

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.

The Richelieu and Ontario Company intend adding two new steamers to their route.

The report of the Assessment Commissioner of Ottawa shows an increase in the city population of 2,187.

Sir Wilfred Laurier has arranged with a firm of London publishers to write a history of the Hudson Bay Company.

The Canadian Bankers' Association has cabled to England a resolution opposing any departure from the gold standard.

Mr. Grenier, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for libelling Mr. Tarte will be treated as a first-class misdemeanant.

The result of the recent trial shipments of Canadian fruit to England has proved satisfactory, especially with regard to grapes.

The Dominion Government will reserve the heavy timber belts between the western boundary of Manitoba and the summit of the Rockies.

Mr. Mulock has not abandoned the idea of exacting postage upon newspapers carried through the mails, and is collecting statistics on the subject.

At Antigonish, N. S., Henry Davidson was found guilty of the murder of William Bowman at Tracadie. The crime was committed in a drunken brawl.

Mayor Wilson-Smith of Montreal, on behalf of a number of Canadian capitalists, has cabled to London an offer for \$250,000 of the new Canadian loan.

At the sale of the Royal Hotel furniture the bedroom suite used by the Prince of Wales during his visit to Hamilton was sold to Mrs. J. S. Hendrie for \$47. Its original cost was \$700.

Mrs. Lang has been awarded \$20,000 damages against the City of Victoria for the death of her husband, Dr. Lang, at the Point Police Bridge disaster on May 25, 1896.

The Canadian Pacific railway freight handlers and elevator men, who were on strike at Fort William, have returned to work, their demand for a slight increase of pay being granted.

Hon. Frederick Peters, the Premier of Prince Edward Island, is about to retire from the Government, and it is stated on good authority that he intends to remove to British Columbia.

Senator Scott, Secretary of State, has received a letter from the Governor of Florida, asking him to send Canadian representatives to the International Fisheries Conference, which will take place there next month.

Lord Aberdeen has received from the Colonial Secretary a message which intimates that the members of the Canadian jubilee contingent must wear the medals presented by the Queen whenever they are on parade.

Mr. Hays has offered the City of Montreal to move the Grand Trunk offices from Point St. Charles to Victoria square in the centre of the city if granted exemption from taxation for twenty years.

Dr. Borden, the Dominion Minister of Militia, says that the order providing for the retirement of commanding officers after four years' service applies to the whole service, both permanent and volunteers.

Lieut.-Col. Bliss was out driving at Ottawa with his three children and nurse. The horse ran away and the rig upset. Col. Bliss was seriously injured, and it is doubtful if he or the nurse will recover from their injuries.

Dr. Laberge, Medical Health Officer of Montreal, states that so far fifty thousand people have been vaccinated, but as that is only one-fifth of the population of the city, he advises that the campaign should be kept up.

Mr. R. W. Scott, Dominion Secretary of State, is very sanguine as to the development of Canadian trade with Great Britain. He expects that before long the country can sell annually fifty million dollars' worth of butter and cheese to Great Britain.

Some unknown party, claiming to be the brother of Ned Hanlan, the oarsman, has been making repeated requests to him for the loan of \$100, wiring for the same from Rochester and Tonawanda. The police of these places are looking for the man.

After a trial lasting several days, W. H. Ponton, teller in the Dominion Bank at Nanaimo, which was robbed of \$32,000 last August, who was charged with the robbery, was brought to a conclusion on Saturday, when the prisoner was discharged from custody.

The British exports to Canada declined four per cent. in September, and thirteen per cent. in the first nine months of the year, as compared with the same period last year. The imports from Canada increased thirty-two per cent. in September, and twenty-four per cent. for the nine months, as compared with the previous year.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A heavy fall of snow is reported in England over the Westmoreland Hills. A man named Pollock made a successful trip across the English Channel in a balloon.

The jubilee gifts and addresses to the Queen are on exhibition at the Imperial Institute, London.

Mr. Gladstone has declined to accede to a request that he intervene to bring about a settlement of the engineers' strike.

General Booth of the Salvation Army, has gone to Germany. He talks of converting Emperor William.

Lord Salisbury's retirement from the office of Prime Minister is discussed as a possibility by The Daily Chronicle.

Edward Langtry, the husband of

Lily Langtry, died on Friday in the lunatic asylum to which he was committed last week.

The London press is adverse to any tampering with the silver question, and until some decision is given by the Cabinet great uneasiness will prevail in business circles.

At St. George's church, Hanover square, London, on Saturday, the Marquis of Waterford, was married to Lady Beatrix, the youngest daughter of the Marquis of Lansdowne.

A meeting of the British Cabinet was held on Saturday, which was attended by all the Ministers except three. It is understood that the Government will not depart in any way from its present gold standard.

Tenders for the new Canadian loan, opened in London, showed that double the amount asked for had been subscribed at an average price of £91 10s. 5d.

It is understood that the next Imperial budget will propose an extra grant of £1,500,000 to provide 11,000 additional men for the army, and some amelioration of the soldier's lot, with a view to attracting recruits.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Grand Trunk shareholders, held on Thursday in London, the president announced that there was a surplus of thirteen thousand dollars, and that the outlook ahead was very favourable.

The Canadian horse suspected of glanders, which was landed in England on September 9, has been subjected to a post-mortem examination by a veterinary expert, who reported that the disease was contracted after the animal landed.

James Kier Hardy, chairman of the English Independent Labour party, proposes, with the view of supporting the striking engineers, to pool all the funds of all the trades unions as a fighting fund, and then to proclaim a general strike, thus bringing the trade of the nation to a standstill.

The St. James' Gazette, referring to the recent correspondence on the proposed Sealing Conference calls Secretary Sherman the trans-Atlantic Polonius, and says he ought to be allowed to play the fool only at home, and that foreign diplomacy ought to be placed in more competent hands.

UNITED STATES.

Over 60 vessels loaded with wheat have left San Francisco for England.

A company has been formed at Tacoma, Wash., to build a tramway through the Chilkoot Pass.

Louise Ripp, aged 16, who was abducted from Corbeil, near Paris, has been discovered in Chicago.

The Milwaukee Diocesan Council is in favour of calling the Protestant Church in America simply "The Church."

Mr. Charles A. Dana, editor of the New York Sun, died on Sunday afternoon at his residence on Long Island.

Burglars at Camden, N. J., on Tuesday morning shot and killed Mrs. Vance, aged 65, and her daughter, Mrs. Sarah M. Shaw.

Dr. David Starr Jordan, the United States expert, says the Americans are themselves to blame for the destruction of the seal herds.

Benjamin Hyde Benton, a sporting writer, well known in England and the States is charged by the British authorities at New York with perjury.

Commencing at the end of this month a new steamship service will be inaugurated from Portland, Ore., to Yokohama and Shanghai and Hong Kong, China.

Travel is blocked in Texas owing to the yellow fever. Most of the towns have organized shot gun quarantines, so that trains can stop only at the big cities.

Andrew Carnegie of Pittsburgh, has secured the Tilden mine from Milwaukee people and has now control of the largest iron producing combination in the world.

John Carson, a school boy, at Lansing Mich., invited a boy to strike him in the chest when he expanded. The lad did so, and Carson fell dead from paralysis of the heart.

Baron Kotsky, of South America who advertised some time ago, that he would suicide if he did not get work tried to carry out the threat in New York by turning on the gas jet.

William Harold and Sheriff Radford were shot and killed and Deputy Sheriff Stewart, probably fatally injured, at Delta, Cal., on Friday while the officers were attempting to arrest Harold, charged with robbery.

George Burns, until recently a fireman on the revenue cutter Grant, at Seattle, receiving a salary of \$28 per month has just learned that he is one of the four heirs to an estate valued at \$1,000,000.

At a session of the Civic Philanthropic Congress, held in Battle Creek, Mich., it was stated that the American people were fast becoming degenerates through the use of beer and tobacco and eating too much meat.

It is announced in New York that John Armstrong Chanler, the former husband of Amelle Rives, the authoress, is hopelessly insane in the Blooming-ton asylum, while Amelle Rives, now Princess Troubetskoy is a mental wreck in a Philadelphia sanitarium.

Secretary Sherman has written a reply to Lord Salisbury on the Bering Sea conference question, in which he suggests a conference in accordance with the terms of Lord Salisbury's agreement, to be held presumably after the one which Russia and Japan have been invited to attend.

According to the trade reports of Messrs. Dun and Bradstreet, the condition of business in the United States is good, but shows no marked increase. The exports of wheat have expanded, and for the past week have been the largest on record. The payments through the clearing house are stated to be the largest ever known, and this of course, is a satisfactory indication of a substantial trade movement. The demand for labour is also good, and appears to be augmenting. The demand for cotton is increasing. Prices of pig iron are steady. Ore shipments on the lakes are very large, and prices of finished products are rising.

GENERAL.

Argentina's wheat for export is estimated at one million tons.

The Chilean Senate is discussing the

bill for retaliatory tariff against the United States.

The Women's Equal Suffrage Club at St. Louis, Mo., is demanding the appointment of women street inspectors.

The Budget Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has voted to increase the standing army by 12,000 men.

The new Liberal Spanish Cabinet approves of the idea of employing native volunteers against the insurgents in Cuba.

Bishop McKim, the Episcopal prelate to Tokio, says that out of the 150,000 converts in Japan 50,000 are Catholics.

The foundation stone of what is intended to be the great commercial port of Russia in Asia was laid on Friday with great ceremony.

The troops forming the Mamund punitive expedition have destroyed 26 fortified villages and have killed many of the insurgent natives.

A shepherd named Vacher has been arrested at Belley, near Lyons, France, charged with committing a series of Jack the Ripper murders.

The Jirga tribesmen in India have sworn to maintain the peace and drive out Umra Khan's followers.

It is stated that all the preliminaries have been agreed upon for an alliance, defensive and offensive, between Bulgaria and Turkey.

The coasting steamer Triton sunk off the coast of Havana with 200 passengers, soldiers and civilians, and a large amount of Spanish treasure and munitions of war.

M. Martens, of the Russian Foreign Office has been selected as umpire in the International Court of Arbitration which is to pass upon the British-Venezuelan boundary.

The National Council of Switzerland has adopted a bill making accident insurance compulsory in the case of all persons not having independent means of existence.

Official returns published in Paris show that French exports for the third quarter of 1897 increased \$42,000,000, and imports nearly \$8,000,000, compared with the corresponding period of 1896.

While a tradesmen's deputation was conferring with the Government at Rome on the taxation question a riot was started by a mob outside. The police attempted to disperse the people, and a fierce conflict took place, in which one rioter was killed and several wounded.

The International Leprosy Conference, which has closed its sitting in Berlin, has come to the conclusion that man is the only animal in which the leprosy bacillus exists, and that the disease is contagious, but not hereditary.

ENGLAND HAS BOTH ENDS.

An Opinion of Canada's Defences - What Would Result if it Were Invaded.

The Philadelphia Press prints an interview with Major-General Webber, who attended the recent meeting of the British Association in Toronto.

"Will you venture an opinion on Canada's defences?" he was asked.

It was a subject to which he had given much thought; one he had thought about and talked about on the plains of India and less far afield. The Great Lakes and long water frontier he deemed a strength rather than a weakness. He took an envelope and drew a line across it lengthways to indicate the boundary line.

On one side, he explained, were the States with their vast territory and great population; on the other side was Canada, a long, thin line of settlement. Now, he said, the Americans would have to penetrate somewhere and then go east and west; there was nothing to go north for.

ENGLAND HAS BOTH ENDS.

England held the situation at both ends, and by the facilities afforded of water communication from the east and the railway communication by the C. P. R.; from the west, could mass her forces in opposition at any point in Canada.

The Americans, he said, would be ill-prepared to withstand a winter campaign in Canada, and as long as England held her posts in the Pacific there was always an army of 50,000 men in Canada to enter by the eastern gate.

"England," said General Webber, "would spend her last sovereign before she would lose Canada, and you know," he added, "the last sovereign would win out the silver dollar."

WOULD BREAK UP THE UNION.

The United States was a great country, with great resources of men and money, but as long as England maintained the gold standard and retained control of the gold supplies of the world there would be no possibilities of the States succeeding in such a contest. But, said the General, though England would spend her last sovereign before she would submit, she would likewise spend her last sovereign before going to war with the United States.

Moreover, the invasion of Canada would mean the breaking up of the Union. The States would have to be aggressors, and the sentiment in the States against it would cause the west or the south to break away, and, in any case, such aggression could only result with weak men at the head of American affairs.

From whatever way it was looked at General Webber thought that an attempt to take Canada would be the ruin of the American nation. He took no stock in the idea that a feeling of resentment towards the States was growing in England. The English people laughed at jingoism, and he thought the sentiment and sense of the best of the American people placed the attempt at Canadian conquest altogether without the bounds of possibility.

THE FARM.

EARLY OR LATE SOWN WHEAT.

With the prospects of a better price for wheat, for some time, at least, it is probable that an unusually large acreage will be sown this fall. It is well for farmers to remember, however, says a writer, that a large acreage will not always insure a large crop. With an increased acreage the tendency is for us to slight the preparation, forgetting that indifferent preparation is almost certain to show to a disadvantage in the following crop. I believe the want of thoroughness in preparation of the soil to be one of the chief reasons why the general average is not larger than it is. The great mistake that farmers make is cultivating too many acres. If they would take pains to thoroughly cultivate and enrich only half as many acres they would harvest about as many bushels at a greatly reduced cost. Wheat delights in a fine, compact, and rich soil, and well repays any effort to make it so. If the soil is left loose and cloddy, the seed is apt to be sown too deep. The soil dries out much sooner, leaving the young plants to suffer for lack of sufficient moisture. The weather is apt to be dry during the fall, and we need to save all the moisture possible. A roller is a valuable implement for preparing the soil, so valuable indeed that I regard it as indispensable. The boat or drag makes a very good substitute, but it is not equal to a roller in firming and pulverizing the soil. The proper and most satisfactory way of preparing the soil is to roll and harrow as fast as the ground is plowed. The clods are then friable and easily pulverized. A week later, if no rain has fallen, they are very hard and the ground is dry to the bottom of the furrow. This not only makes preparation more difficult and expensive, but diminishes the certainty of getting a good stand. Doing the right thing at the right time saves time and labor and both are money to the farmer. In these days of short profits we must endeavor to lessen the cost of production as much as possible. Increasing the yield per acre, and decreasing the cost per bushel are the best means of accomplishing it. What will effect the one will effect the other. Circumstances should largely determine whether wheat should be sown deep or shallow, early or late. As a rule, I believe wheat is sown too deep. With an average amount of moisture in the soil, one inch is deep enough. In very dry seasons it may be advisable to sow it a little deeper to insure germination. The improved drills have an attachment to the hoes for regulating the depth, and at the same time firming the soil on the seed. It is especially valuable where the soil is imperfectly prepared. The average time of seeding is from about the first to the fifteenth of September. Occasionally, some is sown as late as October 1, but unless it is exceptionally rich soil, or has been preceded by potatoes, is likely to be a failure. Wheat sown in August is apt to be damaged by the Hessian fly. This pest has caused great damage for several years. It is generally supposed that late sowing is the only remedy, and that by sowing quite late it would entirely escape their ravages. Which this may be true generally, I have known instances where late seeding was badly damaged and earlier sowing was injured but little. My experience the last few years convinces me that the character, preparation and state of fertility of the soil have as much influence as the time of sowing. When the soil was well prepared and rich, the wheat suffered but little while parts of the same field where the soil was thinner, were badly damaged, although sown the same day. Last year we seeded to wheat a strip containing about three acres that had been in potatoes, followed by rye, the year previous. The ground had been heavily manured for potatoes and was rich. The remainder of the field had received no manure for several years, and was not so fertile. The wheat on the potato ground was not injured in the least, but near by it was badly damaged. There was no difference in the manner of preparation or time of seeding. On rich soil plants grow faster, have more vigor and hardiness and resist the attack of insects better. Insects always attack the weaker plants, leaving the stronger ones undisturbed.

They are then ready for transporting. Mark name and address of firm to which they are to go plainly on cover, and send full advice and invoice by first mail after the goods are shipped.

Fat, heavy stock is always preferred.

FARM NOTES.

Don't allow the weeds to get ahead of you this wet weather. Run the horse hoes through everything at least once a week.

One thing should always be borne in mind by the person who is making butter to sell. The butter is for somebody else to eat, and it is for your interest to make it to suit them, whether it suits your taste or not.

With what we waste of edibles of all kinds, if properly distributed, the poorest inhabitant need never go hungry; and doubtless fewer people suffer for want of food here than in any country on the planet.

No crop the farmer can raise will yield as good returns for the work put upon it as hay. The trouble is we cannot follow the practice of selling hay for a number of years without impoverishing our lands.

Stagnant water under the heated temperature of the summer solstice, becomes not only unfit to drink, but at the same time a breeding place for myriads of animalcules, causing or aggravating disorders and diseases when taken into the stomach of animals.

FARM NOTES.

Do not store damp grain. How do you plow? Cut and cover? Well, don't.

A well prepared seed bed for wheat is a paying investment.

Haste makes waste—often in preparing a field of wheat for sowing.

It is as important to sow clean seed wheat as it is to plant clean seed of any kind.

"The modern majesty consists in work. What a man can do is his greatest ornament."—Carlyle.

Plant lovers should remember that one good watering which wets the ground clear down, is worth a dozen dribblings.

If your clover is on a wet field make up your mind that much of it will be heaved out by the frost before next spring.

Do not get excited over wheat and rush in more than you can put in, in good shape. A small field, well tilled, may pay you better than a large one hastily half prepared and poorly sown.

We all do the best when we keep within the lines that we have the most knowledge of, and most of us know little enough even after we have spent a lifetime in the study of a few subjects.

In seeking a market for our farm products, we are too apt to overlook our nearby market. Aim to produce such products as the surrounding market calls for, anticipate the demand. Every month of the year some product of the farm is sought for by the consuming community, and if those products are at hand purchasers may be found to take them.

A young man announces in a contemporary that he "wants a good strong Christian wife to take care of the chickens and garden. There is a chance of a lifetime for some girl who has strength in her arms and grace in her heart."—The Western Plowman. Our opinion is that a wife that is wanted for no higher purpose than that needs more "grace" than "strength in her arms."

We do not know that farmers complain of hard times more than other people. We are quite sure that agriculture is not suffering more than other industries, and not as much as some. We think no industrious farmer has suffered for food or the necessities of life during the period of depression. They have had an abundance of food and clothing enough to make them comfortable.

A BURMAH RUBY'S ESCORT.

When a fine ruby is found in Burmah a procession of the elephants, grantees and soldiers escort it to the King's palace.

TRAVEL ON BELTS.

Endless leather belts, acting as moving staircases, convey the patrons of a large Parisian store from one floor to another.