

# THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

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

## CANADA.

Stratford City Council is considering a curfew by-law.

Mr. John Carnegie was elected President of the Peterboro' Board of Trade.

Mr. Watson Crosby, Patron member of the Manitoba Legislature for Dennis, is dead.

Mr. E. J. Sanford, son of Senator Sanford of Hamilton, died at El Paso, Texas.

Anti-toxine is being successfully used at Brockville for the cure of diphtheria.

The London City Council has decided to impose a license fee of \$100 on cigarette vendors.

The Montreal rolling mills have closed down, throwing about 400 men out of employment.

Charcoal, or "Bad Young Man," the Indian murderer, was hanged at the police barracks, MacLeod.

Rev. Dr. Potts of Toronto has been elected Chairman of the International Sunday School Lessons Committee.

A fortnightly steamship service between Montreal and Manchester will be inaugurated when navigation opens.

The Dominion Line has ordered a new steamship from Harland & Wolff of Belfast for the St. Lawrence trade.

Rev. Dr. Jackson, of Knox church, Galt, has accepted a call to Madison Avenue Presbyterian church, Cleveland.

The St. Thomas Board of Education is taking steps to suppress the habit of cigarette-smoking among the school children.

Joseph Freeborn died at the Hamilton City Hospital from the effects of a rib broken several years ago and neglected.

Nine of the marksmen eligible for positions on the Bisley team have notified the secretary of the D. R. A. that they will go.

There is every prospect of a large make of butter in Manitoba and the North-West Territories during the approaching season.

It is left to the discretion of the Canadian Militia Department as to what troops shall be sent over to take part in the diamond jubilee.

Mr. George Mercier, governor of the county of Guelph, died on Friday, aged 79. He had held the position of governor of the govt for 37 years.

Mr. Peter Mitchell has been appointed General Overseer of Fisheries for Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, with headquarters in Ottawa.

The Governor-General will shortly announce a date for the closing of the national India famine fund, which has now reached about \$130,000.

The Hon. T. Nosse, the Japanese Consul in Montreal, reports on the advisability of appointing a Japanese Consul in that city.

By the bursting of a watermain on Atwater avenue at Montreal part of the western end of the city was inundated and damaged to the extent of over \$5,000.

Mr. Nosse, Consul-General for Japan at Vancouver, B. C., who is at present in Ottawa, will shortly have a conference with the Toronto Board of Trade on trade matters.

Sir Donald Smith, High Commissioner for Canada in London, has arrived at Montreal. He spoke encouragingly of immigration prospects in England, and also discussed the school settlement.

It is reported that Lieutenant-Governor Mackintosh of the Northwest Territories is about to resign his office and move to Rossland to look after his mining interests.

Minister Davies has published through the High Commissioner's office in London, a cablegram denying the statement that there is danger in the use of Canadian canned salmon.

Students of Laval University, Montreal, mobbed a French newspaper for publishing a paragraph they thought reflected on them. The police were called and dispersed the students.

The Hull Electric Company has served the Ottawa Electric Company with notice of a claim asking \$20,000 damages of infringement upon the territory and rights of the Hull company.

The Rev. George H. Wells, whose death by a railway accident is reported from Milwaukee, was pastor of the American Presbyterian church in Montreal for twenty-two years. He was fifty-six years of age.

Ottawa is divided in opinion as to whether the military celebration should take place on May 24 or on July 21, the diamond jubilee. Sir Richard Cartwright has promised to talk the matter over with Major-General Gascoigne.

Hon. Sidney Fisher announces that the Government has made final arrangements for the cold storage of butter and other perishable food products which will be shipped weekly on steamships running between Montreal and Avonmouth, London and Liverpool.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

Prof. James J. Sylvester, the noted mathematician, is dead, at London, England.

Sir Edward Ebenezer Kay, Lord Justice of Appeal, is dead. He was seventy-five years of age.

The President of the National Liberal Federation states that home rule is nailed to the masthead of the Liberal party.

Two cases of smallpox have been discovered in New York, and measures are being taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Complaints have recently been made in London that among the Canadian horses imported during 1896 some were affected with an infectious catarrhal disease, which greatly lessened their value.

Secret and rapid preparations are now being made at Woolwich and other military establishments of Great Britain,

and war stores are being forwarded to Cape Town, as trouble is expected in South Africa.

Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick has sufficiently recovered from the effects of his recent operation to be enabled to leave London for Brighton, where he will remain a short time before returning to Toronto.

## UNITED STATES.

Two cases of smallpox have been discovered in New York.

Wild cats are reported to be killing cattle in northern Michigan.

The loss caused by the big fire in St. Louis, Mo., on Monday will reach \$1,600,000.

The new United States tariff, it is expected, will increase the revenue over \$50,000,000.

The village of Pigeon, Mich., is inundated as a result of the overflowing of the river there.

A mother, father and child were burned to death at Omaha, Neb., on Tuesday by a gasoline explosion.

The floods in Tennessee are increasing, and reports from Memphis record loss of life and great destruction of property.

William T. Adam, better known as Oliver Optic, the writer of stories for boys, is dying at his home in Dorchester, Mass.

Frank Butler, alias Newman, the accused Australian murderer now in custody at San Francisco, will not fight extradition.

Commercial telegraphic advices from the United States tell a story of business depression that even the facile pencil of a commercial editor cannot effectually gainsay. Business is increasing, but it is much below the average of previous years. There is, we are told increased activity and necessarily increased demand for labour, but the value of labour does not appear to rise. Collections are spoken of as "more satisfactory" generally, throughout the States. There are more mills at work, but tariff changes are seriously interfering with the possibilities of trade.

## GENERAL.

Signor Grimaldi, the Italian statesman and ex-Cabinet Minister, is dead.

Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria will visit St. Petersburg next month.

Despatches in the London Daily Mail say that Emperor William is showing marked signs of insanity.

It is rumored in Paris that Prince Henry of Orleans will be offered the position of Governor of Crete.

According to a census just taken the Japanese in Hawaiian Islands number 24,000 and the Hawaiians 31,000.

Violent gales prevailed all Thursday night throughout Germany, causing some loss of life and great destruction of property.

At Canea a gun exploded on board the Russian turret ship Sisoï Veliky, killing fifteen men and wounding an officer and twenty seamen.

La Liberté, of Paris, commenting upon President McKinley's tariff policy, strongly recommends a European combination against the United States.

Twelve women charged with poisoning their husbands and other near relatives in order to obtain insurance money, are being tried at Hold Mezo-Vesarhely, Hungary.

Despatches from Cape Town announce that British troops have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for emergencies, and that the situation in the Transvaal is very grave.

There is reason to fear that the Dutch mail steamer Utrecht, which sailed from Rotterdam on February 28th for Java, foundered in the vicinity of Ushant, and that the hundred persons she had on board are lost.

## DARING ATTEMPT AT CRIME.

Walter Hughes Shot Dead in the Act of Breaking into Frank Dunn's House to Abduct a Little Girl.

A despatch from Houston, Texas, says:—A most daring attempt at crime was frustrated at 3 o'clock on Thursday morning, when a detective killed Walter Hughes as he was in the act of entering the house of Frank Dunn, a wealthy resident of this city. The police received information some time ago that a scheme was on foot to kidnap Dunn's little daughter. The purpose of the kidnapers was to keep the girl in captivity, and demand \$40,000 ransom. Detectives have been on guard at Mr. Dunn's house for several nights, but no developments occurred until this morning, when it was discovered that a man was attempting to force one of the windows of Dunn's residence. One of the officers inadvertently attracted the attention of the marauder, who, finding he was discovered, drew a revolver and fired twice at the detective. The detectives then opened fire, and the intruder fell dead. Hughes was a railroad man, but had lately been working as a carpenter. He had rented a house near Dunn's and under the floor of one of the rooms had dug a cave in which the kidnapped child was to be secreted until the ransom was paid. At a point some distance from the city Hughes had arranged a number of tin boxes where he intended to direct that the ransom money be deposited. Hughes also intended to give notice that if any watch was kept over these depositories it would result in the death of the child. When Hughes' body was searched a revolver, a keen-edged butcher knife and a bottle of chloroform were found. An immense crowd has gathered in and around the morgue, where the body lies. Mrs. Hughes has been arrested, but will not talk.

## A MAD SOVEREIGN.

The Vagaries Indulged in by Emperor William.

The London Daily Mail says:—"The vagaries of a certain Continental sovereign are causing profound anxiety to his family, and especially to the diplomats, who are cognizant that the concert of Europe may at any moment be disturbed. Pinching guests and trying to trip them with his sword are among the antics attributed to the insane sovereign."

The paragraph unmistakably hints that it is Emperor William of Germany who is referred to.

## THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

PREPARATIONS BEING MADE IN THE CITY OF LONDON.

Twenty Thousand Troops Will Be Present—The Procession Will Be a Mile Long—Speculation in House and Shod Windows.

The British War Office will have to put some 20,000 troops in the streets of London on June 22, the day when Queen Victoria will proceed from Buckingham palace to St. Paul's cathedral to offer up thanks to God for her long reign. If the original programme had been adhered to, 10,000 men would have sufficed, the War Office could have managed that on its head, so to speak. Now it is nearly off its head at the prospect of what is regarded as the biggest military display since the Crimean war, more than forty years ago. There are no barrack accommodations in London for more than the normal garrison, and 20,000 additional troops cannot, it seems, be quartered in the garrison towns within easy distance of the metropolis, because the railway managers say they will have quite enough to do on the great day to bring the hundreds of thousands of sightseers safely to town and back again. The soldiers, therefore, to all appearance, will have to camp in the parks, which will be a novel sight for cockneys.

There is not the slightest doubt that the display next June will be the greatest and largest ever seen in London. The Royal procession itself will probably be a mile long, and the array of Princes and Princesses in it will exceed the jubilee show in numbers and gorgeousness. Physicians and courtiers are already shaking their heads, predicting all sorts of evils likely to result to the aged sovereign from such an undertaking will involve. Various curious and ingenious arrangements are being made to save her needless fatigue, including a specially designed revolving spring seat in her carriage, by means of which she will be able to bow from side to side to the acclaiming multitude with the minimum of exertion and maximum of effect.

The members of an enterprising syndicate who bought up house and shop front windows along the route of the procession have already made more than 100 per cent. profit, which, however, they have made no attempt to realize yet.

The Telegraph declares that a well-known millionaire has just offered \$5,000 for the use on Jubilee day of three small windows belonging to a weekly newspaper with a publishing office in Ludgate Circus, which is by no means a first-class position, and that the offer has been refused.

The route of the procession is a popular one with the masses; the only protest against it comes from the Colonial Offices and the occupants of flats in Victoria street. An open air service outside St. Paul's was suggested by the Bishop of Winchester, but the clerical element insist that no service can be impressive unless it is held inside the cathedral. The police officers complain that the space is too narrow for handling a procession with a mounted escort. Princesses, peeresses, and wives of members of Parliament and leading officials, who are accustomed to claim the chief seats at great functions, foresee that they will not be privileged spectators. The present plan will not enable either the masses or the classes to witness the thanksgiving service, but it dispenses with many questions of etiquette.

THE PRODIGIOUS STRAIN

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to, and, in the majority of cases, reach their destinations with comfort during the day. It is expected that the new Oceanic will be launched in January next. She will be a valuable addition to the nation's fleet of mercantile armed cruisers, which contain at this moment only four vessels with twin screws fulfilling all the Admiralty requirements and capable of maintaining a sea speed of twenty knots or over. The new White Star liner will be able to transport a large body of troops, with stores and ammunition, to the most distant points, with ease and UNUSUAL RAPIDITY;

while in the matter of coal endurance, it will be noted that her powers are to be most exceptional, inasmuch as, after making liberal allowance for the weight of stores, ammunition, and troops, she will be able to steam, in case of need, 23,400 knots, at twelve knots per hour, or practically round the world, without coaling.

The account of the war with China have just been finally passed, by the Japanese Treasury. They show a total cost of 210,978,669 yen for the war, the War Department expenditure being 171 million yen, including a national subscription of 5,600,000 yen, and the naval expenditure being 39,973,669 yen.

A duel with swords was fought Wednesday afternoon in the park of St. Ouen, Paris, between the Chevalier Pini, master of the Italian School of Arms, and M. Thomegux, a French amateur swordsman. The meeting, which excited intense interest, arose from a letter, insulting Pini, as an outcome of a recent assault-at-arms, Pini is regarded as the first swordsman of the world. M. Thomegux, is a prominent Transvaal Uitlander, or resident of foreign birth. The duel lasted half an hour. Pini easily held his own, and only disarmed his adversary. Later Pini lunged violently at M. Thomegux's right breast. The latter half parried the lunge, but Pini's rapier pierced his shirt. Finally M. Thomegux was wounded in the face, and the duel was stopped.

## A FEARFUL EXPERIENCE.

STEAMER RIALTO SET ON FIRE IN MID-OCEAN.

A Storm Raged—It Was With Difficulty That the Crew Was Rescued by the Carthaginian.

The Allan Star Line steamer Carthaginian, which arrived in New York on Thursday morning from Glasgow, rescued the crew of the Wilson Line steamer Rialto, which took fire and was abandoned March 5, in latitude 51.33 and longitude 22.45. The Rialto was bound from Newcastle from New York, loaded with a general cargo, including a large quantity of chemicals. She left port on Feb. 21, and experienced strong westerly gales, gradually increasing in violence until March 3, when a veritable hurricane was blowing.

At 6 o'clock in the morning, a terrific explosion in the forehold blew the hatch covers into the air, killed one seaman, and injured the chief mate. Dense columns of thick, yellow smoke poured out of the open hatch, and a choking, penetrating odour pervaded the ship. The crew was at once called to fire quarters, the hose was stretched, and pumps started. It was necessary to batten down the hatches to prevent the fire having full vent. Meanwhile the ship was wallowing in the mountainous seas and was occasionally buried under a giant comber. The lifeboats were smashed by the seas, and the crew saw death staring them in the face. All hands worked with desperate energy, but in spite of their efforts the fire seemed to gain headway steadily. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Carthaginian was sighted, and in reply to signals moderated to stand by until the weather moderated sufficiently to permit boats to be lowered.

The Rialto men did not relax their efforts to subdue the fire, but it steadily crept further into the cargo, and the decks and plates grew hotter and hotter. For forty hours, or until the early morning of the 5th, the Allan Liner stood by, and then the weather moderated enough to make it possible for a lifeboat to live. As the Rialto's boats were all gone, Captain France, of the Carthaginian, ordered his own boats manned, and after a great struggle the entire crew was taken off without mishap. Captain Rippeth said that when he abandoned the Rialto the plate seams were gaping, and there was fifteen feet of water in the main hold, so that her sinking was only a matter of a few hours. The rescued crew save done of their effects. The Rialto was built in 1878, at Hull, England. She was 310 feet long and 1,799 tons burden. She was owned by Thomas Wilson, Sons and company.

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