

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.

St. Catharines ministers object to Sunday funerals.

Rossland objects to the immigration into the town of any more Chinese.

The penitentiary commission is investigating the recent escapes at Kingston.

Miners near Rat Portage recently mobbed a surveyer sent out to survey land.

Thomas Hall, a Hamilton moulder, attempted to commit suicide by taking laudanum.

Capt. Sinclair, Lord Aberdeen's secretary, will leave for England to enter political life.

Mr. A. Person, of the C.P.R. bridge department was drowned in a well at Virden, Man.

Francis Robinson is under arrest at St. Catharines charged with improper use of the mails.

Mary Matuska, aged three, was burned to death in Brandon on Monday, during the absence of her parents.

William Curran, sentenced one year ago at Regina to five years for arson, has been released by Executive clemency.

The building permits issued in Hamilton during the year amounted to \$414,455, an increase of \$117,385 over the previous year.

It is rumored that the C.P.R. are closing a deal for all the steamers of the Columbia & Kootenay Navigation Company.

This year nearly 91,000,000 bushels of grain passed through the Soo canal, an increase of 36,000,000 compared with last year's movement.

Mr. Richard Bryan of Merriton fell from a Grand Trunk train, breaking his leg. He lay out in the cold all night and was badly frost-bitten.

The Rossland Record published a list of 50 mining properties in the immediate vicinity of Rossland. The estimate foots up to nearly \$13,000,000.

The Department of Trade and Commerce is confident that next season vessels will undertake the voyage from Montreal to Australia for the carriage of Canadian goods.

The Dominion Government is being asked to adopt a new ballot for the Dominion elections, as it is said the Do-rocher ballot is not such a success as was anticipated.

The Minister of Agriculture and Prof. Robertson will attend Ontario dairymen's conventions in Brockville, St. Mary's, and Brantford during January, and will deliver a series of lectures.

Mr. L. H. Davies, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, expects to have the Hudson Bay expedition, for which Parliament voted twenty-five thousand dollars last session, ready to start out early next spring.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company has offered to convert the Victoria bridge at Montreal into a double-track structure, with a track for a trolley service, if the Dominion Government assists it.

By the recent arrangement made by Hon. Mr. Fisher in Washington the 90 days quarantine on cattle and horses will be abolished by both Canada and the United States and a rigid inspection at the border substituted.

Hon. Sidney Fisher, interviewed on leaving Washington, expressed his satisfaction at the arrangements made with Secretary Morton for a modification of the cattle quarantine regulations with the United States.

If the Dominion Government decide upon the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals at the coming session of Parliament, it will mean the addition of two steamers to the fleet of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company.

Mr. W. W. Ogilvie, of Montreal, who has made an extensive tour through the North-West, says that he has never seen business better than it is to-day in Winnipeg, and throughout the entire North-West the farmers are contented.

Another attempt on the part of the United States to further restrict the operations of the Canadian sealers in the Behring Sea is anticipated, and according to information in Ottawa, derived from a Ministerial source, this will be resisted on the part of Canada.

Dr. Geikie, treasurer for the Armenian fund in Canada, has requested the co-operation of the teachers and scholars in his efforts to aid the suffering Armenians. The appeal has been cordially received and approved by some of Ontario's leading educationists.

The Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway Company is applying to Parliament for an act to authorize the issue of debentures and preferred stock, to change the headquarters from Toronto to Hamilton, and to sanction the agreement with the C. P. R.

The Hamilton Police Magistrate fined James Shaw \$50 or a month in jail for keeping a gambling house at 15 Mac-nab street north. His counsel intimated that he would take the case to Toronto and have a test made of it. The cases against ten young men found in Shaw's room by the police were dismissed.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Tom Mann has tried to start another dock strike in England.

Lo Feng Lun, the new Chinese Ambassador to England, is very popular in London.

The Hon. George Edwin King has been gazetted British Commissioner for the Behring Sea arbitration.

The St. James Gazette says the Queen will personally dictate and revise a biography of her Majesty which will appear in 1897.

The London Chronicle on Monday contained a long interview with Capt. Mahan, of the United States navy, retired, which is eulogistic of the British navy and its long service system.

Earl Russell's residence at Maiden-

head, on the Thames, was gutted by fire on Monday morning, and there is strong suspicion that some one connected with his libel suit against Lady Scott is guilty of incendiarism.

Three convicts who were returning on Wednesday at Dartmoor prison from outside labor made a desperate attempt to escape. One was shot dead, the second was wounded and captured, and the third got off.

UNITED STATES.

The National Bank of Illinois in Chicago has failed.

It cost New York \$60,000 to clear away the snow fall last week.

A bill to protect aerial navigation has been introduced into Congress.

The Masonic hall at New Brunswick, N. J., has been burned at a loss of \$400,000.

The port of Boston has been opened for the export of Canadian and other cattle.

At Guthrie, O. T., Fred Hornela, 16 years old, killed another boy to get his money.

Tuberculosis is reported to have infected every herd of cattle in the State of Maine.

The late Henry L. Pierce, ex-mayor of Boston donated \$533,000 in charitable bequests.

Miss Frances Willard, President of the W. C. T. U., is seriously ill at Castle, N. Y.

James Scrift, 63 years old, a Crimean veteran, died last week at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Twenty-five cavalymen at West Point have been seriously poisoned by eating head cheese.

A serious race war is in progress at Mayfield, Kentucky, arising out of recent lynchings of colored men.

At Buffalo the body of Jerome Kelly was held for debt, but finally released and sent to Michigan for burial.

Thirty men employed on Government work at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, have left to fight for Cuban rebels.

A bill to protect aerial navigation bridge let 40 persons down into a creek, when two were killed and a number injured.

Speaker Reed is of the opinion that the House of Representatives will not pass the Cameron resolutions in favor of Cuba.

The 276 anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock has just been celebrated at various places.

It is said that Hermann, the magician, made \$600,000 in the last twenty years, yet he died without leaving a dollar.

About half of the four thousand miners employed in the coal mines of St. Clair and Madison counties, Illinois, have struck for higher wages.

Mr. E. B. MacLay, professor of Greek in the Sioux Falls, N. D., Baptist College, committed suicide by hanging himself on Wednesday.

The mayor of Chicago vetoed a resolution of the City Council for four-cent car fares, and his veto was sustained by 27 majority.

The Bank of Minnesota has failed and a number of Chicago monetary institutions are suffering from a loss of public confidence.

Trouble exists between the president and employes of the Boston Street Railway Company, which is likely to result in a serious strike.

New Zealand has raised a contribution of \$300 for "Harris," of Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," who is at Lexington, Ky., destitute.

The big Dupont powder mills at Carnegie's Point and Gibbstown, N. J., are working night and day to fill large orders for the Government.

Mr. Dingley on Monday, speaking of his Tariff bill, said that protection is the great purpose of the bill, and that all the protection which is needed will be given.

Fire on East 33rd street, New York destroyed property valued at nearly a million dollars and rendered 100 people homeless. Four buildings, including Sohmer's piano warehouse and the New York Polyclinic Hospital, were destroyed.

The commercial outlook in the United States has been for some time past none too good, and at this season of the year we do not look for activity, but the average business has been considerably dulled by several serious failures, among which the Bank of Illinois is prominent, not only for its actual commercial position (which was a good one), but for the financial institutions which are wrecked with it.

GENERAL.

Signor Crisp's daughter has eloped with one of her servants.

Spain taxes English and South African visitors to the Canaries.

The Sultan has granted amnesty to 2,000 Armenians convicted of crime.

It is said that nearly all educated Cubans sympathize with the insurgents.

Berlin police raided a number of Anarchists' lodging-houses and made several arrests.

It is stated that Spain is making active preparations for a possible war with the United States.

Matters are tranquil in Hayti at present, but it is stated that a revolution is bound to come later.

Admiral Beranger, Spanish Minister of Marine, denies that the Government is purchasing warships.

The condition of the sugar crop in the West Indies will be enquired into by the English Government.

Floods are reported in Greece, which have destroyed a large amount of property and caused some loss of life.

A motion will be introduced into the Chamber of Deputies at Rome sympathizing with the Cuban insurgents.

An explosion occurred in a confectionery manufactory at Casino, in the Province of Caserta, Italy, killing seven persons.

Many lives have been lost by the capsizing of a ferry boat in the River Dnieper, in the Province of Ekaterinos-laff, Russia.

It is reported that Juan Fernandez, famous as the fabled home of Robinson Crusoe, has been completely destroyed by volcanic action.

The Epoca, of Madrid, declares that together with the reserves, the Spanish army is fully capable of maintaining an international war.

Brazil makes the claim that the ter-

ritory in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela belongs to her, and that she can establish her claim by documentary evidence.

At Santiago, Cuba, several large calibre Krupp guns have just arrived and are being placed at strategic points to defend that port against a possible attack from a foreign enemy.

Gen. Gallieni, the French commander-in-chief in Madagascar, says that the insurrection is virtually mastered, and that only a few remaining bands are hiding in the forests.

Succi, the Italian faster, who has been giving exhibitions of his endurance, became insane on Wednesday evening, after a performance, and was taken to a hospital.

It is asserted in Rome that the abdication by Don Carlos of his pretensions to the throne of Spain in favour of his son, Don Jaime, is only postponed until the terms can be arranged.

The State Department at Washington has received information which leads Secretary Olney to believe that Gen. Gomez and other insurgent chiefs are willing to accept autonomy for Cuba.

It is reported that the body of Hubert Crackenthorpe, the English author, who mysteriously disappeared in Paris during the month of October, giving rise to the suspicion of foul play, has been found in the River Seine.

Fresh proposals of reform have been presented to the Sultan of Turkey, and the Ambassadors at Constantinople have been instructed to act in unison if the Sultan refuses to comply, force may be employed.

A special from Paris says it is suggested that Great Britain, France, and Italy offer their services in the Cuban question, in order to prevent a conflict between Spain and the United States and to terminate the revolt.

A regiment of Turkish troops being conveyed from Yemen to Constantinople mutinied on shipboard for arrears of pay. The men were determined enough to force the Vali of Brousa to provide them with funds and new clothing.

A letter from Havana to the Times dwells upon the fact that the white element now predominates largely in the insurgent ranks. The worst elements have disappeared, and an independent Government, if weak, would at least be in the hands of educated and responsible men.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

A Few Notes About Some of the Great People of the World.

Messrs. Moody and Sankey are to begin a series of revival services in Cincinnati on March 5.

The Empress of Russia was very popular with the Parisians during her visit to the French capital.

Miss Nellie Patterson, Mt. Carmel, Ct., has completed a four-years' apprenticeship to the machinist's trade.

Verdi is at work on an oratorio to keep himself busy. He denies that he has any intention of writing an opera.

Mr. Gladstone is disappointed at the small sale of his edition of Bishop Butler, only 2,000 copies having been sold.

The Aberavon (English) town council unanimously elected as mayor Mr. Henry Richards, who is totally blind.

Lady Jane Harriet Swinburne, mother of Algernon Charles Swinburne, the poet, has just died in England at the age of 87.

The Hungarian caricaturist, Jarko, who died a few weeks ago, made more than 80,000 drawings in the 63 years of his life.

Dickens' daughter, before she died, had completed a book called "My Father as I Knew Him," which will be published soon.

Three English duchesses—those of Cleveland, Sutherland and Bedford—have at one time or another contributed articles to magazines.

M. Nicolini and Mme. Patti-Nicolini have returned to Craig-y-nos castle. They will leave England shortly after Christmas for the Riviera.

The late Mrs. Scott-Siddons, the celebrated actress and elocutionist, had lived in retirement for fifteen years previous to her death in Paris, November 19.

A Wurttemberg parish priest, having collected 9,000 pounds of postage stamps in eighteen years, has sold the lot for \$5,000 and given the money to charity.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts, "whom Kipling has immortalized as "Little Bobs," has written an important two-volume work called "Forty-one Years in India."

Miss Ethel Belle Appel is one of the best known designers of book covers in New York. She says the greatest need in her profession is originality that is practical.

A Scotch member of Parliament has just been brought to book by his constituents for playing golf, or conducting golf exercises on Sunday, while away from home.

There is but one monarch of Europe who can show the scar of a wound received in war. It is King Humbert, who received a severe saber cut at the battle of Custoza.

Israel Zangwill, the novelist and essayist, has just concluded a successful lecturing tour in England. He is said to be contemplating a visit to the United States next year.

Capt. Macready, youngest son of the tragedian, after winning the Teitel-Kebir clasp for gallantry in the Egyptian campaign, is acquiring fame as an amateur actor in Aberdeen.

Miss Agnes G. Scott, of the Alexandra college, Dublin, has been awarded the gold medal for first place in mathematics, in the senior grade, by the board of intermediate education.

Mornington Cannon heads the list of winning English jockeys again this year, owing to T. Loates' bad luck in falling with his horse and breaking his leg in the Liverpool autumn cup race.

Dr. Edward S. Holden, director of the Lick observatory of the university of California, has received the decoration of Knight of the Royal Order of the Dannebrog of Denmark.

Otto Shobert, a German machinist, who lives in Brooklyn, is a claimant on behalf of his wife of a fortune left by an East Indian nabob, named Paul Hofman, who died without leaving a will. Mrs. Shobert is his niece. The fortune is said to be \$50,000,000.

A GOOD CUP OF COFFEE.

It is quite surprising how few house-keepers have good coffee. It is so appreciated, too, more than almost any other beverage. It is particularly enjoyed at breakfast, and helps to put everybody in a good humor. I liked it myself, and my family have been accustomed to drinking it, and are very critical as to its good qualities. Therefore, I bought the best of Java and Mocha, made it strong, but occasionally it would have a peculiar flavor or taste which put me upon my mettle to know the cause. I sunned and aired my coffee pot, changed to another, but the same old trouble would return. But after experimenting and observing, I read an article that said boiling borax water twice a week in the coffee pot, and keeping two, would do away with the disagreeable taste, and it proved the fairy wand that banished all fault-finding away. Our cup of coffee for breakfast was pronounced perfect, and others remarked upon its fine aroma and delightful flavor. One thing in regard to coffee is that it is better parched at home, but if you do buy it already parched, always heat it over in a pan, and grind it while hot, or warm. It seems to have a nicer flavor when you pursue this course. No one can tell how long it has been parched, and this may have something to do with the cup of coffee. I had always known that borax was good for washing churns and milk crocks; all kinds of earthen and tin ware, but did not dream that it would help a coffee pot as it did ours, for I was exceedingly careful in having it washed clean, and then had my cook sun it, and hang it out in the open air. I never liked coffee made over of old grounds, as many do to economize, and let my cook know that fresh coffee was my order, but the brackish taste so prevalent was dispensed with entirely after the use of borax. I would advise everyone who desires to improve her coffee to use this simple remedy. I give out a dessertspoonful of ground coffee to a cup, and a cupful of water to each, and a cupful extra to allow for boiling, and clear with white of an egg.—S. G. H.

THE PLACE WHERE ADAM STOOD.

On the top of Mount Samanala, or Adam's Peak, in the Island of Ceylon, stands a rock which is the great Mecca of Buddhist pilgrims. For centuries they have been journeying up the mountain, which is the highest on the island, to pay their devotions to the isolated rock. According to the true believers, after Adam's fall he was taken to the top of this mountain by an angel. From its summit the first man was shown all the ills that humanity is heir to. Proof of his presence there is shown in a footprint upon the solid rock. This impression is five and a half feet long by two and a half wide and shows six perfect toes. It is also claimed that the chain bridge across the canyon near the sacred footprint was put there by Alexander the Great.

A BIG FISH TRAP.

A North Sea codfisher carries a set of lines 7,200 fathoms in length, and leaving the amazing number of 4,688 hooks, every one of which must be baited.

WHERE THE QUAKES COME FROM.

The greatest depth at which earthquakes are known to originate is about 30 miles. It has also been calculated that a heat sufficient to melt granite might occur at about the same depth.

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