

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.

Seeding is about to begin in Manitoba.

The Grand Opera House at St. Thomas was gutted by fire, believed to be incendiary.

Ex-Mayor Little has presented a new ambulance to the City of London.

The Grand Trunk is moving its auditor's and paymaster's offices from Detroit to Montreal.

Merchants of western Ontario have complained to Ottawa of the Great increase of smuggling from Detroit.

John Glassford, a prisoner at the London jail, was shot and seriously wounded by a turnkey while trying to escape.

The Manitoba public accounts were brought down in the Legislature on Tuesday. There is a cash balance on hand of \$546,438.

Frank Clark, son of D. W. Clark, of St. John, West Side, mining at Dawson City, writes that he has sold one claim for twenty thousand dollars.

The C. P. R. will erect a thirty thousand dollar stone and brick station at MacAdam Junction, and will light the work shops and yard by electricity.

Capt. Bernier, governor of the jail at Quebec, has been dismissed, and will likely be succeeded by Mr. Bernatchez, ex-member for Montmagny.

At Wolsley Barracks, London, Drill Sergeant Davis is giving a course of instruction in the handling of a Maxim rapid-firing gun received from Ottawa.

Snow in the woods at Madawaska Co., N. B., and Aroostook, Maine, was from seven to nine feet deep, the winter's fall being the greatest known in 60 years.

The act of the Manitoba Legislature compelling all companies incorporated outside the Province to register in Manitoba has been disallowed at Ottawa.

The celebration of St. Jean Baptiste day in Quebec this year, will be postponed until September, in order to coincide with the unveiling of the Champlain Monument.

Messrs. Coste and Lafontaine, of the Public Works, Department, Ottawa, have left on an exploration tour in Northern British Columbia, and may go to Dawson City.

The opinion of Hon. S. H. Blake, Q. C., that the Legislature has not jurisdiction to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale within the Province of intoxicating liquors has been received by the Manitoba Legislature.

M. Raoul Rinfret, C.E., of Montreal, who leaves shortly for the Yukon with the Slavin-Boyle party, has been commissioned by Mr. Sifton to organize a meteorological service in the Yukon country, as well as to make certain surveys for the Interior Department.

M. Kleczkowski, Consul-General for France in Canada, has officially informed Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the French Government is ready to vote an annual subsidy of \$80,000 to a line of steamships between France and Canada on condition that Canada does the same.

The Canadian Pacific Railway expects at an early date to build three big ocean liners about the size of the Teutonic and place them on the route between Vancouver and Yokohama. The Empress vessels will then be used for the purpose of a passenger and freight service between Vancouver and Australia.

The Minister of Customs on Saturday night received a telegram asking him to authorize the passing in of several car loads of nursery stock that had arrived at the border just after the signing of the act excluding American nursery stock from Canada because of the San Jose scale. As the act is in force the stock could not be admitted.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Salisbury has gone to the south of France for a visit.

Right Hon. Thomas Ball, Lord Chancellor of Ireland from 1875 to 1880, is dead at Dublin.

Cables from London advise English tobacco merchants in Havana to leave Cuba as war is inevitable.

Lord Salisbury's brother, Lord Sackville Cecil left £250,000, almost entirely of his own earnings.

The London Daily Mail is publishing letters from women, demanding ladies' smoking carriages.

The Birmingham Gazette states that a Russian spy in the guise of a footman has been discovered at the Marquis of Salisbury's residence.

Bishop Hartzell, of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Africa, has reached London, bringing letters from President Coleman, of Liberia, to Lord Salisbury and President McKinley, requesting closer relations with Great Britain and the United States. It is understood that this step is prompted by fear of French and German encroachments threatening the integrity of the Republic.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom have passed this resolution at their meeting in London:—"That these Chambers regard the absorption of Chinese territory by Russia, France, or Germany with great concern, as injurious to the interests of British commerce, seeing these powers exact the prohibitive duties of their respective countries in all their colonies and dependencies."

UNITED STATES.

Hon. Blanche K. Bruce, registrar of the U.S. Treasury, is dead at Washington.

The price paid by the United States for the two new Brazil warships was \$2,500,000.

The United States Government is being urged to pass a bill to deepen the Erie canal.

Speaker Reed is quoted by the New York Evening World as saying that Congress will complete its work and adjourn in April.

Parry Gardiner enticed Will Rogers into an unoccupied building at Pulaski, Ill., and beat his brains out with a club. Gardiner and Rogers were playmates, aged 16.

The project for the construction of a deep water canal between the Great Lakes and the Hudson River was before the House River and Harbor Committee at Washington on Tuesday.

A fine auroral display was witnessed in Boston on Tuesday night. Great waves of light swept over the heavens for more than an hour. It was also seen throughout New England.

Edna Wallace Hopper has brought suit in San Francisco for a divorce from De Wolf Hopper, the well-known opera star. She has also begun similar proceedings in New York. Her attorneys say the causes of action are wilful desertion and failure to provide.

Thomas Young, manager of the M. A. Hanna Coal Company, is quoted as follows regarding the possibility of another strike: "A strike involving about 20,000 miners will probably soon be in full swing in Central Pennsylvania. The operators declare they will not pay the Chicago scale, and the miners announce their intention to strike."

GENERAL.

Yellow fever is epidemic in Rio Janeiro.

France has adopted the postal arrangements signed last June at Washington.

Troops have been ordered to the scene of the rioting among the miners at Somorostro, near Bilbao, Spain.

The Portuguese War Department has decided to complete the defences of the port of Lisbon as speedily as possible.

Italy has sold to Spain the armoured cruiser Varese and the cruiser Carlo Alberto, it is said, to the United States.

Spain has requested the United States to transfer the United States fleet to a greater distance from the Cuban coast.

The Spanish torpedo flotilla, consisting of the Pluton, Terror, Furor, Azor, Ariete and Rayo, and two transports, have arrived at Las Palmas.

A despatch from Cairo says a detachment of friendly natives from Kassala has captured another Dervish post killing twenty of the enemy.

A rebellion has broken out at Battambang, where the people have refused to pay taxes. A Siamese expedition has defeated the rebels, but fighting continues.

The agrarian revolt in Hungary is spreading. In a conflict between the peasants and gendarmes on Sunday at Duna Foldvar two peasants were killed and forty wounded.

Senor Sandoval, the Spanish Agent in Berlin, is negotiating for the purchase of a number of old and slow steamers of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company.

The Transvaal Government has issued a green book relating to the Supreme Court difficulty. The dismissed Chief Justice is appealing to the people.

Continental newspapers generally regard Germany's withdrawal from Crete as heralding the installation of Prince George of Greece as Governor of the island.

Mme. Dreyfus, wife of ex-Captain Dreyfus, has petitioned M. Lebon, French Minister of the Colonies, for permission to share her husband's exile. The permission was refused.

The Italian Government has sold the armored cruiser Varese to Spain. Admiral Brin in the Chamber of Deputies gave the impression that the United States had purchased the armored cruiser Carlo Alberto.

Russia has notified China that the latter's delay in replying to the Russian demands will be construed as an acquiescence in the Russian occupation of Port Arthur. The British Minister at Peking is said to be urging China to resist.

The Premier of New South Wales states that he will at the next general elections introduce the referendum into Australian politics. After the Swiss fashion, all important questions will be referred back to the people in the form of plebiscites.

A CEMETERY'S BEST PART.

Probably few people know that there is a choice side to every cemetery. Thus, in some parts of the world, the eastern portion, without regard to its situation is always deemed the most desirable. This preference arises from the old tradition that our Lord will appear from the east. It is also believed that the dead in the eastern portion will be the first to rise; then those in the southern, western and northern, in order. In England it was the custom of laying felons and other bad characters on the north side of the church. The custom of laying the dead in a certain direction is responsible for the Welsh designation for the east wind: "The wind of the dead men's feet."

A CRUSHED LOVER.

Little Tommie—Sister Lillian likes to have you come here.
Mr. Simpering—Aw, indeed! How do you know that?
Little Tommie—Well, people always like what makes them glad, don't they?
Mr. Simpering—Generally. But how do you know I make her glad?
Little Tommie—I heard her tellin' one of the other girls to-day that she just had to laugh every time she looked at you.

THE FARM.

SPRAYING FRUIT TREES.

The season for spraying will soon be at hand again, and every owner of fruit trees who is not already possessed of a good spraying outfit should at once set about the matter of procuring one. One should endeavor to get a pump that will throw a strong, fine spray, as great force is required to reach the center of large, tall trees with the liquid; and if it is not finely and evenly distributed it may prove injurious instead of beneficial. While a strong pump is necessary, says a writer, in Farmer's Advocate, it should not work with much difficulty or the labor of spraying will be found very great. Perhaps the work of spraying has received a greater drawback through the number of inferior pumps placed upon the market than through any other cause; for which an inadequate outfit, not only is the work of spraying greatly increased, and the time lengthened, but the results are very unsatisfactory, so that the owner becomes discouraged, and regards the work of spraying as of little benefit. While thorough spraying of individual orchards shows good results, I believe we will never succeed in exterminating the codling moth and other insect pests, or in permanently eradicating fungous diseases, until spraying becomes universal. And never before, I believe, since the codling moth first began its ravages, has a time been more propitious for its utter extermination than the present. The severe late spring frosts of 1895 destroyed many of the moths, and the total failure of fruit left them no breeding place; so that in 1896 the injury caused by them was scarcely noticeable. The past season they did considerable damage in the small amount of fruit grown, but in this section, Lambton county, apples were so scarce that the moth had little chance for increasing. What better time could there be, then, for a united effort for their utter extermination by thorough and systematic spraying than the coming spring? A short time ago I was in receipt of a letter forwarded me from the office of the superintendent of Farmers' Institutes at Toronto, which letter had been received from a Mr. Hadley, a fruit-grower of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Mr. Hadley made some comments upon a paper read by the present writer at an Institute meeting last season. In conclusion, he said: "We are fighting the moth, here, and we have one coincidence which is giving us the keynote to our line of action. One orchard in this valley that had previously been affected with the moth was entirely free from it the past year and produced a wonderful crop of fruit. Now, it so happens that this orchard had all its fruit killed by frost the preceding year, and it was the only orchard in the valley that fared thus. Our people are now contemplating the destruction of all the fruit the coming season, hoping in this way to get the start of the moth. Spraying has not been satisfactorily successful in this warm climate." Now, it strikes me that if the people of New Mexico are willing as a whole community to undertake the labor of destroying a whole season's crop of fruit, and suffering the consequent loss for that year, for the purpose of exterminating the moth, we Canadians, with whom spraying is so successful, should be willing to combine in a body to fight the moth by the means which are so ready to hand. And not only will we check the future depredations of the moth, but at the same time we will be more than doubling our yield of marketable fruit, thus increasing our profits and also building up an increased and permanent trade for our apples in the British markets. I trust that the Farmer will continue, as in the past, to press up on the notice of its readers the necessity for thorough and persistent spraying by every owner of fruit trees throughout Canada; and I believe the work would be greatly forwarded if there was a practical fruit-grower upon every delegation of Farmers' Institute speakers, one who has had practical experience in the work of spraying, and who can speak from personal experience and observation as to the beneficial results and increased profits resulting from thorough and systematic spraying. I suppose it would be impossible for our government to make spraying compulsory; and if such a law were enacted, no doubt it would prove a dead letter, as many similar statutes have turned out to be, but if such a law could be enforced it would add millions of dollars to the receipts of our fruit industry. Some time ago I read an article in a leading publication, contributed by a prominent fruit-grower of Niagara district, in which the writer stated that he believed it would be of benefit to have parliament prohibit the planting of trees for commercial fruit-growing for a term of years. Now, while I do not believe that the government should interfere with the rights of any individual with regard to how many trees he should plant, yet it does seem unjust that a number of careless owners of trees should be the means of causing inestimable loss to progressive growers, through negligence in combating insects and fungous pests. Although we can scarcely expect spraying to be made compulsory, yet we can each aid in furthering the good work by calling attention to its beneficial results at every possible opportunity.

CARING FOR HEIFERS.

Most of the difficulties in growing valuable cows, where the breeding has been what it should be, come from their

feeding. It is hard to say whether the fattening or the starvation policy, is worse for the future of the cow. By the first she is made fit only for the butcher. By the second the animal is stunted and its digestion impaired so that it is little good for any purpose. There should be abundance of food and a good share of this should be succulent so as to furnish nutrition in form and stimulate the glands that carry the milk. All the large milk-producing breeds of cows have originated in mild and moist climates, where succulent food can be had during most of the year. Ensilage is good food for heifers, though if it be of corn fodder some dry clover hay should be fed with it, to increase the material for growth. If clover cannot be had, a small ration of wheat bran mixed with the corn ensilage will make a better feed than ensilage alone. We believe in breeding heifers early, and at the same time feeding liberally of food that will make growth rather than fatten. If a heifer drops her first calf when she is a year and a half old, she will always be a better milker than if she were kept from breeding until a year later. If the heifer is too small, let there be a long time between the first and second breeding, and in the meantime feed more liberally than ever, not with corn. Some oats may, however, be given, if the milk production is large enough to keep the heifer thin in flesh, but the grain feeding should be stopped when the heifer dries off as she approaches her second parturition. Heifers thus managed will be about as large as if they were kept until they were past two years old before being bred, and they will all their lives be much better milkers.

BLACK CANKERWORM.

The black cankerworm differs from the common cankerworm in color and in being much smaller. If the worm has been in the orchard it will begin to appear some time during April. The female adult can be trapped by putting a band of wax, pine tar, printers' ink or any sticky substance around the trunk of the trees. After the worm appears spray with arsenical poison. When using London purple, care should be taken not to have the mixture too strong, as much damage can be done. Use one-half to three-fourths of a pound of London purple to a barrel of water. If you do not see the worms, look for their webs on the trunks of the trees and prepare to destroy them next year.

FEEDING CALVES.

Keep all feeding utensils clean, and give a clean dry pen; occasionally sprinkle in some land plaster. Give a little salt occasionally, or better yet, keep it near them at all times. Sometimes an old sod or a handful of dry earth to lick will be relished. Calves dropped in the fall and bred to come in in the fall, are more sure to breed regularly in the fall; at least that is my experience. With clover hay or ensilage as roughage, calves raised in the winter when one has plenty of time to look after them, are raised the cheapest and best. Do not feed too fattening foods, if desired for the dairy. Bran or oatmeal is a most excellent food for a growing calf.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

Pride is increased by ignorance; those assume the most that know the least.—Gay.

Persistent people begin their success where others end in failure.—Edward Eggleston.

There is no great achievement that is not the result of patient working and waiting.—J. G. Holland.

To an honest mind the best perquisites of a place are the advantages it gives a man of doing good.—Addison.

Who can confess his poverty and look it in the face, destroys its sting; but a proud man, he is poor, indeed.—L. E. Landon.

We have more power than will; and it is often by way of excuse to ourselves that we fancy things are impossible. Rochefoucauld.

A polite man is one who listens with interest to things he knows all about, when they are told him by a person who knows nothing about them.—De Morny.

There is little pleasure in the world that is true and sincere beside the pleasure of doing our duty and doing good. I am sure no other is comparable to this.—Tillotson.

It is no disgrace not to be able to do everything; but to undertake or pretend to do what you are not made for is not only shameful, but extremely troublesome and vexatious.—Plutarch.

THE HINDOO WAY.

For 3,000 years the Hindoo standard of living has been almost the same for rich or poor. The Rajah's floors are bare, and the rich man washes in the open air and dries himself in the sun like his poor brother; and so simple is the mode of life, and so great is the fear of robbery, that immense amounts of wealth are buried.

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In recent experience rapid-firing was such that two in a round of ten through the same target is anticipated by the day is ours; we are dead to yesterday, and not born to-morrow.—Jeremy Taylor.