

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.

Seeding is about to begin in Manitoba.

Ex-Mayor Little has presented a new ambulance to the City of London.

The Grand Trunk is moving its auditor's and paymaster's offices from Detroit to Montreal.

Merchants of western Ontario have complained to Ottawa of the Great increase of smuggling from Detroit.

The Manitoba public accounts were brought down in the Legislature on Tuesday. There is a cash balance on hand of \$556,438.

Frank Clark, son of D. W. Clark, of St. John, West Side, mining at Dawson City, writes that he has sold one claim for twenty thousand dollars.

The C. P. R. will erect a thirty thousand dollar stone and brick station at MacAdam Junction, and will light the work shops and yard by electricity.

Capt. Bernier, governor of the jail at Quebec, has been dismissed, and will likely be succeeded by Mr. Bernatchez, ex-member for Montmagny.

At Wolseley Barracks, London, Drill Sergeant Davis is giving a course of instruction in the handling of a Maxim rapid-firing gun received from Ottawa.

Snow in the woods at Madawaska Co., N. B., and Aroostook, Maine, was from seven to nine feet deep, the winter's fall being the greatest known in 60 years.

The act of the Manitoba Legislature compelling all companies incorporated outside the Province to register in Manitoba has been disallowed at Ottawa.

The celebration of St. Jean Baptiste day in Quebec this year, will be postponed until September, in order to coincide with the unveiling of the Champlain Monument.

Messrs. Coste and Lafontaine, of the Public Works, Department, Ottawa, have left on an exploration tour in Northern British Columbia, and may go to Dawson City.

The opinion of Hon. S. H. Blake, Q. C., that the Legislature has no jurisdiction to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale within the Province of intoxicating liquors has been received by the Manitoba Legislature.

M. Raoul Rinfret, C.E., of Montreal, who leaves shortly for the Yukon with the Slavin-Boyle party, has been commissioned by Mr. Sifton to organize a meteorological service in the Yukon country, as well as to make certain surveys for the Interior Department.

M. Kleczkowski, Consul-General for France in Canada, has officially informed Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the French Government is ready to vote an annual subsidy of \$80,000 to a line of steamships between France and Canada on condition that Canada does the same.

The Canadian Pacific Railway expects at an early date to build three big ocean liners about the size of the Teutonic and place them on the route between Vancouver and Yokohama. The Empress vessels will then be used for the purpose of a passenger and freight service between Vancouver and Australia.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Salisbury has gone to the south of France for a visit.

Right Hon. Thomas Ball, Lord Chancellor of Ireland from 1875 to 1880, is dead at Dublin.

Cables from London advise English tobacco merchants in Havana to leave Cuba as war is inevitable.

The Birmingham Gazette states that a Russian spy in the guise of a footman has been discovered at the Marquis of Salisbury's residence.

Bishop Hartzell, of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Africa, has reached London, bringing letters from President Coleman, of Liberia, to Lord Salisbury and President McKinley, requesting closer relations with Great Britain and the United States. It is understood that this step is prompted by fear of French and German encroachments threatening the integrity of the Republic.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom have passed this resolution at their meeting in London:—"That these Chambers regard the absorption of Chinese territory by Russia, France, or Germany with great concern, as injurious to the interests of British commerce, seeing these powers exact the prohibitive duties of their respective countries in all their colonies and dependencies."

UNITED STATES.

Hon. Blanche K. Bruce, registrar of the U.S. Treasury, is dead at Washington.

The price paid by the United States for the two new Brazil warships was \$2,500,000.

The United States Government is being urged to pass a bill to deepen the Erie canal.

Speaker Reed is quoted by the New York Evening World as saying that Congress will complete its work and adjourn in April.

Parry Gardiner enticed Will Rogers into an unoccupied building at Pulaski, Ill., and beat his brains out with a club. Gardiner and Rogers were playmates, aged 16.

The project for the construction of a deep water canal between the Great Lakes and the Hudson River was before the House River and Harbor Committee at Washington on Tuesday.

A fine auroral display was witnessed in Boston on Tuesday night. Great waves of light swept over the heavens for more than an hour. It was also seen throughout New England.

Edna Wallace Hopper has brought suit in San Francisco for a divorce from De Wolf Hopper, the well-known opera star. She has also begun similar proceedings in New York. Her attorneys say the causes of action are willful desertion and failure to provide.

Thomas Young, manager of the M. A. Hanna Coal Company, is quoted as follows regarding the possibility of another strike: "A strike involving about 20,000 miners will probably soon be in full swing in Central Pennsylvania. The operators declare they will not pay the Chicago scale, and the miners announce their intention to strike."

GENERAL.

Yellow fever is epidemic in Rio Janeiro.

France has adopted the postal arrangements signed last June at Washington.

Troops have been ordered to the scene of the rioting among the miners at Somorrostro, near Bilbao, Spain.

The Portuguese War Department has decided to complete the defences of the port of Lisbon as speedily as possible.

Italy has sold to Spain the armored cruiser Varese and the cruiser Carlo Alberto, it is said, to the United States.

Spain has requested the United States to transfer the United States fleet to a greater distance from the Cuban coast.

The Spanish torpedo flotilla, consisting of the Pluton, Terror, Furor, Azor, Ariete and Rayo, and two transports, have arrived at Las Palmas.

A despatch from Cairo says a detachment of friendly natives from Kasala has captured another Dervish post killing twenty of the enemy.

A rebellion has broken out at Battambang, where the people have refused to pay taxes. A Siamese expedition has defeated the rebels, but fighting continues.

The agrarian revolt in Hungary is spreading. In a conflict between the peasants and gendarmes on Sunday at Duna Foldvar two peasants were killed and forty wounded.

Senor Sandoval, the Spanish Agent in Berlin, is negotiating for the purchase of a number of old and slow steamers of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company.

The Transvaal Government has issued a green book relating to the Supreme Court difficulty. The dismissed Chief Justice is appealing to the people.

Continental newspapers generally regard Germany's withdrawal from Crete as heralding the installation of Prince George of Greece as Governor of the island.

Mme. Dreyfus, wife of ex-Captain Dreyfus, has petitioned M. Lebon, French Minister of the Colonies, for permission to share her husband's exile. The permission was refused.

The Italian Government has sold the armored cruiser Varese to Spain. Admiral Brin in the Chamber of Deputies gave the impression that the United States had purchased the armored cruiser Carlo Alberto.

Russia has notified China that the latter's delay in replying to the Russian demands will be construed as an acquiescence in the Russian occupation of Port Arthur. The British Minister at Peking is said to be urging China to resist.

The Premier of New South Wales states that he will at the next general elections introduce the referendum into Australian politics. After the Swiss fashion, all important questions will be referred back to the people in the form of plebiscites.

HE IS PAID TO DO NOTHING.

Sells Himself to a Syndicate and Receives a Salary Not to Use His Inventive Genius.

A Waterville, Maine, man does absolutely nothing, and is paid a good salary—not less than \$2,500 a year—for it. All that is asked of him is not to let his inventive genius run at large and do nothing, which shall interfere in any way with the affairs of his employers. Frank Chase invented several machines that proved to be valuable to manufacturers, but he capped the whole thing and sent himself into the condition of a gentleman of ease, when he brought out the Chase lasting machine.

He realized "big money," \$100,000 or more, and was about to let himself out again, when the syndicate that bought his invention nipped his intentions before they blossomed and bought his time during the rest of his majority, perhaps. The gentlemen realized that Mr. Chase would soon get out something that would beat his other machines to pieces, and, as they probably did not have money enough to invest \$100,000 every few days, they concluded that it would be better to give the inventor a good-paying job with no work attached to it.

Mr. Chase has built an elegant mansion home at Waterville. He is still a young man. He is a very pleasant gentleman to meet, knows the value of the coin of the realm, and uses it accordingly. As long as he remains in this city, Waterville does not care whether he invents any more machines or not, but all hope he will remain to the end of his time, and that that time will be a good long one.

VERY MILD INDULGENCE.

Do you—ah—ever have recourse to narcotics? asked the new physician. Only once a week, said the patient. I go to church with my wife every Sunday.

THE FARM.

SPRAYING FRUIT TREES.

The season for spraying will soon be at hand again, and every owner of fruit trees who is not already possessed of a good spraying outfit should at once set about the matter of procuring one. One should endeavor to get a pump that will throw a strong, fine spray, as great force is required to reach the center of large, tall trees with the liquid; and if it is not finely and evenly distributed it may prove injurious instead of beneficial. While a strong pump is necessary, says a writer, in Farmer's Advocate, it should not work with much difficulty or the labor of spraying will be found very great. Perhaps the work of spraying has received a greater drawback through the number of inferior pumps placed upon the market than through any other cause; for which an inadequate outfit, not only is the work of spraying greatly increased, and the time lengthened, but the results are very unsatisfactory, so that the owner becomes discouraged, and regards the work of spraying as of little benefit.

While thorough spraying of individual orchards shows good results, I believe we will never succeed in exterminating the codling moth and other insect pests, or in permanently eradicating fungous diseases, until spraying becomes universal. And never before, I believe, since the codling moth first began its ravages, has a time been more propitious for its utter extermination than the present. The severe late spring frosts of 1895 destroyed many of the moths, and the total failure of fruit left them no breeding place; so that in 1896 the injury caused by them was scarcely noticeable. The past season they did considerable damage in the small amount of fruit grown, but in this section, Lampton county, apples were so scarce that the moth had little chance for increasing. What better time could there be, then, for a united effort for their utter extermination by thorough and systematic spraying than the coming spring? A short time ago I was in receipt of a letter forwarded me from the office of the superintendent of Farmers' Institutes at Toronto, which letter had been received from a Mr. Hadley, a fruit-grower of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Mr. Hadley made some comments upon a paper read by the present writer at an Institute meeting last season. In conclusion, he said: "We are fighting the moth, here, and we have one coincidence which is giving us the keynote to our line of action. One orchard in this valley that had previously been affected with the moth was entirely free from it the past year and produced a wonderful crop of fruit. Now, it so happens that this orchard had all its fruit killed by frost the preceding year, and it was the only orchard in the valley that fared thus. Our people are now contemplating the destruction of all the fruit the coming season, hoping in this way to get the start of the moth. Spraying has not been satisfactorily successful in this warm climate." Now, it strikes me that if the people of New Mexico are willing as a whole community to undertake the labor of destroying a whole season's crop of fruit, and suffering the consequent loss for that year, for the purpose of exterminating the moth, we Canadians, with whom spraying is so successful, should be willing to combine in a body to fight the moth by the means which are so ready to hand.

And not only will we check the future deprivations of the moth, but at the same time we will be more than doubling our yield of marketable fruit; thus increasing our profits and also building up an increased and permanent trade for our apples in the British markets. I trust that the Farmer will continue, as in the past, to press upon the notice of its readers the necessity for thorough and persistent spraying by every owner of fruit trees throughout Canada; and I believe the work would be greatly forwarded if there was a practical fruit-grower upon every delegation of Farmers' Institute speakers, one who has had practical experience in the work of spraying, and who can speak from personal experience and observation as to the beneficial results and increased profits resulting from thorough and systematic spraying. I suppose it would be impossible for our government to make spraying compulsory; and if such a law were enacted, no doubt it would prove a dead letter, as many similar statutes have turned out to be, but if such a law could be enforced it would add millions of dollars to the receipts of our fruit industry. Some time ago I read an article in a leading publication, contributed by a prominent fruit-grower of Niagara district, in which the writer stated that he believed it would be of benefit to have parliament prohibit the planting of trees for commercial fruit-growing for a term of years. Now, while I do not believe that the government should interfere with the rights of any individual with regard to how many trees he should plant, yet it does seem unjust that a number of careless owners of trees should be the means of causing inestimable loss to progressive growers, through negligence in combating insects and fungous pests. Although we can scarcely expect spraying to be made compulsory, yet we can each aid in furthering the good work by calling attention to its beneficial results at every possible opportunity.

CARING FOR HEIFERS.

Most of the difficulties in growing valuable cows, where the breeding has been what it should be, come from their

feeding. It is hard to say whether the fattening or the starvation policy, is worse for the future of the cow. By the first she is made fit only for the butcher. By the second the animal is stunted and its digestion impaired so that it is little good for any purpose. There should be abundance of food and a good share of this should be succulent so as to furnish nutrition in form and stimulate the glands that carry the milk. All the large milk-producing breeds of cows have originated in mild and moist climates, where succulent food can be had during most of the year. Ensilage is good food for heifers, though if it be of corn fodder some dry clover hay should be fed with it, to increase the material for growth. If clover cannot be had, a small ration of wheat bran mixed with the corn ensilage will make a better feed than ensilage alone. We believe in breeding heifers early, and at the same time feeding liberally of food that will make growth rather than fatten. If a heifer drops her first calf when she is a year and a half old, she will always be a better milker than if she were kept from breeding until a year later. If the heifer is too small, let there be a long time between the first and second breeding, and in the meantime feed more liberally than ever, not with corn. Some oats may, however, be given, if the milk production is large enough to keep the heifer thin in flesh, but the grain feeding should be stopped when the heifer dries off as she approaches her second parturition. Heifers thus managed will be about as large as if they were kept until they were past two years old before being bred, and they will all their lives be much better milkers.

BLACK CANKERWORM.

The black cankerworm differs from the common cankerworm in color and in being much smaller. If the worm has been in the orchard it will begin to appear some time during April. The female adult can be trapped by putting a band of wax, pine tar, printers' ink or any sticky substance around the trunk of the trees. After the worm appears spray with arsenical poison. When using London purple, care should be taken not to have the mixture too strong, as much damage can be done. Use one-half to three-fourths of a pound of London purple to a barrel of water. If you do not see the worms, look for their webs on the trunks of the trees and prepare to destroy them next year.

FEEDING CALVES.

Keep all feeding utensils clean, and give a clean dry pen; occasionally sprinkle in some land plaster. Give a little salt occasionally, or better yet, keep it near them at all times. Sometimes an old sod or a handful of dry earth to lick will be relished. Calves dropped in the fall and bred to come in in the fall, are more sure to breed regularly in the fall; at least that is my experience. With clover hay or ensilage as roughage, calves raised in the winter when one has plenty of time to look after them are raised the cheapest and best. Do not feed too fattening foods, if desired for the dairy. Bran or oatmeal is a most excellent food for a growing calf.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

Pride is increased by ignorance; those assume the most that know the least.—Gay.

Persistent people begin their success where others end in failure.—Edward Eggleston.

There is no great achievement that is not the result of patient working and waiting.—J. G. Holland.

To an honest mind the best perquisites of a place are the advantages it gives a man of doing good.—Addison.

Who can confess his poverty and look it in the face, destroys its sting; but a proud man, he is poor, indeed.—L. E. London.

We have more power than will; and it is often by way of excuse to ourselves that we fancy things are impossible, Rochefoucauld.

A polite man is one who listens with interest to things he knows all about, when they are told him by a person who knows nothing about them.—De Morny.

There is little pleasure in the world that is true and sincere beside the pleasure of doing our duty and doing good. I am sure no other is comparable to this.—Tillotson.

It is no disgrace not to be able to do everything; but to undertake or pretend to do what you are not made for is not only shameful, but extremely troublesome and vexatious.—Plutarch.

Enjoy the blessings of this day, if God sends them, and the evils bear patiently and sweetly, for only this day is ours; we are dead to yesterday, and not born to-morrow.—Jeremy Taylor.

THE HINDOO WAY.

For 3,000 years the Hindoo standard of living has been almost the same for rich or poor. The Rajah's floors are bare, and the rich man washes in the open air and dries himself in the sun like his poorer brother; and so simple is the mode of life, and so great is the fear of robbery, that immense amounts of wealth are buried.

ENGLISH RAPID-FIRING GUNS.

In recent experiments with Vicker's 6-inch rapid-firing gun the accuracy was such that two of the projectiles in a round of ten discharges went through the same hole in the target. It is anticipated that picric acid will be adopted by the British authorities as an explosive for shells.

POVERTY - PAUPERISM.

Key. Dr. Edward Everett Hale Says the Latter is a Disease.

In a recent paper Edward Everett Hale declared that pauperism is a disease, and that it can be abolished as slavery was abolished, or as diphtheria is going to be abolished.

There is an absolute distinction, he said, between pauperism and poverty. In general terms, he claimed, we are all poor, all dependent, more or less, one on the other. But in a civilized community, he said, there should be no pauperism. The saying of Jesus that the poor shall not cease from the land means that we shall bear each other's burdens and help one another.

Taking up the subject of pauperism, he claimed that by properly organized effort pauperism as a state class can be ended. In part, he said that to this end there should be a department of city government always at work to see that pauperism is being continually decreased. One of the first things to do is to get over the sensitiveness that opposes the taking of children from vicious fathers and mothers, giving them instead the privileges of orphans. "You provide so much better for the orphan," said Dr. Hale, "than for these poor waifs who ought to be born to something better than their parents ever knew or experienced."

"Besides caring for the health of the children," continued Dr. Hale, "you must teach them the use of their hands, and in addition to the training to industry in the prisons." As an instance of what can be done by properly organized effort, he cited the fact of 45,000 of the Jewish immigrants landed in the New England states shortly after the expulsion of the race from Russia. They were unable to speak English, and little able to maintain themselves for a time. Not one of them got into the poor house during the two years following their arrival here.

Continuing, Dr. Hale, continued: "Besides caring for the children, you must counteract the two evils of drink and debt, the first by enforcing the laws, and the second by putting a stop to the recklessness of the pawn brokering system. The Monte de Piete, of Paris, is a better system than anything we have here. The free intelligence offices as conducted in some of the western states are a step in the right direction of putting a stop to pauperism. The Society to Prevent Pauperism in Boston works on this system."

Dealing next with the question of poverty Dr. Hale said that whatever relief is extended no good is done a man unless something is done at the same time to make him better. The speaker declared that everything depends upon the spirit of sympathy with which it is done. "Oppose your wisdom to his folly; your strength to his weakness, and your life to his despondency," said Dr. Hale. "Seriously consider whether you are here simply to save your own soul or to help to save others. The truth is, you will find that the human race is the individual, and, if we live in that common life which I have indicated, we shall help each other and shall be mutually helped."

PEARLS AGAIN IN VOGUE.

Every woman who pretends to keep up with the fashions in neckwear must own a pearl necklace of some kind. The most popular fancy just at present is for a tight collar consisting of some five or six strands, held in place by diamond slides. These collars are what might be called dog collars and are very fashionable in velvet, studded with steel or turquoise.

With decollete gowns a collar of some kind around the neck is de rigueur. Often it is a satin ribbon and bow to match the gown, but generally one of these pearl collars is worn. Women of wealth are having strands of pearls strung in this fashion, and as it does not injure the gem in any way the conceit is a pretty one.

It has become quite the fad to make a collection of pearls. Many society women are starting the fashion of receiving one pearl as a gift to add to the long rope, or the dog collar, for which she has a fancy. The idea is a novel one, or it may, perhaps, have originated with the Queen of Italy, whose famous rope of pearls is composed of most exquisitely matched gems each separate one the gift of the King or of some friend.

One woman announced before last Christmas that she would accept a pearl as a gift from any and all of her friends who chose to make her a Christmas present. Her collection of pearls is quite a large one even now, and as each pearl is added in the order in which it is given, she can tell just which gem was given her by each friend.

The little pearl collars, fastened by brilliant slides are, as a rule, composed of what are known as "seed pearls" and can contain as many strands as the taste of the wearer dictates. It is a becoming style, for the pearls make even a homely neck look pretty.

Another fad in connection with the pearl collars is the long, fine chain worn around the neck as a watch chain or for holding the lorgnette. These chains come in great variety. They are very popular, as they form not only a decoration for the bodice or jacket, but are also a great convenience either attached to a watch or a lorgnette.

Some of them are studded at even distances with tiny pearls, rubies, emeralds or diamonds; others again have tiny slides, studded with turquoise or precious stones. In any case, to meet the present demand they must be jewelled. Never before were so many jewels worn. The up-to-date woman fairly sparkles as she rustles along. Many women use these long chains attached to the little silver or gold woven purses now so much worn.

The infinite variety of uses to which these fine, delicate chains may be put makes them not only a luxurious but a necessary adjunct to women's attire.