

# NEWS OF THE DAY.

## CANADIAN.

The first wild duck of the season has been bagged at White Island, Province of Quebec.

Over \$200,000 worth of farm implements are said to have been sold by Winnipeg dealers this spring.

Seventy five orphan boys, ranging from ten to nineteen years of age, have arrived in Stratford from England.

An effort is being made in Winnipeg to arrange for an excursion to induce Ontario servant girls to go to Manitoba.

In the Montreal Police Court yesterday O. Valois, a druggist, was fined \$75 for selling laudanum without a label on the bottle.

A band of about 25 children, sent out by the English Government, have arrived at Quebec for distribution amongst Canadian farmers.

The Montreal City Council yesterday passed appropriations for the current year, amounting to \$2,372,770, an increase of \$423,594 over last year.

The new Toronto, Hamilton, and Buffalo Railway Company are progressing with their arrangements for the new line. The village of Welland, though only asked for a bonus of \$20,000, unanimously voted the sum of \$30,000.

From various lake ports our correspondents report that vessels will commence making regular trips some time next week; and it is evident that navigation will be general on all the lake routes two or three weeks earlier than usual.

The working tailors of London (Ont.) have struck for an advance of wages. With three exceptions the employers refuse their demands, but the men say they are prepared for a long strike, and claim that their rate of pay is lower than that of neighboring cities.

The lady students who are anxious to study medicine at McGill College, Montreal, are agitating to raise an endowment of \$250,000. It is understood that they have \$12,000 in hand, and that the faculty have promised to undertake the work as soon as that amount is made up to \$50,000.

## AMERICAN.

At present there are fully 20,000 families receiving charitable assistance in New York city.

Five companies of United States troops are now at Oklahoma clearing out the settlers.

The Missouri Legislature has refused to order the engrossment of a bill to prohibit baseball on Sunday.

A sailor on board a schooner in Baltimore found a cockroach in his scup, and at once went and murdered the cook.

Under recent legal rulings all the concert halls in New York city, where liquors are sold, were closed on Saturday.

The nomination of Mr. Murat Halstead to be United States Minister to Germany has been rejected by the Senate.

An absolute divorce has been granted to Mrs. Helen G. Bishop against Washington Irving Bishop, the mind reader.

The widow of Stonewall Jackson has refused the offer of President Harrison to appoint her postmaster of Lexington, Va.

A suspension of the Pennsylvania coal mines has been ordered for six weeks, and about 6,000 men and boys will be affected.

Manierre's large warehouse in Chicago was burned yesterday morning with a lot of tea, coffee and general merchandise. Loss \$1,500,000.

It is said that Editor Osborne, of Los Angeles, the discoverer of the Murchison letter, will be made the Public Printer under President Harrison.

A Papal rescript will be issued giving the new Catholic university at Washington a monopoly of the superior education of the clergy in America.

According to a report made to the business men's Republican club of New York, three million men in the United States are out of employment.

Some excitement is created in New York by the blackballing of Mr. S. S. Straus, Minister to Turkey, by the Manhattan Club, because he is a Hebrew.

A woman announcing herself as "Mrs. Dr. Brooks, great inspirational test medium," has been exposed at Jackson, Mich., and hastily left the place.

Jerry Farnsworth died recently near Buffalo in supposed poverty. A hunt through his effects disclosed \$20,000 in greenbacks, which were dusty and musty.

The virus extracted by a madstone recently applied to a little girl who was bitten by a dog in Terre Haute, Ind., is to be submitted to scientific examination.

The Supreme Council of the Royal Templars of Temperance, in session at Buffalo, declare that nothing short of entire suppression of the liquor traffic will be satisfactory.

John McCabe, foreman of Frank Leslie's illustrated newspaper for 30 years, has committed suicide because he was notified that his services would not be required after May 1.

The British officials and forces at Hong Kong took a prominent part in the obsequies of the late Rear Admiral Chandler, at which the Washington naval officers are highly gratified.

Mind-reader Bishop found a needle, for which he had to drive a mile, yesterday, in Minneapolis, after which he was seized with a fit of catalepsy and is now in a critical condition.

A "Strong" locomotive yesterday made the run from Jersey City to Buffalo, 423 miles, without change. The time taken was 12 hours and 5 minutes. This was the greatest run ever made by one engine.

Gen. Torres, governor of Lower California, has sent a message to the Mexican consul at San Diego asking him to publish in the press that the richness of the Santa Clara mines have been greatly exaggerated.

The Buffalo City Council has adopted a resolution calling upon the United States District Attorney to enforce the Alien Act, so as to prevent Canadian workers from getting employment in that city to the detriment of home labour.

## FOREIGN.

A proposition has been made to confer the freedom of the City of Edinburgh upon Mr. Parnell.

Russian detectives have been sent to Switzerland to negotiate for the extradition of Nihilists.

It is estimated that since March 1st the United States debt has been reduced by \$12,500,000.

A bomb was exploded at the church in Rome in which Father Agostino was preaching on Sunday.

The "Journal de St. Petersburg" denies that Russia is massing troops on the frontier of Afghanistan.

A Spanish steamer has been sunk by collision near Manila and thirty of her passengers and a crew drowned.

A fire in a lumber yard near Buckingham palace, London, yesterday, destroyed \$300,000 worth of lumber.

A riot occurred yesterday in Rome, arising out of some people insulting Father Agostino, the popular preacher.

An unused four-cent British Guiana postage stamp of 1856 was recently sold at auction in London for \$250.

The sum of \$750,000 changed hands at Monte Carlo during February. Twenty-one suicides occurred during the same period.

The Emperor and Empress of Austria have abandoned the usual Maundy Thursday ceremonies owing to the illness of the Empress.

It is said a clue has been found to a gigantic plot existing throughout Russia for a new series of attempts upon the life of the Czar.

The Prince of Montenegro will visit Belgrade about the end of April. It is believed he goes to the Serbian capital by the advice of Russia.

The eldest son of the late Mr. Bright, who is a Liberal Unionist, will contest the seat in the House of Commons for the central division of Birmingham.

Owing to illness having incapacitated the King of Holland from the duties of a sovereign the Queen, has undertaken, temporarily, the duties of Regent.

Lord Mandeville, heir to the Duke of Manchester, who has been declared bankrupt, is to be criminally prosecuted for having made untrue affidavits.

The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, who was born in 1823 and held the portfolio of Secretary of State for the Colonies from 1867 to 1868, died yesterday.

The "St. James' Gazette," commenting upon the appointment of Mr. Robert T. Lincoln as American Minister to England, says it is certain he will be popular.

It is said that pending action for breach of promise between Miss Phyllis Broughton, the burlesque actress, and Viscount Dargan has been compromised for £50,000.

It is rumored that ex-King Milan has grown tired of the lady for whom he left his Serbian throne, and that he thinks of setting up a harem in Constantinople.

The Vienna "Tagblatt" announces that an attempt was made to wreck a train on which were the Czar and Czarina, travelling from St. Petersburg to Gatschina.

Gen. Boulanger declares the Government are insane, otherwise they would never dream of adding to his popularity by instituting against him a public prosecution.

It is definitely announced that the British Cabinet will propose two Irish measures, one providing for a scheme of land purchase and the other dealing with local government.

The Swiss Council, suspecting that in the event of a Franco-Prussian war Germany would violate the territory of Switzerland, has recommended to Parliament the adoption of a credit for the purpose of fortifying St. Gothard.

## A Mandarin on Western Women.

A travelled Chinese mandarin, who has lately communicated his impressions of the West to his countrymen, deals with great particularity with the position and treatment of women in Europe. These surprise him beyond measure. Thus the notion of husband and wife walking arm in arm in public places fills him with amusement. "No body smiles at it," he says, "and even a husband may perform any menial task in his wife's presence, yet no one will laugh at him." Then, again, the notion of men standing aside to let a woman pass, and the code of politeness which requires men to make way for a woman, are to him incomprehensible. In China when the men are gorged the women dine off the scraps; but in the West "at meal-time the men must wait until the women are seated, and then take one after another their places, and the same rule must be observed when the meal is finished." Western women have curious notions about dress and appearance. "They set store by a large bust and slender waist, but while the waist can be compressed, the bust cannot naturally be enlarged; the majority have a wicker contrivance made which is concealed under the bodice on either side, and is considered an adornment. If a woman is short-sighted she will publicly mount spectacles. Even young girls in their teens pass thus along the streets, and it is not regarded as strange." As for low dresses, he observes in bewilderment that women going to Court regard a bare skin as a mark of respect. He is greatly exercised how to describe kissing; the thing or word does not exist among the Chinese, and accordingly he is driven to describe it. "It is," he says, "a form of courtesy which consists in presenting the lips to the lower part of the chin and making a sound"—again, "children when visiting their seniors apply their mouth to the left or right lips of the elder with a smacking noise." Women as shop attendants, women at home, women with moustaches, then engage the writer's attention, and he passes on to "at homes" and dances. "Besides invitations to dinner there are invitations to a tea gathering, such as are occasionally given by wealthy merchants or distinguished officials. When the time comes invitations are sent to an equal number of men and women, and after these are all assembled, tea and sugar, milk, bread and the like are set out as aids to conversation. More particularly are there invitations to skip and posture, when the host decides what man is to be the partner of what woman, and what woman of what man. Then with both arms grasping each other they leave their places in pairs and leap, skip, posture, and prance for their mutual gratification. A man and a woman previously unknown to one another may take part in it."—[London Times.

The London "Daily Telegraph" says Count Bismarck made a definite offer on the part of Germany to cede to England Damaraland, a German protectorate in West Africa extending along the coast from Cape Frio to Walvisch Bay.

## NIGHT AND A TIGER.

### Blood-Curdling Adventure with a Man-Eater in the Delta of the Ganges.

There were two entrances to the drawing-room; this must be borne in mind.

The house itself was old-fashioned, a large and many-gabled one, standing quite alone and solitary in a spacious garden; all the windows had been closed and the jalousies shut and secured from the outside; the tatty-grass blinds on the piazza had been rolled up and put away till another blazing morning called for their refreshing shade.

The locality was near that part of the delta called the Sunderbunds, through which the Ganges expands its branches as it approaches the sea—a labyrinth of creeks and rivers, of jungle and stagnant water. The night was perfectly fine, but moonless; there was a heavy dew rapidly falling, like misty rain, which in hot countries is a perfectly natural occurrence.

I went into the drawing room by what may be called the back door, as it led into the back drawing-room and smaller one of the two; the other, a far larger apartment, communicated with this one by great folding doors of gold and white. The back drawing-room was very full of furniture—rather inconveniently so. As I was carrying an armful of books and in my disengaged hand a lamp I proceeded with tolerable security, though slowly, but then of course I knew the room and could have gone to my destination in the dark. What struck me as both curious and irritating was the fancy that the room seemed more impeded than ever with the furniture—dark, old-fashioned rosewood furniture that had been made to match the grand piano. The various articles looked as if they had been dragged about the room. Possibly the darkness above and around me helped the illusion; anyway they had the appearance of having been gradually spread toward the center of the room round a heavy and solid table. It was this table that I wished to go to. I walked very slowly, partly because I did not wish to spill the books that I'd spent the last hour in collecting and partly because of an unaccountably horrible feeling that had come over me. This part of the house was quite silent; indeed, it was often so of an evening. My brother had passed me on his way up stairs, having been all day at Madrepore, and no doubt being tired had gone to bed. There were very few stairs at all, as the house was practically a one-story one, rambling and full of angles, having been built and added to at various times; here and there little staircases strewn out leading to long passages and unexpected cupboards; the back drawing-room door itself opened from a side flight of five stairs. As I had encountered two small chairs and an overturned music stand I stood still for a second, looking for a clear passage, and thereby holding the lamp high and well in front of me. As I paused amid the complete silence that reigned an immense tiger slowly crossed the path of light, turning on me two burning yellow eyes, gleaming like vivid topazes. I stood there in stiffened terror and heard my heart beat.

Its mouth was loosely parted and running with saliva; so wide was it hanging open at the corners that the serrated edges of the lower lip were plainly visible. It gazed with a steadfast look of such grinning cruelty, such conscious malignity, that it froze my blood and turned my limbs to stone. This description of sight and feeling was of course the impression of one vivid conception condensed by a minute's agony.

The tiger crossed the India matting of the room with a noiseless, swinging gait; as it appeared to have come from the obscurity near the piano, so it vanished into the obscurity beyond—that is, outside the pathway of the lantern light. I stood perfectly immovable, still clutching the books with my left arm, still holding the lamp before me, still gazing at the place it had crossed, and apparently forever seeing that awful look upon the tiger's broad face. It seemed as if my eyes saw the face, though my mind had rapidly suggested the frightful probability that the tiger was behind me. At the same time by some dual mental process it was holding out hope that the animal had passed through the great folding-doors into the dark room beyond. I have no remembrance at all of my mind dictating the next action I pursued; it seemed just an instinct indulged in by the body upon its own account and for its own immediate preservation.

I laid the books very carefully down without making the slightest unnecessary noise or disturbing the hand that held the lamp, and then raising with slow effort one of the heavy little chairs that had blocked my passage I silently swung it onto my shoulders and held it so that it covered my head, then turned slowly sidewise with my mind impressed with the necessity of keeping the lamp as far as possible behind me. This struck me at the time as clever and of unquestionable importance in saving my life. I managed to walk gently out of the room. I suppose I'd been in it five minutes, but it seemed like a weary hour.

As I closed the door and locked it my brother unexpectedly came down the passage and passed me on the little flight of stairs. He was rather in a hurry.

"Godfrey," I called out after him, "do you mind pulling the front door to in the large drawing-room as you go by?" It seems strange now, but I could think of nothing else to say then, and I said it slowly and quite naturally.

He assented and disappeared and I, without noticing it at the time, took up the chair again and with my lamp ascended the short flight of stairs and proceeded along the passage to my own room, walking slowly and guardedly. The mind had evidently been so shocked that it had not recovered its dominant sway over the body. Upon reaching my own room I put the chair carefully down and sat upon it. The lamp I had placed on the table at the same time. I sat there a few seconds feebly wondering which room the tiger was in. Then I got up with a sudden alacrity, took from its case a large revolver and turned into the passage again. In a minute or so I was in Godfrey's room. He was half undressed. "What's the matter?" he demanded with startled eyes. When I had told him he took my hand and wrung it.

"You may thank God that you are alive, old fellow." Then he dressed hurriedly, took a heavy rifle from a rack, and filled his pockets with cartridges. "Come along; stay, let me go first; your nerves are a bit shaky yet."

We crept out and awakened the punkah-wallah, an old and faithful Hindu, whom my brother once nursed during a dangerous illness—a brave, reliable, and trustworthy

man, who would have laid his life down for Godfrey.

"It is the maneater!" said the Hindu after my recital.

"You will come with us, Ramee?" asked my brother. The old man smiled as if the question were superfluous.

"Will the sahib let his servant advise him?"

"Yes Ramee; tell me your plan."

As the Hindu rapidly unfolded it my brother smiled dubiously at the idea.

"Cunning must be met with cunning," said the Hindu.

"I'll take three hours to arrange," I remarked.

"Three hours will bring the dawn; now, who can see in the dark—not the sahib, but yes, the tiger."

"Very well," said Godfrey, "let's set about it at once." From the gardener's outhouse we brought a roll of wire netting that had been put there for fencing in a paddock a few days previously. Together we collected armfuls of shavings the workmen had not cleared away, quantities of dried leaves, rags, everything we could find soft and pliable; and having cut the wire into three square lengths firmly lashed them together, one over the other. When completed it was the shape but rather larger than the window in the room in which the tiger lay hidden and the doors of which had been locked. Our operations so far had been conducted upon the veranda outside, near the gardener's room. We then rolled up the wire netting and carried it round the corner of the house to within a few yards of the big window; here it was unrolled again and flattened out, then upon its surface we poured all the shavings, rags, leaves, and refuse we had collected, and upon this mass smeared and spread a quantity of lime left by the workmen for the morrow. This we smoothed down as well as we were able till the whole mass assumed some consistency and clung to the interstices of the netting. Ramee next took some stout twine and improvised a rough kind of needle from a bamboo cane. With this implement he sewed all over the mass of stuff, thus making a string netting that helped to keep the composition in its place. So far so good; the most difficult operation yet remained.

"Take my gun," said Godfrey to me, "and give me the revolver."

"Sahib," whispered the Hindu, placing a restraining hand upon my brother, "let Ramee complete his work—is it not his duty? If he fails he shall suffer."

"You foolish man," said Godfrey, "how can you do it alone? We're wasting time."

He pushed the revolver in his belt, laid hold of one end of the netting, and threw off his shoes. With slow and noiseless feet the netting, looking very like a large mattress, was carried exactly opposite the window and laid gently down; then both retired as silently as they had advanced.

Ramee then brought from the outhouse a ladder, and with a gesture of entreaty signed to my brother to stand aside and take his rifle in his hand. With bare feet the Hindu crept up to the window again and reared the ladder against the wall. Taking a coil of rope from his neck he deftly fastened it to the highest wall staple of the outside shutter. Descending he quickly enlaced the short strand in the netting, placed the ladder on the other side, and ran the thong through the other staple. For the first time he made a noise, but it was unavoidable, and was caused by the netting being drawn upward till it hung like a great curtain covering the shutter and hiding the window from us.

Godfrey and I stood ready to fire.

The Hindu, perspiring at every pore, descended the ladder, which he lowered and placed horizontally on the window-sill and lashed it to the bottom of the netting and again fastened that to the two lower staples on either side.

The thing was done; far away in the east the dawn was breaking, above which the morning star was slowly paling his silver fire.

"But, Ramee, the shutters are still fastened!"

"Sahib, I unfastened them; they are open the breadth of a man's hand; presently the light will stream through."

"Quick; fetch another rifle."

When he returned I took the gun and gave him my revolver.

A light breath of wind passed murmuring through the feathery crowns of the slender cocoa palms, two great spears of light shot up in the sky, somewhere in the garden a bird sang, the sun had risen. "Wait the signal, whispered my brother; "now, Ramee." The Hindu knelt down and imitated the bleating of a kid that had lost its mother. At the instant Ramee sprang to his feet the silence was rent by a sundering crash and a sudden terrific roar; the shutters were torn from their sockets, a great mass hurled itself precipitately through the window, and the tiger, with its head and shoulders buried in the lime-covered debris, was grappling in maddened fury with an enemy he could not see nor make much impression upon.

Our guns were at our shoulders.

The animal was twenty feet from us, tearing up the gravelled path and coiling itself in an extricable confusion in the broken netting and splintered ladder. Ramee uttered a loud cry. The animal had freed his head and stood with its bleeding mouth in an enforced listening attitude. It was the moment Godfrey had waited for, and he fired. The tiger, evidently not seeing him, sprang at the window again, but missed the opening, hurling itself against the wall and falling on the broken shutters. At the minute it alighted I aimed at the spot behind the shoulder and fired; it gave a convulsive leap and turned its bloodshot eyes in our direction. Then Godfrey fired again and told me to do the same.

"Back! back!" cried Ramee.

The animal had gathered itself together and sprang forward with a mighty bound and rolled over with a scream of dying rage.

When we came to measure the brute afterward we found it was 15 feet from the nose to the tip of the tail.—[Charles Lillie in Pall Mall Gazette.

A Dabuque inventor has patented an electric light designed especially for the detection of burglars. The apparatus can be so arranged that a burglar in entering a bank, office or dwelling, will, in his operations, touch something which will cause a flash, and the result will be his photograph left indelibly on the plate. A number of cameras may be placed in the room and a variety of views taken simultaneously. The tell-tale wire can be fastened to the knob of the safe or door so that he cannot avoid touching it, thus disclosing his identity.

## Zanzibar.

The position of the island of Zanzibar is about the sixth degree of latitude south of the equator, opposite to a wide "bight" or bay of the east coast of Africa, from which it is divided by a channel some thirty miles in breadth, commands the maritime access to the lake district of that continent, and in the hands of a strong European power, instead of an Arab Sultan, would probably become the instrument of commercial supremacy and vast territorial conquests. Its destiny is just now a consideration of high political importance, with regard to the division of German and British colonizing enterprise on the mainland, the combined naval blockade for the suppression of the slave trade, and the insurrection of the Suaheli coast tribes against the German settlements. Zanzibar is an island forty-eight miles long and eighteen miles broad, formed by a reef of madreporae, with hills not above 400 feet high, and covered with luxuriant vegetation, the soil being in most parts extremely fertile. The climate is sultry, moist and miasmatic, in spite of the sea breezes. The population, altogether numbering about 300,000, includes about 14,000 Banyans of the Hindoo trading class from India, many of whom are British subjects; Arabs, chiefly from Oman or Muscat; Parsee merchants; free and slave blacks from different parts of Africa, from the Comoro Islands and Madagascar; and the native race, who live in huts of wattle and clay.

The port of Zanzibar is a fine bay or harbor on the west coast of Africa; and the town has at least 60,000 inhabitants. It is built on a low projecting spit of land, the houses being of durable limestone. It contains twenty or thirty mosques, several markets, the palace of the sultan, and a fort of no great strength, besides the houses of foreign merchants and their stores. The late Sultan of Zanzibar, Seyyid Burghash, was very friendly to England, and visited London. The connection between Southern Arabia and Zanzibar is of very ancient date but was long interrupted by the Portuguese dominion, which on this part of the East African coast has been abandoned, though it is still a reality in the Mozambique channel and far to the south. Zanzibar, however, did not exercise any functions of actual government on the mainland, while claiming a titular sovereignty along its seacoast; and it remains to be seen now whether either of the German or the English companies recently formed will be able to use the powers assigned to them, respectively for the civilization of the Wachuheli and of the Masai in a region ill suited to European settlement, and scarcely accessible to a military expedition.—[Christian Secretary.

## The White Cap Nuisance.

The origin of the "White Cap" movement is not very far to seek. The desire to meddle in other people's business and regulate other people's lives is widespread, and our civilization covers up a good deal of innate rowdiness. When the spirit of rowdiness and the spirit of censoriousness and meddling can be gratified at once and by the same act, the temptation is too strong for some souls. If to these motives is added the preponderance of the imitative faculty in weak minds, the rapid spread of the White Cap nuisance is easily accounted for. It appears to thrive best in villages and small towns. The young men there have much leisure and scant means of recreation; and some of them are not strong enough to resist the temptation to amuse themselves in a manner which gives vent to some pent-up blackguardism, and at the same time allows them to pose as reformers of the morals of the community. We regret to observe that the infection has spread into Ontario. There is no difficulty in dealing with it except such as may arise from the weakness or timidity of the people among whom the outrages take place. The offences committed by the White Caps are offences punished by the ordinary laws of the country, and all that is required to put a stop to them is the vigilant, stern and fearless enforcement of those laws.

## Equal to the Occasion.

They were telling experiences the other night and Col. Grannis told one of his. He made the trip through the Southern country here just after the road had been opened. The festive cowboy had just begun to enjoy the sport of running the train in the rough region, and at one of the stations a formidable specimen of that tough human boarded the cars. The conductor came along punching the tickets, and this cowboy did not pay any attention to him. At last the conductor laid his hand on the cowboy's shoulder and said:—"Ticket, please." The cowboy turned in true cowboy style, pulled out his revolver, and pointed it at the conductor.

"Here's my ticket."

The conductor walked on and punched everybody else's coupon. Then he disappeared. The little incident had been forgotten by almost everybody on the car. The cowboy was in a quiescent state, and the car was still when the conductor came in. He walked leisurely up the aisle and suddenly stopped before the cowboy, placed a great big knife dangerously contiguous to his vital part and said, quietly:—"Lemme see that ticket again!"

The cowboy paid his fare.—[San Francisco Chronicle.

## A Princess' Fad.

The Princess Maria Theresa, of Bavaria, is an excessively original royal personage who combines a passion for birds and beasts with a mania for extending her acquaintance. It is her pet ambition to own more dogs and know more people than any other member of the royal families of Europe, and with this end in view she rushes all over the civilized world and picks up all the interesting individuals who are ready to swallow her eccentricities for the sake of being on speaking terms with a princess. As she is an unmarried woman, she is accompanied on her travels by a dame d'honneur and a chamberlain, to whose tender mercies are confided the fourteen animals which compose her royal highness' travelling menagerie. In Madrid she created an immense sensation and no small amount of scandal by taking her walks abroad carrying a huge tame rat in her princely arms, and followed by an unhappy chamberlain chained to a small cinnamon bear. The rest of the menagerie is made up of dogs and a magpie.—[Paris Figaro.

Anglomaniac—"That's the way it goes. If we hunt foxes folks say we're cruel; if we hunt aniseed bags folks laugh at us. What can we hunt without exciting indignation or ridicule?" Small boy—"Cats?"