

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 has voted \$200 to the India famine fund.

Hamilton has given work to 400 of the 700 unemployed.

The new directory gives Hamilton a population of 50,000.

Peterson, Tait & Co. have purchased the Beaver Line of steamships.

The bronzes for the Macdonald statue have arrived at Kingston.

The entire force of workmen at the Springhill mines, N.S., is out on strike.

Mr. McEachran reports that hog cholera in Essex is thoroughly stamped out.

The Dominion Type Foundry Company of Montreal has gone into liquidation.

The Hamilton Cattle Company has secured incorporation, with a capital of \$24,000.

Mrs. Western, of Hamilton, has invented and patented a bicycle tire that will not slip.

The Ottawa Board of Trade is discussing a resolution in favor of an alien labor law.

The Winnipeg Public School Board has asked the Council for 123,256 for the current year.

Rev. Dr. O'Meara has been appointed Dean of Rupert's Land, succeeding the Bishop of Qu'Appelle.

Brantford's fire loss last year was only \$1,528.50. In the last six years the losses were only \$20,351.

A Montreal despatch says that the Quebec Provincial elections will be held on the 29th of next month.

The national India famine fund now amounts to \$40,000, and a draft for 100,000 rupees has been forwarded to India.

Barrington & Sons, trunk and bellows manufacturers, of Montreal, have assigned. The liabilities are about \$75,000.

An epidemic of gripe is being experienced in Ottawa. Sir James Grant says he never knew the disease to be so prevalent.

An increase of \$10,000 in the Hamilton Board of Education estimates will be required this year, mostly for teachers' salaries.

Hon. Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, who was injured in the railway accident near Doncaster, N.B., two weeks ago, is at Halifax.

Rev. Ira Smith, of London, called the attention of his congregation to their duty as citizens to clean the slush off their sidewalks.

Governor Murray of Newfoundland, who it was reported was about to visit Ottawa on annexation business, has gone to England.

The amount of cash contributed in Toronto to the Indian Famine fund from various sources has passed the twelve thousand dollar mark.

Rene Dabin and Fred Corier, two Frenchmen, who had a piggy two miles from Port Arthur, Ont., were burned to death on Wednesday night.

The C.P.R. has declared dividends of 2 per cent on the preference stock and 1 per cent on the common stock for the half year ending December 31st.

News of a discovery of an enormous rich deposit of copper and gold on both sides of the Canadian boundary line has been reported at Spokane.

Charcoal, the Indian condemned to be hanged for the murder of Sergeant Wilde, it is reported at Winnipeg, may not live till the date of his execution.

The Hamilton Board of Education has a deficit of \$20,000, with a prospect of \$10,000 or \$15,000 more when the Collegiate Institute building is completed.

The governors of the Hamilton General Hospital propose to build a new residence for the nurses and use the present nurses' apartments for patients.

It is intimated that the Dominion Government intends to abolish the office of Deputy Commissioner of Patents, made vacant by the recent death of Mr. Richard Pope.

It is calculated that it will cost about three hundred thousand dollars to repair the damage done to the western wing of the Parliament buildings in Ottawa by the recent fire.

Of the fifteen Maxim guns in the possession of the Dominion Militia Department, some six or seven will be kept on hand for emergencies, and the others will be handed over to the city battalions.

The various Dominion Government departments have been asked to push forward the preparation of the estimates, so that the Government can submit the estimates early, and ask supplies while the tariff is being prepared.

Dr. Selwyn states that he was misrepresented at the meeting of the mining engineers in Montreal. He is a believer in the gold fields of British Columbia, and called attention to their good prospects in 1885.

Secretary Charles Drinkwater of the C. P. R. was attacked by four footpads at Montreal on Tuesday night on his way home. He fought the men as long as he could, but they got away with his gold watch and chain. Mr. Drinkwater received some injuries in the encounter.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Mansion House fund for the sufferers in India will likely reach the \$5,000,000 mark.

One horse and 450 sheep from the wrecked steamer Anglomani have been safely landed.

Prof. Crookes, the eminent English scientist, boldly announces his belief in telepathic phenomena.

The half-yearly statement of the Grand Trunk Railway, issued in London, shows a surplus of \$39,000.

The steamer Anglomani, reported at London to be ashore on Skerries Island, will probably be a total loss.

Mr. Thomas Sexton, anti-Parnellite, who resigned his seat in the House of

Commons last year, refuses to re-enter Parliament.

The death is announced of Mr. Frank May, who for twenty years previous to November, 1893, was chief cashier of the Bank of England.

Through the collapse of a viaduct on a railroad at Cornwall on Tuesday 12 men fell a distance of one hundred and fifty feet, and were killed.

Lieut-Governor Kirkpatrick, while not yet able to leave the hospital in London, where an operation was recently performed on him, is progressing favorably.

London at present is being flooded with such vast hordes of undesirable Germans, Poles, and Italians, that England may be forced to pass an Exclusion Act.

Returns issued by the British Board of Trade for January show an increase in imports of \$7,500,000, and a decrease in exports of \$6,900,000, as compared with January 1896.

In the British House of Commons on Wednesday Mr. Samuel Smith's motion for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England was rejected by a vote of 204 to 86.

John Chandler, of London, England, who confessed having forged bills of exchange on Messrs. S. F. McKinnon and Company of Toronto, was on Tuesday sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

Mr. Balfour stated on Thursday that the Government intended to make a public holiday for the occasion of the Queen's diamond jubilee, but it was not proposed to make the day a permanent holiday.

Mr. Curzon stated in the British Commons that the reported massacres at Crete were unfounded. There had been some small disturbances. A report from Crete says 200 buildings were burned, and 5,000 Christian refugees from the city have been taken on board the British and Greek warships in the harbor.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. Richard Croker is the probable Tammany candidate for Mayor of New York.

The Ohio river at Cincinnati is fast verging on the danger line, which is 45 feet.

William Waldorf Astor owns 4,000 houses in New York city, and has an income of more than \$6,000,000 a year.

It is stated that after the inauguration of President McKinley, Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland will start on a tour around the world.

Warren W. Linney, after reading Hamlet's soliloquy, thrust a dagger through his heart in his mother's home in Chicago, on Wednesday.

Capt. McGiffin, who commanded the Chinese warship Chen Yuen in the battle of the Yalu River, committed suicide at New York, on Thursday.

Two armed robbers in Chicago on Tuesday night held up and robbed Antoine Boenert in his steamship ticket office in La Salle street. They got \$2,000.

A mail clerk on a Santa Fe train near Los Angeles, Cal., on Tuesday shot one burglar and wounded another. They had attempted to "hold up" the train.

The cattle dealers of Buffalo and vicinity are jubilant over the abrogation of the quarantine of Canadian cattle, and large importations are being made.

The Michigan lumbermen are opposed to the proposed two dollars duty on the white pine, as in the event of its imposition they fear Canadian retaliation.

Albert Hess of Ipswich, Mass., disappeared suddenly with \$7,000 of other people's money. He sent his wife word to return to her parents in Toronto.

Armand Castlemary, an actor, fell dead at the close of the final scene of the opera "Martha" at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, on Wednesday night.

Mrs. G. W. Baldwin, nee the Hon. Lady Carey, granddaughter of the late Duke of Brunswick, has filed suit for divorce at Houston, Texas. Her husband is a wealthy citizen of Houston.

Business during the week has been a little more favorable; prices are more steady and there is a better demand for labor; in the Eastern and Middle States particularly works are reported to be opening up. A demand for pig iron at Pittsburgh is also noted. Hemlock and leather are more active, with an advance in values. While a lower range of prices is reported for a few articles, the general return quotes figures as being mostly firm, and in many lines as higher and advancing.

GENERAL.

The death of Sir John Bates, Thurston, Governor of the Fiji Islands, is announced at the age of 61.

It is reported that there is a revived feeling in Hawaii in favour of annexation to the United States.

It is said that Dr. Nansen, the Norwegian explorer, is much annoyed when he sees himself referred to as a Swede.

Two men were killed and nineteen seriously wounded in a strikers' riot at Gallio Ferraris, member of the Italian Senate and a well-known electrician is dead at Rome.

A British troopship has been despatched from Malta with a fortnight's food for twelve hundred Cretan refugees.

Wm. Donna, the American artist, it is reported in Paris, will be promoted to be an officer of the Legion of Honour.

An extensive forgery of Bank of England twenty-pound notes is taking place on the Continent of Europe. The imitation is excellent.

It is officially stated that 2,750,000 persons are now employed on famine relief work in the different districts of India where famine prevails.

The distress in the Jubulpoor district of India is appalling. About 120,000 are now receiving Government aid, and by the month of May the number will be doubled.

Archduke Otto of Austria, nephew of Emperor Francis Joseph, and heir presumptive to the throne of Austria, is at present visiting Emperor William in Berlin.

The building of the trans-Siberian railway will give the convicts of Siberia such facilities of escaping that they will likely be transferred to the Island of Saghalien.

The German Government has ordered the prosecution of several university

professors who recently signed a declaration in favor of the striking dock labourers of Hamburg.

It is now stated that the recent disturbances in Crete were stirred up by Greek agitators, that the Christians were the aggressors, and that war between Turkey and Greece is very probable.

The despatch of the torpedo flotilla from Greece, under command of Prince George, has caused the greatest enthusiasm among the populace, and a feeling of grave alarm among the European powers.

Prince Bismarck, when asked to give an academic opinion on arbitration treaties said that he did not believe that in questions of vital importance nations would stake their existence on the decision of an arbitration court, which had no means of enforcing its judgment.

LIFE OF A LONDON SWELL.

His Newspapers Are Scented For Him, and His Laundry is Done in the South of France.

In the matter of how the young swells of London live, I have been told some things, have read others, and have seen a little myself from the outside, of course, writes a correspondent.

Recalling the general impression received from these various sources, it seemed to me that here was a chance for the publication of a little handbook, under such a title as "How to Spend Money," or "The Science of Extravagant Living," or "The Art of Being Rich." I knew a London boy once—three years out of Oxford—who caused his morning papers to be scented with the perfume of iris. It is hard to believe this, perhaps, but it is literally true nevertheless. He went even further than this, did my Oxford lad. Other than I was talking with him one morning about this very subject of the daily press, and he said, pressing an electric button with his foot:

"I'll show you now how to read the papers."

His valet brought the papers, scented with iris, as I said, but ironed stiff and crinkly. The advertisements

HAD BEEN CUT OUT.

And the sporting articles marked in blue pencil. We started off with this as a beginning, and he told me how he lived. Says he:

"In the matter of tobacco, now, I prefer the cigarette to anything else. I get mine from Constantinople twice a week, and, by the way, my cigarettes are sent to me with Haschis—very difficult to obtain, believe me—medical order absolutely necessary, and all that. There are very few dealers, however, who can be trusted to mix it with the tobacco so as to produce the maximum enjoyment with the minimum of harm. Here," he continued, "is my bedroom."

We went in. "Bed," he remarked, ironically, snatching his finger to point toward the huge piece of furniture; "nothing extraordinary, only the sheets, pillow cases and night gown are silk—silk's a bit heavy, too," he observed, running his finger over it. "Change 'em every night and have then sent to France, South of France, to be laundered, quite the thing with us chaps now—a-days to send linen and things to France. Let's go see my blooming tailor."

We rode to his blooming tailor's in his blooming brougham, and

HE CALLED MY ATTENTION

En route to the devices and appliances of the affair. Pneumatic tires, electric lamps—on the inside, mark you—electric foot warmers, a row of a dozen ivory knobs, like the stops on the console of an organ, by which he communicated with the coachman, a small dressing case, cigar box, card case, mirror, flask, and the like.

As we alighted at the tailor's—I suppose it was in Bo d street somewhere—he said:

"We," that is his class, you understand, "visit our tailor's daily—great institution the London tailor. See now," he piloted me about the great institution, "separate departments for the trousers, waistcoat and coat. Coat-man never makes trousers, waistcoat-man never dreams of making coat, and see here, model of my figure, life size, so as I can judge effect myself."

Coming from the tailor's we went to lunch at his dining club, which he and his "set" maintain. For the pair of us—and we had nothing lavish, either—the check was four pounds, \$20. He told me the butter, even the cooking butter, came from Paris, and that the asparagus, we were in October, was the same description and had been procured by the same methods as that eaten by the Czar during his Paris visit in October last.

THE DIVER'S HEAVY DRESS.

The dress of a fully equipped diver weighs 169-1-2 pounds and costs about \$500. It is made up among other things of 8-1-2 pounds of thick underclothing. The dress itself weighs 14 pounds, and the heavily weighted boots weigh 32 pounds. The breast and back pieces weigh 80 pounds, and the helmet 35 pounds. The greatest depth at which a diver can ordinarily work is 150 feet, though there are rare instances of work being done at a depth of 210 feet, where the pressure sustained is 88-1-2 pounds to the square inch. It is not generally known that the present system of diving was first suggested by the action of the elephant, which swims beneath the surface, breathing meanwhile through its trunk, which it holds above the water.

NOT LONG IN SUSPENSE.

The boy who was toiling up the long and devious hill turned hurriedly when near the top to make way for a fat and frantic wheelman who had lost control of his machine.

Say, bub, yelled the bicyclist, how far is it to the bottom of this hill?

I don't know exactly what the distance is, the boy called out after him, but you'll be there in about four seconds, and there's a crick at the bottom of it.

STRANGE VISION.

How It Saved a Woman in India From a Cobra's Bite.

An English woman of assured social position in every way was recently paying a visit to some friends in Hartford, Conn. Some months previously she had been in India from which far-off country she brought with her a most remarkable story—so remarkable, indeed, that only the personal reputation of the narrator and the one other person concerned entitle it to consideration. The occurrence took place in the house of the narrator's sister at Meerat, Northwestern India. Two sisters are connected with families of undoubted repute, both in India and England. The narrator's sister was seated at a table reading one evening when, happening to lift her eyes from her book, she was astonished to see seated in a chair before her, and between herself and the door to the bathroom, a man, a stranger to her, who calmly regarded her. It was too great a surprise for her to speak and demand who was thus intruding unbidden upon her privacy, and what was wanted. She remained for a moment in silent astonishment. Then it gradually dawned upon her that the figure was not that of a person of

REAL FLESH AND BLOOD.

but a visitor from the unseen world of life. She remembered having once, as a child, seen a similar figure, under circumstances which seemed to preclude the idea that it was any person still in the body, and in later years, in revolving those circumstances, she had remembered how the apparition had after a little while faded away into invisibility.

Concluding that this visitor also was not a person of flesh and blood, she sat silently gazing at the silent object, while the intruder, whoever or whatever he was, sat also in silence, steadily regarding her. Just how long this state of things lasted the lady did not accurately know, but it was probably not very long, when the mysterious stranger began to vanish into a thinner and thinner personal presence, until in a moment or two he had vanished quite away.

She had been vaguely conscious that in a minute or so after she had first seen the strange visitor her two pet dogs had begun to bark furiously in another room. It had been her invariable custom to take a bath at this time in the evening, after which she liberated the dogs. As the animals on this ated the dogs. As the animals on this evening were making such a tremendous noise on the floor—the snake whose cobra on the door—she opened the door and unwonted ado she opened the door of the adjoining room to see what was exciting them. They at once darted to the door of the bathroom. This their mistress opened in time to see a huge hole in the floor—the snake whose bite is certain death. The reptile raised its head angrily, but apparently became afraid of the dogs and wriggled through a hole in the floor and escaped. But for the appearance of the supernatural visitor she would undoubtedly have gone directly to her bath from the reading table and would with equal certainty have been bitten by the snake.

SUSPICIOUS SECRETIVENESS.

The Young Wife—I am afraid George was intoxicated last night.

The Sympathizing Friend—He didn't go to bed with his shoes on, did he?

No; but he took them off and tucked them under his pillow.

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