

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 Wilfrid 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 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 of £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 Pointe-à-la-Paix 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. Loberge, 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 vague 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 Nanawau, 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.

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 Hadford 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 degenerate 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 Amelie Rives, the authoress, is hopelessly insane in the Blooming-Princess Asylum, a mental hospital in Philadelphia.

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.

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 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 surrendered their rifles and 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 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 of the American people placed the best attempt at Canadian conquest altogether without the bounds of possibility.

SALUTATION TO THE MAID.

In no country so much as in France where the Salic law excluded women from the throne, have women powerfully affected the nation's destiny. Often their influence has been evil—the foolish, selfish or partisan interference of royal princesses great ladies or court favorites. But there is one historic heroine whose career was noble enough to counterbalance them all—Jeane whose fame grows with the years instead of lessening.

No research, no investigation, not the most skeptical sifting and examination of facts leaves her other than one of the most wonderful, of historic personages, the half-saintly, yet wholly human peasant girl, passing in a few brief years from the distaff to the sword, from peasant comrades to the friendship of princes and the command of armies, from quiet dreaming in country byways and before the altar of a little church to the death of a martyr in a Rouen market-place.

Interest in her story has been curiously revived of late by literature and fiction bearing directly upon it. A recent article in the Atlantic Monthly, Domremy, the birthplace of Jeanne d'Arc, which she loved that it was by her request exempted from taxation—one of the few requests she ever made for personal favors—and the exemption taxes its patroness and saint. While Mrs. Catherwood was staying there, she witnessed a picturesque and significant sight, which she says, "was worth going to France for, although Jeanne's townspeople have so often beheld it that they regard it with little attention."

The jungle of bridges, clatter of hoofs and rolling of heavy wheels brought us to the windows in time to see a regiment of French troops forming on their way to Neufchateau. The gun-carriages waited between horse and horse, the men mounted on horseback at the word from the officer, wheeled into line, facing the church and out went every right hand with its weapon. They little it entered into the mind of the dazed years after her death the troops of France would do her honor!

"As soon as the act of homage was completed, the men broke ranks and took turns in dismounting and entering the church. All day, indeed, while this military body trailed through Domremy, soldiers might be seen hurrying in and out. Not one seemed capable of passing the shrine of Jeanne d'Arc without pausing there to bend his knees."

THE SUN NEVER SETS ON IT.

It is possible to go round the world and touch British territory all the way. Take this route for instance: From England to Halifax, N.S.; across Canada to Vancouver, across the Pacific to Hong Kong, thence to Singapore, Penang, Mauritius, Cape Town, St. Helena, and England, or from Penang to Ceylon, Bombay, Aden, Perim, Malta, Gibraltar and back to England.

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EVEN IF YOUR MEMORY IS DEFECTIVE YOU SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT DOAN'S PILLS CURE ALL KIDNEY TROUBLES, AND EVERY DOSE HELPS THE CURE.

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