

# 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.

Ottawa had 1,128 deaths last year. A young son of Louis Smith, fisherman was scalded to death at Victoria. B. C.

The French theatre, a home for opera, will be built in Montreal next summer.

Shipments of Northwest wheat by Fort William aggregated 17,000,000 bushels in 1897.

There were 514 births, 337 deaths and 236 marriages in Hamilton during the last half year.

Secretary C. R. Smith, of the Board of Trade is about to resign and remove to San Francisco.

According to reports from Victoria, B.C., there are eight British vessels in the harbor at Esquimalt.

Mr. Cochrane, partner in an eating-house, was stabbed to death at the Crow's Nest Pass.

There was no truth in the reported formation of a Canadian regiment for service in the East.

Mrs. Boomer was elected a High School Trustee at London by the Council, being the first lady who has ever served on the board.

Two Hamilton shoe dealers were fined \$1 each for keeping their stores open after 7 o'clock in Christmas week. Another case will be appealed.

There will be 75,000 names in the directory of Toronto for 1898, and the publishers claim that this entitles the city to a population of 225,000.

The Dominion Treasury Board has issued a circular warning civil servants against wire-pulling as a means of securing promotion or increase of emolument.

During a fire at Hamilton an excited Chinaman jumped from an upstairs window with a money box in his arms, alighting in the dark on Constable Ford's back.

At Brantford, William Steves, a lad of eighteen years, pleaded guilty to uttering one dollar notes raised to ten dollars and was sent to Kingston Penitentiary for three years.

Inspector Strickland, of the Northwest Mounted Police, who is at Victoria en route to Prince Albert says the police posts on the road to the Yukon are amply provisioned for five months.

The Governor-General has approved of the appointment of Hon. Francois Langelier as a Judge of the Superior Court for Montreal in place of Mr. Justice Jette, appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec.

Mayor R. Wilson Smith, has purchased a seat in the Montreal Stock Exchange, for \$5,500, and advance of two thousand dollars over the last sale. He proposes to go into the brokerage business.

Little Freddie Guerin, the nine-year-old son of Mr. Joseph Guerin, of Hamilton, was alone in the house when a lamp exploded. He threw it outside, and with the aid of a policeman extinguished the fire in the house.

The Government have been advised that the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company's steamer Danube has been seized at Skagway for an infraction of the coasting laws. Hon R. W. Scott is in communication with Washington over the matter.

Thursday night the three-year-old daughter of C. P. R. Section Foreman Taylor, at Upsala, east of Rat Portage was left alone in the house. Her clothes caught fire by some means from the stove, and she was burned to death.

Exports of poultry from Montreal the past season are the largest in the history of the trade. Exports of eggs in 1897 were one hundred and seventy-two thousand cases, compared with one hundred and forty-two thousand in 1896, and ninety-five thousand in 1895, largely to the United Kingdom.

The fire losses of Toronto for the year 1897 amounted to \$666,879, of which \$117,155 was on buildings and \$549,724 on stock. The insurance on these losses was \$2,250,000. The four chief fires were: the Electric Light Company's; Murray's; Eckhardt's and the Eaton's, which totalled \$47,000 of the amount.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

The collapse of the great English engineers' strike is rapidly approaching.

There were several days of thick, black fog in London during the past week.

Roses are blooming and hundreds of butterflies have been seen in London, England.

The mildness of the weather is increasing the spread of influenza in London, England.

The British imports from Canada for the past year showed an increase over the previous year of twenty-five per cent.

Prince, the murderer of William Terris, the actor, was found guilty, but the judge accepting the medical evidence, sent him to a lunatic asylum.

The investigation into the cause of the London, England, fire shows that the loss was \$3,050,000. The jury returned a verdict of arson.

The death is reported from London of Rev. C. H. Dodgson, whose nom de plume was Lewis Carroll, the author of "Alice in Wonderland."

Lord Charles Berkeford, Conservative, was elected in York by a majority of 11 over Mr. Christopher Furness, Liberal. The seat was formerly held by Sir Frank Lockwood, Liberal.

The London Morning Post says President McKinley is hopelessly drifting in trying to satisfy everybody, that the result will be chaos in the Republican camp, and the rapid growth of Bryanism. It further says that the Dingley tariff is a failure.

The Queen has approved the appointment of General Sir Arthur Powers Palmer, K.C.B., to succeed General Sir Wollock Hart, as commander of the Tirah Field Force on the north-west frontier of India.

The death of "Lewis Carroll," the Rev. C. H. Dodgson, author of "Alice in Wonderland," has caused the greatest regret in all parts of Great Britain. The paper are full of reminiscences of his many stories showing how intense was his love for children and how universal was his shyness and dignity to others.

### UNITED STATES.

Mrs. Ballington Booth is declared out of danger.

Mr. Mark Hanna has been elected Senator for Ohio.

Neither the crematories nor cemeteries of San Francisco will take the body of Durrant, the murderer.

President P. A. Largy, of the State Savings Bank, of Montana, was assassinated at Butte on Tuesday.

The dispute between the train despatchers and the Canadian Pacific railway has been amicably adjusted.

A shipment of 92 locomotives for Japan and Corea is being completed at the Brooks Works at Dunkirk, N.Y.

The New York theatrical profession is petitioning against the bill permitting theatre performances on Sunday.

President McKinley has sent a message to the United States Congress, recommending payment of the sealers' claims.

John J. Overton, said to be 100 years of age, was married to Mrs. Mary J. Henderson at Charleston, West Va., on Monday.

Robert Gudgeon, saloon keeper, was shot and killed at Chicago on Monday night by robbers, who escaped. He would not "hold up his hands."

Mr. John A. Gano, a well-known citizen of Cincinnati, formerly one of the proprietors of the Cincinnati Commercial, died on Saturday.

Mrs. James L. Flood, wife of the millionaire mine-owner, died on Saturday at San Francisco, as the result of an operation recently performed.

In the Guldensuppe case, Mrs. Nack on Monday pleaded guilty to manslaughter, and was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment.

Further time has been given by the U. S. House Committee on Commerce for the building of the proposed bridge over the St. Lawrence from St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

Instructions have been sent to collectors at American ports not to interfere with sealskin garments if shown to have been purchased before December 29 last.

A serious Indian uprising is reported in Oklahoma Territory, where the Seminoles have gone on the warpath to avenge the lynching of a couple of members of their tribe.

Gray Gables, the summer home of ex-President Cleveland, has been visited by burglars, who ransacked the house from attic to cellar, and made good their escape.

The Canadian steamer Danube, which was voluntarily placed into the custody of the United States authorities for violating the customs regulations of Alaska, has been released on the filing of a bond for \$36,000.

An unknown man threw himself, or accidentally fell, from a parapet on the Washington bridge into the Harlem river, New York, on Friday, a distance of 147 feet. He was fished out, but subsequently died.

The Washington correspondent of the Buffalo Evening News says that Boston men are shipping in from Canada free mineral water which under the Dingley bill should pay a duty of 24 cents per gallon. The water is freeze-dried first. There is no duty on ice.

Mrs. Lucille Lane, youngest daughter of ex-Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, shot herself in her apartments at the Wellington hotel, Washington on Saturday night, just as she was preparing for bed. The statement given out by the family is that the shooting was an accident. The wound is in the left breast and is probably fatal.

According to letters received in New York from Kingston, Jamaica, the latest victims of yellow fever in that city are Major Slater, of the Royal Engineers, and Captain E. R. White, of the harbour tug Atlas. Up to the time the letters left Kingston, January 7th, there had been about 100 cases of yellow fever, with nearly 50 deaths.

Two explosion's early Thursday in the tunnel for the flume near the upper smelting works in Anaconda mine, Butte, Montana, destroyed the timbering and entombed five workmen. The best miners and timbermen are now at work driving a three-foot drift near the side of the tunnel. When this can be completed it is hard to say. There are no hopes of the men being alive.

### GENERAL.

Dr. Jamieson intends becoming a candidate for the Cape Parliament.

An extremely rigorous press censorship has been put in force in Havana.

A German warship is reported disabled at the entrance to the Red Sea.

Martial law which was proclaimed in Prague on December 2nd, has been withdrawn.

The Japanese transport steamer Nara was wrecked on December 24th, and eighty lives were lost.

The capital of one of the Moluccas Islands has been visited by an earthquake and fifty lives were lost.

Great Britain has a pledge from King Manelek of Abyssinia that he will not

block the advance of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition.

There was a riotous demonstration in Havana on Thursday against the United States and there is talk of an armed intervention.

The health of ex-Empress Eugenie is disquieting. Her rheumatism grows worse, and she is unable to cross a room unassisted.

Advices received from Bermuda state that the marine cable between Bermuda and Jamaica is being laid by the British cable steamer Scotia.

The French Government has decided to prosecute M. Zola, the novelist, on account of his connection with the Esterhazy-Dreyfus scandal.

A music hall singer and several accomplices have been arrested at Budapest on the charge of blackmailing King Alexander of Serbia.

General Sir William Lockhart, the Commander of the British forces on the Indian frontier, has postponed his journey homeward in the expectation of a settlement with the Afridis.

The condition of the health of Empress Victoria of Germany excites comment. She will go in the spring to some Southern air cure. Her physicians still forbid her leaving her rooms.

Steamers which have just arrived at Sydney, N.S.W., report a tribal war at Tanna in the New Hebrides. There is said to have been considerable blood shed, and the natives were also causing the traders much trouble.

News of the renewed fighting in Uganda, has been received from Fort Lubwa, in the Usoga country. Lieut. Macdonald, brother of Major Macdonald, the commander of the British forces, and Mr. Pilkington, the missionary, have been killed.

The society of German sugar producers, at a special meeting in Berlin adopted resolutions declaring that the adoption of bounties would only be acceptable provided all countries abolished both direct and indirect bounties.

### WHEN MARRIAGE IS A FAILURE.

Marriage is a failure if neither husband nor wife has married for love, but merely for money, or any other mundane motive.

If the meals are ill-cooked and badly served.

If two young people rush into matrimony and take upon themselves all the burdens of married life, when too young to realize the awful responsibility of it.

If the income, though well managed and made the most of, cannot cover the expenditure. If the husband is a faddy, fidgety man, perpetually prying into household matters, and thinks he knows more about them than anybody else.

If both parties are absolutely resolved to see only the worst side of each other's characters.

If the husband tries to be mistress as well as master, or the wife master as well as mistress of the house.

If, when dark days come, husband and wife forget that they took each other for better for worse, for richer for poorer.

If the wife is a fine lady totally ignorant of even the rudiments of domestic economy, and thinks more of her dress than her husband's comfort.

### WEDDING PREPARATIONS.

This usually takes the form of getting together a large and fashionable trousseau, and in possibly taking a few lessons in cookery, on the part of the lady, but if her future husband happens to make any sort of personal preparations, he keeps the matter to himself generally. It is not de rigueur that he should do anything to qualify himself for the new condition of life which he is about to enter. It is possible that he might with advantage take a hint even from the savages of South Africa in the matter of the training of the masculine candidate for matrimonial felicity.

Before a man is permitted to enter the holy estate he has to show of what metal he is made, and whether he is possessed of sufficient patience to endure the fret and worry of married life. In order to decide the point, the would-be bridegroom's hands are tied up for a couple of hours in a bag containing five fire-ants.

If he should succeed in bearing unmoved the torture of their stings, he is considered fully qualified for matrimony, for surely a man of such exemplary patience and fortitude could not fail to make an admirable husband, even supposing his wife to be the most nagging of her sex.

### ART OF COMPLIMENTING.

Compliments are the poetical touches which redeem the monotony of prosaic existence. In the intercourse of sympathetic people they have a natural place, and it is as pleasant to recognize by word or look the charms of our friends as it is to profit by them. Profit we do, undoubtedly, as all that makes life fairer makes it better, and a wholesome discernment of good traits must add to our faith in human nature and its capabilities. Rigid moralists declare that compliments are so akin to flattery that it is wrong to use praise in any way. This is "most intolerable, and not to be endured," for all need both to give and receive encouragement in this practical and hurrying world. And, reprehensible as hard natures find it, there is a charm in opening our eyes to the attractions of others and a warm, healthy glow accompanies the utterance of words which admit our admiration.

### SHIPS TO GO SIXTY MILES AN HOUR.

Amazing Speed to be Obtained by Using Turbines.

Since the Turbinia's famous run on the Solent, during the great naval review of June last, when she attained the very remarkable speed of forty miles an hour, she has been lying up at the Heaton works, Newcastle-on-Tyne. In a few days the Turbinia will go out on another trial, the object of which will be to test the reversing engines, with which she is now being fitted. One of the great disadvantages of the old Turbinia was her inability to be put astern except at a very slow speed, three knots an hour, being the utmost she could reach. Now, however, she will be capable of steaming astern ten knots an hour, a special reversing turbine having been fitted into her since the naval review.

This extra turbine, it was explained, does not add much to the weight of the vessel, and the opinion was expressed that such extra turbine will have to be carried in all ships of the future that carry rotary instead of reciprocating engines.

In the engine room of the Turbinia there are three rotary turbines, through which the steam passes in turn and goes through a cycle of most complete expansion. The enormous rate at which the turbines revolve necessitates three propeller shafts, each fitted with three screws. These revolve at some 2,200 revolutions a minute, and it would seem that this rapidity makes the turbine specially applicable to ship propulsion though it has hitherto proved a disadvantage in the application of this new system to dynamo driving, traction, etc.

Mr. Parsons, builder of the Turbinia, stated that he did not intend to go in for ship-building. He will content himself with constructing the turbines. It was evident that we were on the brink of a new era in marine locomotion, for one heard on all sides of a state of uncertainty in shipping and marine circles, shipbuilders hesitating before commencing the construction of any more vessels of the old type till they saw whether the new type would really hold the field. Questioned as to the speed which it would be possible to attain in rotary engine ships, Mr. Parsons said it was merely a question of the size of the turbine. Speeds of forty, fifty, sixty and even more miles an hour, would, he considered, not be impossible.

### EFFECT OF ONE SPREE.

Lake Captain's Drunk Drains America's Richest Silver Mine and Depopulates a Town.

There is a novel illustration of the evils of drinking that far surpasses anything that has ever been told on the temperance lecture platform. It is the story of the abandonment of the famous Silver Islet mine, off Thunder Cape, on the north shore of Lake Superior. In fourteen years this mine produced 3,000,000 ounces of silver, valued at \$3,500,000 and the islet, only 70 by 80 feet, was called the richest spot on earth. During the operation of the mine the works were destroyed a half dozen times by the billows and ice of Lake Superior and engines worked continuously pumping water out of it.

A coal boat captain had contracted to furnish the fuel for the company's engines. He was a sturdy seaman, but he would drink liquor, and thereby hangs the tale of the ruin of Silver Islet. It was on one of his trips in 1883 that he took several drinks too many, tied up his boat, while he was enjoying the sensation and when he was recovering from it his boat was frozen in the ice.

The managers of the mine waited patiently for the captain, to come with the 1,000 tons of coal, which his boat had on board to feed its engines. The water crept higher and higher against the feeble pumps and finally, when the fuel was all gone and they had stopped pumping, the mine filled with water, and still the drunken captain's load of coal was ice-bound.

Several hundred workmen were thrown out of employment, the village dependent on them was depopulated and a scene of activity and industry was turned into a desolate group of decaying houses and rusting machinery. For thirteen years water has stood in the shafts, and the little island is likely never to recover from the effect of the lake captain's fatal one drink too many.

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