

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.

People in Winnipeg are enjoying sleigh rides.

John Gaynor was sandbagged at Carberry and robbed of \$590.

Montreal is compelling users of steam boilers to provide smoke-consuming apparatus.

Charles Pedler, an eighteen-year-old Hamilton youth, hanged himself on account of a dispute with his father.

There are several cases of diphtheria among the pupils of the Hess Street School, Hamilton.

The Canadian General Electric Co. are building a new power and pump house at Peterborough.

An important discovery of fire clay has been made in Nipissing on the farm of Mr. Thomas Whittaker of London.

The Bank of Montreal's statement for the half year ending October 31 shows that business has greatly improved.

The C. P. R. is seeking from the Quebec City Council a refund of taxes amounting to \$50,000 paid within the past 12 years.

A young man named Norman Mitchell shot himself dead with a rifle at Montreal on account of disappointment in a love affair.

Roland Gideon Israel Barnett was sentenced at Montreal to three years in the penitentiary for stealing a note for \$750.

A C. P. R. box car arrived at Hamilton from Toronto with a lot of blood-stained clothing in it, and the police are investigating the mystery.

It is reported that Hon. C. H. Mackintosh's resignation as Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories will take effect on the 1st of January.

There is a possibility of the Montreal rolling mills moving to some Eastern Ontario town before long. Trenton is making a big bid for the works.

The Department of Inland Revenue is considering the advisability of allowing the use, under certain restrictions, of spring scales or balances.

According to the transfer books of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, stock to the value of three hundred thousand dollars is held in Toronto.

James Huton, who killed his son, Toronto, with a pair of shears on Hal-lowe'en, and who was convicted of manslaughter, was on Tuesday sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

The bridge over the Ottawa river from Nepean Point to Hull, to which the Dominion Government promised one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, is to be commenced forthwith.

Owing to the renewed outbreak of smallpox in Montreal, Dr. Laberge, the Health Officer is determined to put in force the law ordering the compulsory vaccination of children.

Mr. J. L. Lark, Dominion commercial agent in Australia, complains that his efforts to promote trade between the two countries are frequently rendered nugatory by the dilatoriness of Canadian firms.

Ex-Mayor Stewart of Ottawa, who left Liverpool on Saturday for New York, announces that his business in connection with the completion of the Ottawa and Georgian Bay canal has been finished successfully.

It is stated that an excursion of four hundred families will leave Hull and Ottawa in the spring to colonize lands which the Quebec Government is opening up for settlement in the Gatineau district.

The Department of Railways and Canals has taken over the contract on the Soulanges canal held by Mr. Archie Stewart, of Ottawa, and the work is being carried on under the control of the Government.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Dean Hole attributes the election of a Tammany Mayor in New York to the irreligion of the city, resulting from instruction in godless schools.

Thirty British army officers started last week from Liverpool for Lagos on the west coast of Africa, and thirty more are expected to leave this week.

Mr. W. S. Fielding, who is at present in London, is impressed with the importance of the British demand for an effective insolvency law in Canada.

Mr. Gladstone has in contemplation a work embracing the lives of most of the modern divines, but his physical health is rapidly breaking up. He has been ordered to the Riviera for the winter.

Dr. Darby, secretary of the Arbitration Alliance, has presented to Lord Salisbury a memorial with more than sixty thousand signatures in favour of an Anglo-American arbitration treaty.

An interesting experiment is being tried in a Dublin hospital upon a discharged soldier, whose eyelids have been destroyed by ophthalmia. The doctors have grafted in their places the eyelids of a newly killed pig.

UNITED STATES.

The Dana estate which is valued at a million dollars, is left almost in its entirety to Mrs. Dana.

A combine of companies engaged in manufacturing insulated wires and cables for electric purposes, is mooted.

An opinion handed down to the United States Court of Appeals holds that the boycott is not a legal weapon.

A Washington despatch says the ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty by the United States Senate is assured.

A bill is to be introduced in the Legislature in Maine, to punish sportsmen who accidentally shoot and wound or kill men in the woods.

John A. Willard a banker of Mau-

kato, Minn., has assigned with liabilities, at nearly \$1,000,000 and assets, chiefly real estate, worth \$2,000,000.

Denver, Col., has passed an ordinance fixing a license fee of one thousand dollars for all dealers in cigarettes. The ordinance will be immediately contested.

The Canadian Society of New York has appointed a committee for the purpose of raising a relief fund for the victims of the recent fire in Windsor, N. S.

The announcement that Chinamen will be placed in the mines of the Northern Illinois coal fields has caused an immense amount of excitement among the white miners.

It is reported at Warren Ohio, that a fortune has been left in Scotland to the family of which Mrs. McKinley, mother of President McKinley, is a member.

The United States Government has decided to send the revenue cutter Bear to the relief of the American whaling fleet said to be destitute and ice-bound in Behring Sea.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers has purchased the Meadow Lawn farm in Illinois for \$17,450, on which a home for dependent engineers, their widows and orphans will be built.

The theory that the railway bed at Garrison, the scene of the fatal wreck on the New York Central railway, was destroyed by dynamite has been abandoned, and it is now believed that the disaster was due to a washout.

Miss Frances E. Willard, president of the W.C.T.U., announces that she will contribute three thousand dollars of her own money to start the fund of three hundred thousand dollars which the temperance people need to hold control of the Temple property in Chicago.

At the meeting of the Knights of Labour, held in Louisville, Ky., Mr. James R. Sovereign, who has been General Master Workman for the past four years, was somewhat summarily dismissed, and Mr. Henry A. Hicks, of New York, elected in his stead.

Durrant, of San Francisco, the murderer of Blanche Lamont, who was convicted of the crime two years ago and sentenced to death, has obtained a new lease of life, as under his recent appeal he cannot be executed before the second Monday in January.

According to reports from New York changed climatic conditions during the past few days have helped materially to improve the general trade conditions. There has been a marked increase in the demand for winter goods of all descriptions, and rapid orders for immediate delivery have created a rush in many of the wholesale branches of trade, and a corresponding added demand for labor.

On the other hand there is in many quarters a considerable shrinkage reported as caused by fever and quarantine. There has been a comparatively large consumption of iron during the past month, and boot and shoe making has surpassed all records.

GENERAL.

The financial crisis in Venezuela is so acute that trade has practically ceased.

Official returns show that French imports and exports for the past ten months have increased.

Irrigation by artesian wells in the Bourke district of New South Wales is proving a great success.

Mount Vesuvius is in great activity, and two wide streams of lava, are flowing in the direction of Vitrova.

It is understood that the Reichstag will be asked for a vote of three million marks for naval improvement.

With the exception of suffering from slight facial neuralgia, Prince Bismarck is enjoying good health.

Large bands of well-armed disciplined rebels are scouring Madagascar, and cutting off isolated French detachments.

As a result of General Weyler's policy of driving women and children of the insurgents into the cities of Cuba, thousands are dying of starvation.

The French Minister of War has declined to re-open the case of Captain Dreyfus, serving a life sentence for treason. He claims to be innocent.

It has been decided to appeal to Europe and America to raise the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, with which to relieve the terrible distress existing in Greece.

A man named Dreyfus, living in Paris, who recently suffered losses on the Bourse, his wife and three young daughters, all committed suicide on Monday morning.

The condition of the members of the Turkish Embassy in Berlin is deplorable. They have not received any salary for more than a year, and they are being harassed by their creditors.

The authorities at Rio Janeiro are convinced that the attack on President Morales and the killing of Gen. Bittencourt, late Minister of War, were the results of a widespread conspiracy.

The Russian Embassy at Constantinople has notified the Porte that the Greek war indemnity must be applied to the liquidation of the Russian war indemnity, and not spent on naval armament.

The Pope has despatched two special agents to convey instructions to the French electors, enjoining them to frankly accept the republic and to oppose monarchical aspirations in the approaching elections.

Owing to sudden frosts the ports in the Sea of Azof are freezing, and consequently a considerable quantity of grain which was prepared for export cannot be shipped.

The Viceroy of India has ordered a Court of Enquiry to investigate the disastrous reconnaissance of Gen. Westmacott to the summit of Saran-Sar mountain last Wednesday.

IN A PROSCENIUM BOX.
Mrs. De Rich, listening to new prima donna at the opera—Isn't she splendid?

Mr. De Rich, wealthy manufacturer, enthusiastically—Just grand! She's worthy of a place alongside of Pat's in my soap advertisements.

THE HOME.

SALT IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

Besides being a necessary ingredient in most kinds of cookery, an appetizing addition to many articles of raw food, and the prime necessity in catching a bird, the laundress puts a trifle of salt in her starch, adds it in larger quantity to the water, in which she washes gingham and other colored fabrics, rubs it well into the spots where oxalic acid has been applied to remove iron stain to neutralize the acid; or smooths the flat iron by rubbing it upon salt sprinkled on a bit of paper.

The housewife adds a pinch to the water in her bouquet-holder that the flowers may retain their freshness; scours the tea or coffee stains from the cups with it; has a portion put in whitewash to make it adhere more closely to the surface where applied; obtains a good result by throwing a handful into the dull coal fire with no explosive results; or if the wood fire get beyond her control and the chimney catch fire a quantity thrown into the stove serves as a damper in the flames; if the brick gives way in her cooking range, a paste of equal parts of salt and wood ashes mixed with cold water and given a little time to harden well supplies the loss; for cleaning any article of brass or copper, salt with vinegar or a slice of lemon is called into use, and followed by brisk polishing, with a soft, dry towel.

In the nurse's department the "home doctor" applies the strong solution of salt and vinegar to the sprain; the heated saltbags, or salt mingled with hops, for the relief of severe pain; for a strong poultice beats together salt and the yolk of an egg; for inflamed eyelids or slight spots of skin poisoning uses the weak solution of salt and water; applies dry salt as a dentifrice, cleansing the teeth and having a most salutary effect on the gums; as a dry shampoo, rubbing salt into the hair at night to be combed out in the morning, leaving a clean scalp; administers salt straight for hemorrhage of the lungs or stomach; or a spoonful in a glass of cold water for nausea; for slight burns and fresh cuts, binds on the affected parts moistened salt; for neuralgia of feet or limbs, bathes those parts with the strong solution of salt in water as hot as is bearable.

The testimony of the "good book" is that "salt is good," and she who holds the threefold position of housewife, nurse and laundress, as do many wives, must surely have often proven this true, and realized the terseness and strength of the utterance.

MOTHER'S BAG.

"Mother, where can I find some brown paper?"

"Mother, I want a piece of string."

"Mother, dear, I want an old handkerchief to tie up this cut finger."

Where is "mother" to find the supplies for these varied needs? A few steps will take her to a general and most convenient receptacle, which can be easily made by carrying out the following directions:

Cut off one and one half yards of blue denim, which comes twenty-seven inches wide. This will form the background of the flat bag which is to be suspended by gilt rings on the inside of a cupboard door in the mother's room.

Blue denim is prettier made up with the light side out, and no trimming is so effective on it as soft white cotton skirt-braid, five pieces of which will trim the whole bag, and it can be purchased for twenty-five cents a half-dozen pieces. The shoe-bag at the bottom is ten inches deep, and divided into three compartments. Forty inches will allow the proper amount of fullness for all, and the three divisions may be made by strips of the white skirt-braid. Set a double umbrella-case in the centre of the bag. This should be cut twenty-seven inches long by fourteen wide, and set into a space on the background eleven inches at top and five inches at bottom. A little sloping toward the bottom prevents too much fullness. Run a strip of the white braid down the middle of the case to divide it, and set also a white strip around. Set three pockets on each side of the umbrella case, one above the other. The foundation is now covered excepting at the top. On this set a pocket, cut forty inches long to give fullness, sewing two loops of braid at the top of the pocket and two on the foundation so that they can be tied together to prevent the fullness hanging over. The diagram explains itself, and any ingenious needle-woman can shape different proportions to suit different doors. However the size and shapes differ, an abiding comfort is derived from the use of the bag, and it will probably supply as many needs as did that celebrated "mother's bag" dwelt upon in The Swiss Family Robinson.

THE COUCH CHEST.

A most convenient piece of furniture has been placed on the market recently. It is a long, low box, fitted with a spring and a mattress. The box rolls on casters and can be used as a trunk, holding a great amount of clothing. At night it may be converted into a bed without disturbing the clothing it contains, and during the day it makes a handsome and comfortable couch, when covered with an Indian blanket or other heavy drapery of wool or silk. Where the housewife is short of closet or other store room, such a piece of furniture is most convenient, and if it is handsomely covered looks just as well in parlor, sitting-room or bedroom.

A handsome couch seen in a small home was made by the man of the house. The house was so tiny that there was not ample closet room, and as trunks took up too much space this idea was a happy one. The couch was made from a box five feet long, two feet high, and about three feet across. The boxes in the couches one buys are larger, as they are generally used

for beds, but this one does not serve that purpose. A good, stout cover was put on with hinges at the back. A thick, soft mattress was made by the little housekeeper, which just fitted this cover, and it was held in place by a few tacks. The entire box was then covered with plain olive green cambric, tacked on with brass-headed nails. The box rolled on casters, fastened at each corner. A large blanket drapery in imitation tapestry was thrown over the whole and was caught up at one end in a graceful fashion with a heavy cord and tassels. Four great, soft pillows, all covered differently—the handiwork of the mistress of this little home, made the couch a most comfortable place to rest.

DECAYED VEGETABLES.

Frequent examination of vegetables kept in the cellar is of the most importance during this month of typhoid fever and bowel troubles.

All vegetables and fruit should be looked after daily, and if there is a suspicion of decay, should be removed at once. Shelves should be wiped off, and every box or receptacle for vegetables should be kept scrupulously clean.

Tomatoes soften quickly, and if one has a quantity of them on hand, will require much care to keep them from spoiling. Baskets of peaches should be picked over each day and decayed ones removed.

This vigilance is particularly important in country districts, and farm-houses, where the vegetables, in large quantities are stored in the cellar under the living rooms. In cities and larger towns, where the markets are close at hand, they are purchased usually in small quantities, sufficient only for a few days' supply.

PIES.

Pumpkin—Peel, core and slice fine, good mellow pumpkins, and cover with alum water—1 teaspoonful pulverized alum to 2 qts water. In three hours change alum water for salt water, which in three more hours is to be changed for fresh. Change the pure water several times during the next three hours, then drain and cover with vinegar. In the morning rinse in several clear waters, leaving them 15 minutes in every change. The alum is intended to draw out the pumpkin taste; the salt to purify it of alum. Prepare for pie-filling, as if it were apple, adding a teaspoon of molasses to the sugar, also the pulp and grated rind of one lemon to every three pies.

Mock Mince.—Three crackers, soaked in equal parts molasses and vinegar sufficient to moisten and soften them. Half the juice of 1 lemon, 1-4 its rind, cut fine and stewed in sugar and water, 1 cup each of currants and chopped raisins, pinch salt, spice to taste, citron, half size of an egg, sliced.

Raisin.—Cover pie plate with rich crust, turning up edge as if for custard. Set in oven while cooking filling. Filling: Three cups of milk, white of 1 egg beaten, spice, the desired flavoring, salt, 3 cups raisins, the mixture thickened with corn starch. Remove crust from oven, fill, replace and when filling is firm, cool, and frost.

FLOWER ICES.

Orange-Flower Ice.—Make an infusion of four ounces of orange blossoms in two quarts of boiling water; cover and allow to stand for eight hours; strain, and add half a pint of orange-water and a syrup made from half a pound of sugar and a quart of water. Mix thoroughly and freeze.

Jasmine Ice.—Dissolve twelve ounces of sugar in four quarts of boiling water; add six ounces of jasmine petals. Allow to stand until cold; strain and freeze.

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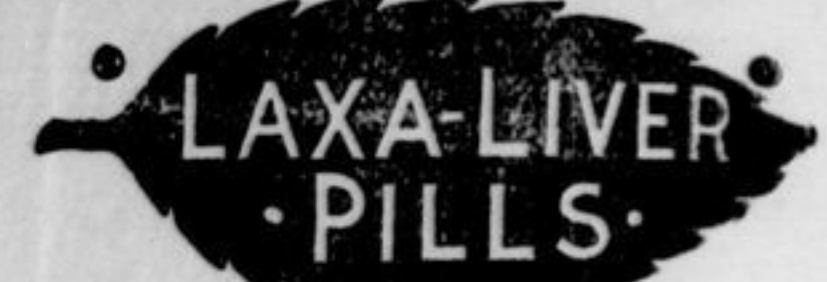
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