fathers at Lawrence, Mass., shows the liabilities to be \$567,000, and the assets \$360,000.

### GENERAL.

The plague has appeared in Kurdistan.

The French anarchist Bidier has been arrested at Brussels.

All the documents of the "Black Hand" Society are in the hands of the Andalusian Government.

The Prince of Wales recently visited Prince Bismarck, remaining an hour with the eminent statesman.

The British Board of Trade has exonerated the captain of the City of Brussels from blame in the sinking of his steamer.

M. De Lesseps will start from Paris for Tunis on the 12th inst. in connection with the formation of an inland African Sea.

The Socialistic society, the "Black Hand," numbers fifty thousand members, with Geneva as the centre for Western Europe.

The French Minister of War, replying to an interpellation, said the presence of the princes in the army was unconstitutional.

Negotiations for the purpose of inducing the Duke of Cumberland to renounce his claim to the throne of Hanover have been renewed.

The *Journal de Geneve* stigmatizes the action of the police in expelling the Salvation Army from Switzerland as nothing less than a veritable *coup d'etat*.

Mr. Parnell complained in the House against the seeming intention of the Government to relieve the distress in Ireland by the poorhouse and emigration.

The jury in London in the case of the editor, proprietor and printer of the *Free Thinker*, arraigned on a charge of blasphemous libel, disagreed, and a new trial has been ordered.

At the banquet given at Cairo to the British resident officials, a colonel of the Egyptian army arose in his place and offered the toast. "The deliverance of Egypt from the foreigners." He was removed amid excitement.

### Big Things on Earth.

The largest inland sea is the Caspian, lying between Europe and Asia. Its greatest length is 700 miles, and its area 180,000 square miles. Great Salt Lake, in Utah, which may be properly termed an inland sea, is about 90 miles long, and has a varying breadth of from 20 to 35 miles. Its surface is 4,200 feet above the level of the sea, whereas the surface of the Caspian is 84 ft. below the ocean level. The biggest trees in the world are the mammoth trees of California. One of a grove in Tulare county, according to measurement made by members of the State Geological Survey, was shown to be 276 feet high, 156 feet in circumference at base, and 76 feet at the point 12 feet above the ground. Some of the trees are 376 feet high, and 34 feet in diameter. Some of the largest that have been felled indicate an age of from 2,000 to 2,500 years.

The largest empire in the world is that of Great Britain, comprising 8,567,658 square miles, more than a sixth part of the land of the globe, and embracing under its rule nearly a sixth part of the population of the world. In territorial extent the United States ranks third, containing 3,550,242 square miles, including Alaska: in population it ranks fourth with its 50,000,000 of people. Russia ranks second, having 8,352,940 square miles. The longest tunnel in the world is that of St. Gothard, on the line of railroad between Lucerne and Milan. The summit of the tunnel is 990 feet below the surface at Andermatt, and 6,600 feet beneath the peak of Kastelhorn of the St. Gothard group. The tunnel is 26 1/2 feet wide, and 19 feet 10 inches from the floor to the crown of the arched roof. It is nine and one-third miles long, one and five-eighths miles longer than the Mont Cenis Tunnel.

The most remarkable whirlpool is the maelstrom of the north-west coast of Norway, and southwest of Moskenesol, the most southerly of the Lofoden isles. It was once supposed to be unfathomable, but the depth has been shown not to exceed 20 fathoms. The whirlpool is navigable under ordinary circumstances, but when the wind in north-west it often attains great fury, and becomes extremely dangerous. Under strong gales the maelstrom has been shown by official statistics to run at the rate of 26 miles an hour.

The largest library is the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, founded by Louis XIV. It contains 2,400,000 volumes, 400,000 pamphlets, 175,000 manuscripts, 300,000 maps and charts, and 150,000 coins and medals. The collection of engravings exceeds 1,300,000, contained in some 20,000 volumes. The portraits number 100,000. The building which contains these treasures is situated on the Rue Richelieu. Its length is 540 feet, its breadth 130 feet. The largest library in New York, in respect of separate works, is the Astor. About 190,000 volumes are on its shelves.

The largest desert is that of Sahara, a vast region of Northern Africa, extending from the Atlantic Ocean on the west to the Valley of the Nile on the east. The length from east to west is about 3,000 miles, its average breadth about 900 miles, its area 2,000,000 square miles. The town of Timbuctoo, about nine miles from the Niger river, is surrounded by desert, but at a distance of a few days' journey to the northeast and north are the oases of Mabrook and Arawan. Rain falls in torrents in the Sahara at intervals of five, ten and twenty years. In Summer the heat during the day is excessive, but the nights are often cold. In Winter the temperature is often below freezing point.

### An Ambulant Chapel.

Few sites have so curious a history as that of the old chapel-of-ease which formerly stood in Conduit street. As was incidentally mentioned in a Chancery case recently, the land on which Conduit street was built formed in the time of Charles II. a meadow called Conduit Mead. In the next reign, when people began to build in this part of London, there was some difficulty in finding tenants for the houses because of the distance of the suburb from the parish church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields—an obstacle, by the way, which we never heard of the modern house speculator having to encounter. Thus it came about that a chapel-of-ease was erected in the reign of William and Mary. The structure was of wood, and had previously done duty as a travelling "mass-house." So at last, says Pennant. It was built "by James II. for private mass, and was conveyed on wheels, attendant on its royal master's excursions or when he attended his army. Among other places, it visited Hounslow Heath, where it continued some time after the Revolution." In the course of a few years the building—if it may be so termed—became ruinous, when Dr. Denison, the rector of St. Martin's, obtained permission from King William to erect a chapel of brick in its place. The more substantial edifice remained a proprietary chapel until 1875, when, the site having been let on a building lease, it was converted into a tailor's shop.

A bookseller of Claridan, Ia., horsewhipped Dr. Reinhold on the steps of the Post-office, and then called on the Mayor and was fined \$25. The Louisville *Courier Journal* suggests that instead of fining the bookseller the Mayor should have bound him over.

# LATE NEWS NOTES.

A prohibition bill has been defeated in the Texas Legislature.

Hank Monk, of Carson, Nev., Horace Greeley's famous stage driver, is dead.

In the Missouri House a prohibition amendment was defeated by a test vote of 68 to 59.

Four persons arrested in Trieste in August for sending bombs from Venice have been released.

Daniel Clark sues Louise Gould at Bangor, Me., for \$5,000 for breach of promise of marriage.

The silver wedding festivities of the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany were celebrated Wednesday.

Mr. Brewster, Conservative, has been elected for Portarlington, over Mr. Wayne, Nationalist. The vote was 70 to 57.

The new North German Lloyd steamer "Fulda" made a trial trip from Glasgow recently. She showed a speed of 17 1/2 knots an hour.

A Malta despatch announces that the steamer "William Dickinson" has been abandoned. Thirteen of her crew are missing and fourteen saved.

Three emigrants from Trieste and six other persons have been arrested in connection with the throwing of bombs in Rome on Tuesday.

Thirty-eight arrests have been made at Malaga, including an ex-mayor of the city, the charge being that of being concerned in the Socialistic propaganda.

It is stated the police are giving additional protection to Lord Harrington, the War Secretary, because of a discovery of a plot against him.

The Massachusetts House defeated by 127 to 60 a bill giving females a right to vote for city and town offices, and to hold city and town offices.

In the New York Assembly a bill allowing betting on one authorized race track in each county on race days was defeated by 37 to 61.

Wm. H. Kemble, president of the Union Railway, has been arrested and bailed, at Philadelphia charged with assaulting a reporter who tried to interview him.

Sara Bernhardt's creditors appeared in court in Paris on Wednesday. They claim that the amount realized by the sale of her jewellery was insufficient to pay the sum loaned thereon.

The new steamer "Normandie," built for the General Transatlantic Line, made a trial run off the Lizard on Tuesday. She attained a speed of 16 1/2 knots an hour.

In the Spanish Senate on Tuesday, the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, denied that negotiations are proceeding for the sale of the Island of Fernando Po to Germany.

The medical firm of Kergan & Kennedy recently received information from Toronto that a physician named Dr. Michael Hillary, who for the past month has had charge of their business in that city had mysteriously disappeared with a considerable amount of funds belonging to the firm.

In the United States Senate the Committee on Judiciary reported adversely on the bill for the restoration of citizenship to such citizens of the United States as have become naturalized citizens of Great Britain.

The Senate ratified the supplemental extradition treaty with Spain, the treaty with Roumania for the protection of trade marks and treaty of peace, friendship and commerce between the United States and Madagascar.

Miss Margaret, daughter of Thos. Addis Emmet, and niece of Robert Emmet, the Irish patriot, died at N. Y. at the age of 90 years recently. She was the last of the Emmets born in Ireland. She and her father were in prison in Scotland for three years after the execution of Robert.

At a meeting of the National Rifle Association recently the Duke of Cambridge, who presided, said nothing could exceed the kindness and hospitality shown the British team during the last international match. The association looked forward with pleasure to giving an American team a most hearty welcome at Wimbledon.

Byrne, before the public prosecutor at Paris, denied he was guilty of assassination. He refused to reply to further questioning. He is kept a close prisoner. No visitors are allowed to see him. A Council of Ministers will decide whether he will be surrendered. Byrne was arrested on a direct charge of assassination.

The police at Dublin have torn down a placard extensively posted throughout Galway and signed "No. 1." The offensive placard simply denies that the person charged with Constable Lutor's murder has turned informer. There is some irritation caused by the action of the police, and threats are being made.

A band of masked and armed men, supposed to be members of a secret society, entered a farm at Puerto Serrano, Andalusia, murdered the men, outraged a woman, and destroyed everything on the place. Several plantations in Andalusia, have been partially destroyed by similar bands. Some emissaries of the secret society, who have been arrested, were found to be furnished with fresh orders from their chief, a schoolmaster, who has been arrested.

The Senate Chambers, Albany, N. Y., was filled with a brilliant audience to hear the arguments before the Senate Finance Committee on the bill for the preservation of the natural scenery at Niagara Falls and laying out a public park there. Ex-Assemblyman Robb, Congressman Dorsheimer, Bishop Doane, of Albany, and ex-Senator Sprague, of Buffalo, favored the bill, advancing the same arguments as were made before the Assembly Committee. Mr. Roll and H. L. owner of a paper mill at Niagara Falls, opposed the bill, claiming that it was unconstitutional.

Carroll McCaffrey and others have sued James Elverson, proprietor of the Philadelphia *Saturday Night*, whose publication office is situated on Ninth and Spruce sts., alleging that the noise and jarring of his machinery constituted a nuisance, and praying the court to enjoin its continuance. The Master in Equity finds the establishment is a nuisance, and recommends a decree restraining the defendant's operating his

presses between 8 p. m. and 5 a. m., and compelling him to keep the windows on the Spruce street side closed while the machinery is in motion.

The grand jury in the case of the Newhall House disaster in Milwaukee has made a final report. They find that the Newhall House was constructed in a substantial manner as such buildings usually are; there was scarcely an hotel in the country as easy of egress as the Newhall; that the owners had done all that was reasonable for protection and escape in case of accident; that the landlord was extremely solicitous for the welfare and safety of the guests, but did not supply sufficient men or means to alarm the guests. They say, in extenuation, that he adopted the same precautions as in hotels of like size. He was at fault in not instructing help at the fire and not giving sufficient attention to the bar-room after he knew the bad habits of the tenant. They find the laws regulating the modes of egress from buildings defective.

### The Old Lady and the Conductor.

A conductor with a narrow chest, red hands, and sleepy eyes lolled against the rail of a Yonge car yesterday afternoon and whistled carelessly. Presently an aged woman within the car began to wave a green cotton umbrella wildly at the conductor. Then she nodded her head violently and looked over her shoulder toward Gould street, which the car was approaching on its wily down town. The conductor looked at her with languid interest, and still whistled. Meanwhile the car rattled rapidly by Gould street. Then the woman began to utter inarticulate sounds, and looked beseechingly at the conductor with distended eyes, raised eyebrows, and half-opened mouth. The conductor still whistled. He looked at the woman, but he wore the far away expression of a man sunk in psychologic thought, and seemed not to be aware of her growing frenzy. Thus things remained until the car arrived at Shuter street, when the woman bounded from her seat, and started for the door. After trying to harpoon three estimable citizens with her umbrella, treading on all of the more sympathetic corps on the way, dropping her reticule, and lunging violently she arrived at the door, and cried:

"Why don't you stop the car?"

The conductor ceased whistling, and gradually became aware of her presence as the car passed Queen street.

"Do you wish to get out madam?" he asked with a glassy smile.

"Wish to get out, you stupid man!" gasped the old lady. "Why, of course I do. I wanted to get out at Gould street."

"Ah," said the conductor blandly. "If you had only said so I'd stopped the car."

"Well, stupid, why don't you stop it now?"

"Now? Why, certainly," and he slowly raised his hand and pulled the bell strap. The old lady muttered and spluttered and stepped to the edge of the platform, but the driver had decided not to stop until he reached the down town side of Adelaide street. The conductor took hold of the woman's arm to restrain her from jumping off while the car was moving.

"Take your hand off me, sir," she cried hotly. "It's bad enough to be insulted without being handled."

She jumped off nervously and turned an indignant glance at the conductor as she dodged a grocery wagon and struggled toward the sidewalk. The conductor gazed after her with some interest, and then said:

"It's amazing what ugly 'n' tantilizin' people a conductor has to deal with. It's enough to break a man's heart."

### A Curious Rat Story.

The Hon. Neal Dow contributes the following, which he calls a perfectly true story: One evening a young lady from a friend's family, living in a large, fine house, nearly a mile away, was with us, and the talk turned on rats, as we heard ours galloping in the ceiling and scampering up and down the wall.

The young lady said that none had ever been in their house, and she did not think there was any point at which they could enter. My eldest daughter, a great wit, said:

"I've heard that, if politely invited to do so in writing, rats will leave any house, and go to any other to which they may be directed, and I will tell you that at your house they will find spacious quarters and an excellent commissariat."

At that moment, before us all, she wrote a most grandiloquent letter to the large family of rats that had so long favored us with their presence, pointing out to them that at No. 65 Pearl street was a large, fine house which had never been favored with the residence of any of their family, where they would find ample quarters and a fat larder. When finished, she read the missive to the company, and we had a great laugh over it. As an old superstition, she then put it up and carried it into the attic, where it would probably be found by those to whom it was directed. A few days after the young lady was at our house again, and burst into a laugh, exclaiming: "Our house is overrun with rats!" That recalled to me the fact that we had heard none in our walls. My daughter went to the attic and the letter was gone. While they were talking and laughing over the curious affair a friend came in, and hearing the talk said that two evenings before, in the bright moonlight, he saw several rats running down Congress street. We have never been troubled with them since, but I have not heard how it has been with the house to which our beneficiaries were directed.

### A Wildcat Boards a Steamer.

While the Steamship I. C. Harris was anchored in the bay at Brazos Santiago during a dense fog, a full-grown wildcat, which it is supposed had floated down the river on a log, presumably, concluded to take a free passage to Galveston on the wheel-house, on which he climbed, creating something of a sensation on board the vessel. The boys on the ship got ropes and lassoed the animal, catching him around the head and hind legs with the ropes, and succeeded in caging him. On the arrival of the Harris at the Galveston wharf it was taken off and deposited in one of the sheds. He is a large, sleek and rather good-natured looking fellow, and lacks the gaunt and hungry look of the animals generally on exhibition in shows. —Galveston News.

# A CONVICTS' MUTINY.

They try to Escape by Setting Fire to the Jail.

A Plucky Guard Frightens the Ring-leader and Marches Them to their Cells like Sheep.

A special despatch to the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* gives the following details of the recent mutiny at the Missouri Penitentiary, at Jefferson City. The convicts had just returned to their shops from dinner when a preconcerted mutiny broke out in the harness shop of Jacob Strauss & Co.

Four convicts seized Van Horn, the foreman of the collar shop, and told him to remain quiet. Four others seized Snider, the foreman of the harness-shop, and stripped him of his clothes. John B. Johnson, the ringleader, a highway robber, serving a sentence of twelve years, ran into the department where the horse collars are stuffed and set fire to a quantity of loose straw. In a moment the building with its three shops were on fire.

A pandemonium ensued, the guards ran in with the hose, which the convicts cut. Thering-leader, Johnson, then made an effort to escape over the walls, but though armed with a knife and a club he was met at the main entrance by Pat Krump, one of the guards, who warned him to desist from exciting his followers to further acts of mutiny. Krump was not armed, but as Johnson advanced with the mob of armed convicts behind he said to the ringleader: "One step more, Johnson, and you are a dead man!" Johnson was overawed by this exhibition of plain nerve. He hesitated and was lost. On the moment he abandoned all thought of leadership of what at that moment was a successful revolt, which in ten minutes would have freed every convict of the State of Missouri. Turning upon his heels he ran towards the northeast corner of the grounds with the intention of scaling the walls; but he was met by Jesse Tolin, the "dresser in" of the prison, who had run to the court-yard at the first alarm. Johnson paused and stood defiant with his knife and bludgeon, threatening to brain Tolin. Tolin is a small man, while the convict is a giant in build and strength, but the plucky guard, looking his man in the eye, walked up to him and placing the muzzle of a revolver against his ear, ordered him to walk to the blind cell. The convict obeyed and with his surrender the revolt was at an end. His companions were soon under control.

The revolt was hardly suppressed when great volumes of smoke and flames shot heavenward and the citizens rushed towards the penitentiary. The militia turned out and organized and citizens fell in and shouldered muskets ready to prevent or suppress the mutiny. The fire was quelled without any further demonstration by the convicts, some of whom, frenzied with disappointment at their failure to escape, tried to rush into the flames of the burning buildings and were with difficulty prevented from seeking this horrible form of death. As soon as it became apparent that the mutiny was unsuccessful the convicts were formed into line and at the word of command 1,150 of the 1,400 convicts were marched to their cells and locked up. The remainder were trusted to aid in the work of controlling the fire. So rapidly did the building burn that a few of the convicts were seriously, perhaps fatally, burned. Over fifty escaped from the upper windows of the factories. The flames communicated to the State machine shop and the factory where the cloth worn by the convicts is made. Then the broom factory was destroyed and also the building occupied jointly by the Geisecke Shoe Manufacturing Company and the Meysenburg Shoe Company. This adjoins one of the main cell-houses, and it was threatened for an hour. A single wall stood between the burning building and the hospital. The guard-house overlooking the hospital-courtyard was burned; but the heroic exertions of volunteers and convict firemen saved the hospital. The Jefferson City Fire Department were on the ground and did effective work, but the following shops were completely destroyed: Strauss & Co.'s harness-shop, collar-shop and whip factory—loss, \$100,000; Geiseck's boot and shoe-shop, \$30,000; the State weaving and the State machine-shop, \$40,000; and the Excelsior Broom Factory, \$20,000. The total loss to the State will fully amount to \$300,000, on which there is no insurance, while the losses to private persons are almost fully insured.

The desperate and thorough character of the mutinous organization is evidenced by the fact that after the ringleader, Johnson, was lodged in the blind cell some fifteen of the convicts managed to use a double key they possessed and released him and placed themselves in readiness to follow his lead. The desperate band made a dash at the guards, but were at once covered by repeating rifles and revolvers and were forced to surrender. At present the penitentiary is under the guard of its regular officials, backed by the militia and a posse of 200 citizens armed with regulation muskets. Governor Crittenden, who was on the point of starting for St. Louis when the mutiny broke out, postponed his trip and is in command.

### A Chinese Dinner in New York.

I found on Mulberry street the well-known cheap Chinese restaurant kept by the solemn, jovial Oriental whose name is Fun Mone. "Chinese dinner, seven cents," was the sign outside. "I'll eat it if it kills me," thought I, and I went in. "One dinner," I said. "Yip—alle light," F. M. answered. I surreptitiously smelt of the butter. It seemed good. I tasted it. It was good. He brought a generous plate of roast beef, hot reeking. "Good enough," I thought, and tackled it. He brought on a dish of beans—good beans. He brought coffee—prime Java. He brought boiled potatoes. "Beautiful," I thought. I slyly whistled in my napkin. I despatched them. He brought me a small piece of pie and cheese; I hadn't expected that, really. I immediately entertained them. "Se-e-e-n cents," I kept saying to myself. "Why need people go hungry?" "How muchee?" I asked, gracefully falling into the Chinese language.

"Forty-eight cents."

"Forty-eight cents! Great Scott! You said seven cents."

"That's for Chinaman. No goodee. Melican hungry. No muchee for seven cents."