

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 Sorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

The new hospital at London will cost about \$55,000.

Gold in paying quantities has been found in the Peace River district.

William McDonald, a Buffalo sportsman, was robbed of \$430 in Hamilton on Monday night.

Mrs. Elizabeth Chrysler of Allanburg was fined \$150 for illegally manufacturing cigars.

St. John, N. B., bakers have advanced the price of bread one cent on a two-pound loaf.

Actor Emerson, who shot and killed James Tuttle, at London, will be tried at the fall Assizes.

The Irishmen of Ottawa are taking steps to relieve their famine-stricken countrymen in Ireland.

Hamilton Council has decided to take steps towards securing the control of the local street railway.

A disease resembling leprosy has made its appearance among the Indians of the Rainy Lake country.

Hamilton license holders who were on probation will have their licenses extended for the whole year.

Miss Brown, aged twenty, of Poplar Point, Man., took strychnine in mistake for salts and died in a few minutes.

The Montreal police raided bicyclists who were out without lanterns. Twenty-five were gathered in at one police station.

Dominion Bank notes supposed to be a portion of the proceeds of the Napanee bank robbery, have turned up at Winnipeg.

August 8th has been chosen for Belleville's Civic holiday. The Sons of Scotland will have a large demonstration on that day.

The Customs returns for the port of Montreal for the month of May amounted to \$601,075, against \$408,248 for May, 1897.

A report has been sent in to the Department of Forestry of Ontario that a bug is eating up the boxwood maple in Eastern Ontario.

The War Eagle Mining Company has declared a dividend of one and a half per cent per month, which is equal to 18 per cent per annum.

In Kingston the Civic holiday is fixed for August 8th, when bicycle races will be held, as well as the annual races of the Canadian Road Club.

The officers of the Ottawa and New York Railway expect to have trains running into the Central depot, Ottawa, before the first of July.

The Winnipeg City Council will call for tenders for the supply of pumping machinery capable of furnishing four million gallons of water per day.

The carpenters of Winnipeg have commenced an agitation for an increase in their rate of wages. The highest rate paid at present is 25 cents per hour.

Madame Dandurand, wife of Senator Dandurand, and one of the cleverest of French-Canadian writers, has been appointed an officer of the French Academy.

As soon as the Victorian Order of Nurses Committee for Kingston secures \$700, it will engage a district nurse. Considerable opposition is met there to the scheme.

The Attorney-General has been asked for a fiat to allow an action to be brought against the Kingston Street Railway Company for running its cars on Sunday.

R. F. Robertson, of New York, has accepted the post of Government mineralogist for British Columbia. He is a Canadian, and highly recommended by Dr. Dawson.

Petitions are being circulated in Hamilton for a pardon to A. M. Roadhouse, committed to Kingston penitentiary in 1895 for seven years for assaulting H. M. Arthur.

Joseph Ord, 86 years old, living near Orillia may have to answer to a charge of murder. During a dispute he stabbed his stepson, W. H. Lawrence, whose life is despaired of.

Premier Greenway of Manitoba, who is in Toronto, says that the prospects for the farmers in Manitoba never looked brighter than they do this season. The population of the province will be increased by a large influx of immigrants.

James Prentice, section foreman of the Grand Trunk between Parkdale and Toronto, fell from a gravel train on Tuesday night, and was instantly killed, his head being cut off by the wheels. He was married, and leaves a family of ten children. He was 55 years of age.

David T. Hanbury, of London, Eng., has left Winnipeg for the far north on an exploring expedition. He will ascend the inlet to Baker Lake, which is known territory, but beyond which is a broad field of hitherto unexplored territory. Here Mr. Hanbury will spend the remainder of the summer, freezing over to Edmonton after the lakes freeze over.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Baron Lyon Playfair, the distinguished Parliamentary, died in London, Eng.

Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, has again been mentioned in connection with the Governor-Generalship of Canada in succession to the Earl of Aberdeen. The name of the Duke of Fife, son-in-law of the

Prince of Wales, is also discussed in the same connection.

UNITED STATES.

A trade treaty between the United States and France has been arranged.

The steamer City of Worcester struck a reef in a thick fog on Sunday in Long Island Sound, and had to be beached.

The directors of the New York Merchants' Association have passed a resolution affirming the necessity of improved trade relations with Canada.

Mrs. Sternaman will begin an action against the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to get possession of the \$1,000 insurance on the life of her husband.

By the explosion of the boiler of an engine on the Hoosatic tunnel and Wilmington, Vt., Zephaniah Douglas, the engineer, and Erent T. Faulkenber, the fireman, were killed. Several persons sustained minor injuries.

A band of Indians has been found in Northern Minnesota suffering from a malady resembling leprosy. As Canadian Indians have been mingling with them, an investigation will be made by the Indian officials at Winnipeg.

GENERAL.

The new Italian Cabinet is a colorless combination, and is likely to have difficulty in finding a majority in the Chamber.

The provinces of Taena and Arica, long a subject of dispute between the Chilean and Peruvian Governments, will be submitted to arbitration.

Five hundred Mohammedans, who were taking part in a procession near Bombay were ordered to stop. They refused, and attacked the police. The head constable was fatally injured, and several others received severe injuries.

Prince Kung, brother of the late Emperor Hienfung, of China, and President of the Council is dead. He was born on January 11, 1833. For twenty-three years, from 1861 to 1884 he was Prime Minister of the Empire. Then he fell from power, but later became again influential.

TRIUMPH OF WHEEL-WOMEN.

For more than five years that example of progressive graciousness, the wheelwoman was the recipient of all sorts of harsh abuse for the reason that she liked bicycling, bought a wheel for herself and insisted upon riding it. Years before she even thought of that exercise for herself men had enjoyed cycling, and it had increased their vigor and prolonged their lives. Scarcely more than ten years ago safety bicycles were in their infancy, and making them for women's use was an experiment undertaken with more or less misgiving.

It was estimated that the force needed to propel a wheel was greater than the average woman could supply. That was the first objection to women becoming cyclists. Then it was asserted that wheeling was too unbecoming and immodest to be practiced by the gentler sex. When those arguments failed to dissuade women from taking their daily spins they were assailed and appealed to on the ground that the wheel was the personal and favorite instrument of Satan and that cycling "had a tendency to lure young girls into paths that lead directly to sin." Mothers were cautioned against permitting their daughters to ride, and husbands became uneasy lest their wives should wheel away.

To supplement the anxiety of the household, clergymen averred that their congregations had been seriously diminished by the bicycle's popularity, and that sisters who had formerly occupied front seats in the churches were to be seen doeked in blouse waists and abbreviated skirts hurrying past the sanctuary. Theatre managers charged the wheel with diverting the attention of young ladies from the harmless amusements of the stage to the doubtful attractions of suburban groves and retreats labelled "Ice Cream and Soda." Other dissatisfied persons, including dealers in furniture, vowed that, with many housewives, comfort and aesthetics in the home had become secondary conditions since the thought of femininity had been given to hose-pipe tires and sprockets. Physicians frightened wheelwomen who wouldn't discard their steel roadsters with threats of parasthesia and paresis in the interosseal, lumbricales and adductor pollicis.

In the last year or two wheelwomen have shown a decided liking for century runs, and for that they have been vigorously scored. A few women have exhibited bad taste by engaging in long club runs composed of men with whom their acquaintance was little or nothing. Happily, such imprudence has been rare, and the examples furnished have resulted in better judgment being exercised by others.

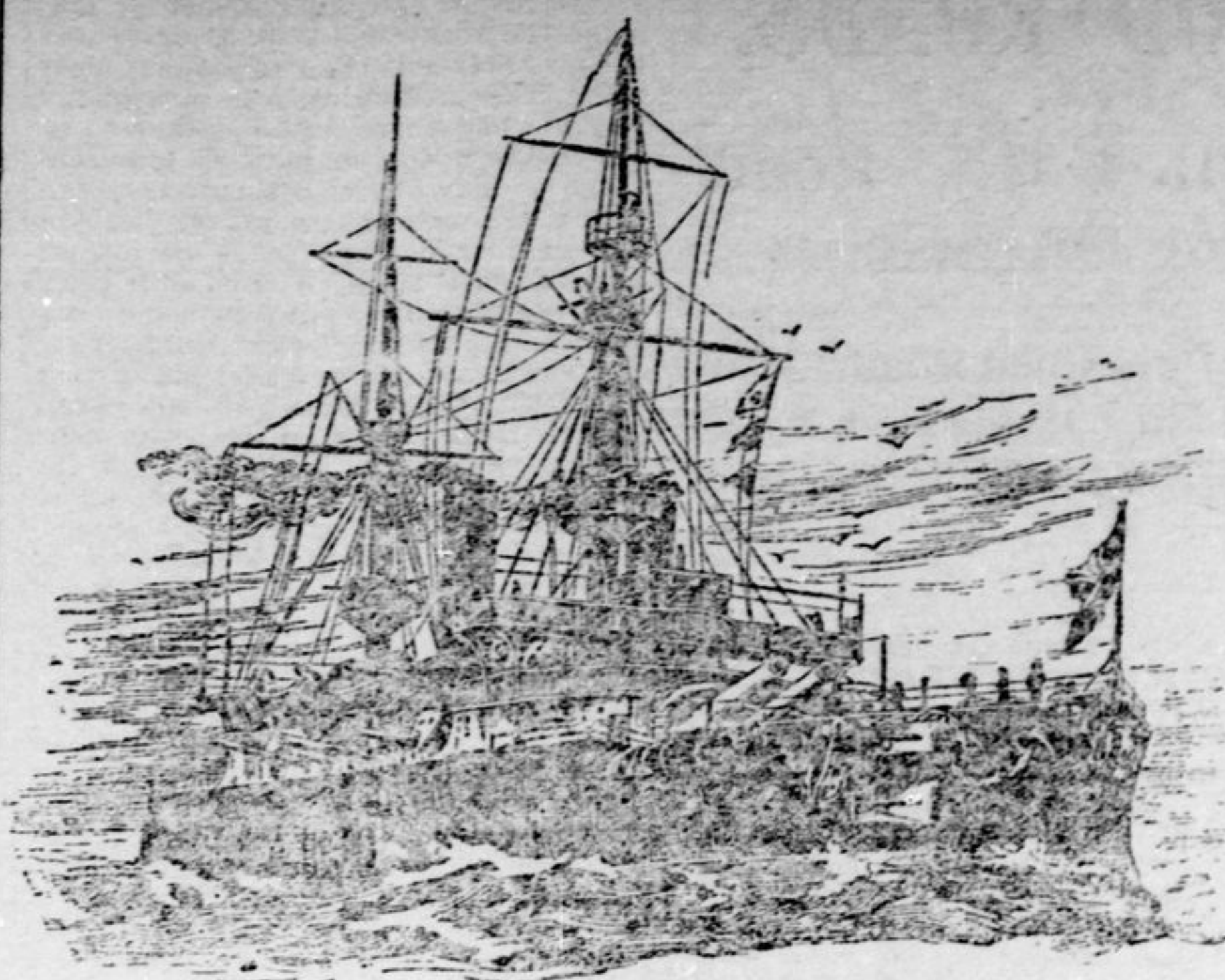
Having endured criticism, reproach, and discouragement for so long a time, the wheelwoman now rides with a light heart. She has succeeded in showing that in the way of moderate and well-timed bicycle riding, what's good for man is also good for his companion. In other words, in her battle for the bicycle she has won a victory over the pessimists and sticklers for old-time straitlaced decorum, and to quote one of her number, "good health and contentment among the bicycle girls now appear to be contagious."

METHODICAL.

My wife is a great business woman," remarked the man who is studiously jocose.

Takes care to preserve documents and that sort of thing?

Yes. Why, that woman won't even curl her hair unless she has the papers to show for it.



HER MAJESTY'S STEAMSHIP BLAKE.

Agricultural

PURE WATER ON THE FARM.

"To those who value their health and that of their family, to those who would have strong and thrifty animals, to those who desire pure milk and first-class butter, we would say that it is of primary importance that the water supply should be from a source beyond suspicion and that this source should be carefully guarded against pollution." This statement says a bulletin of the Agricultural Department. The experiment stations have made thousands of examinations of samples of drinking water, and these have shown that a very large proportion of the water used on farms, especially well water, is polluted and unfit for use.

In the majority of instances the pollution as shown by the chemical data, is derived from the drainage of the farm buildings and barnyard, and is consequent upon causes—the location of the well and the dirty condition of its surroundings. When that most pernicious practice of sinking the well in the stable or barnyard is followed, provision is really being made to collect, as in a cesspool, liquid manure. The amount of manure, the rainfall, and the porosity of the soil are the chief factors that will determine the rapidity and extent of the contamination of such wells; it is only in very exceptional cases that they can escape pollution. Let those about to sink wells, therefore, remember that they should not be dug in or near the barnyard nor under the farm buildings. Not a little of this rural well-water pollution is due to the filthy state of the buildings and yard.

The well being sunk at a safe distance from possible sources of pollution, the brick and stone work should be coated to the ground line with a cement impervious to water. This will protect the well from infiltration of drainage from the upper layer of the soil. Further, a tight-fitting top should be provided, rising to the height of nine inches or one foot above the surface of the surrounding ground. This will prevent surface water, mice, rats and frogs from entering. The household slops, garbage, etc., should never be thrown on the soil in the neighborhood of the well; their proper place is the compost heap. Finally, the well should never be used as a cold storage receptacle, nor the dairy or other vessels washed at the well unless there is an ample provision by a well-constructed drain to take away the wash water.

A well in which water rises suddenly after a heavy rain should be regarded with suspicion unless the surroundings are scrupulously clean; for, as Professor King states, "a sudden large rise and fall of the water level in a well, associated with heavy rains, can have no other interpretation than that water reaches the well without being filtered through a very large amount of soil. An abrupt rise and fall of a few inches might have no significance, but where there is a rise and fall of a foot or more there can be no doubt but that the well is liable to yield at times, unsanitary water if the surface surroundings are such as to permit of it."

A SUBSTITUTE FOR PARIS GREEN.

Paris green is a good insecticide, but is somewhat troublesome to use in liquid form, as it does not dissolve readily, and needs constant agitation to keep it from settling.

If allowed to settle at all, the distribution is not uniform, and injury is likely to result to the foliage of some plants, while the insects on other plants escape. Moreover, it is unduly expensive, whether used dry or in the form of a spray.

White arsenic in a soluble form, costs about one-third as much as Paris green, and gives no trouble in the way of settling. Dissolve two pounds of commercial white arsenic and four pounds of carbonate of soda, (washing soda) in two gallons of water and use one and one-half pints to a barrel of Bordeaux mixture, fifty gallons.

The easiest way to make the solution is to put both the white arsenic and carbonate of soda in a gallon of

boiling water and keep boiling about fifteen minutes, or until a clear liquid is formed, and then dilute to two gallons.

One and one-half pints of this solution to each barrel of Bordeaux mixture is sufficient to use when spraying for potato blight and potato bugs, for apple scab and apple worms, or for any other purpose where a combination mixture for fungi and insects is required.

This combination has been fully tested at the Ohio Experiment Station, to which institution we are indebted for the information given in this article, and found to be quite as effective as the Paris green and Bordeaux mixture combination, and for the reasons given above is much to be preferred.

FEEDING FOR MANURE.

Nitrogen is a very important ingredient in all fertilizers and is at the same time the most expensive ingredient, hence the value of nitrogenous feeding stuffs for manure is an important factor not to be overlooked. We see this demonstrated in the older parts of our country where the fertility of the soil has been greatly reduced by long cropping. Nitrogen costs three or four times as much per pound as potash and two or three times as much as phosphoric acid. The real value the farmer is able to realize from his foders in the form of manure depends upon the composition of the fodder, the kind of animal, the use to which the animal puts its food, but most of all depends upon the care that is taken of the manure. Clover, vetch, peas and other leguminous coarse foders are of more manurial value than foders of the grasses, corn stover, corn fodder, etc. The amount and proportion of the fertilizing ingredients to be obtained from the fodder, depends to a great extent, upon the animal and the use it makes of its food. A large amount of protein for the building up of muscle and considerable phosphoric acid for the formation of bone in the young growing animal is necessary; while in the case of mature animals that are being fattened, nearly the whole of the fertilizing value of the fodder is returned in the manure. In the feeding of milk cows it is estimated that only about 25 per cent. of the fertilizing value of the feeding is used by the animal, while fully 75 per cent. is returned to the manure. A vast amount of manure, especially liquid manure, is allowed to go to waste on nearly every farm. By using absorbents and preventing hot fermentation much of this waste may be avoided, and by feeding liberally, feed rich in nitrogen, it will only be necessary to purchase for the farm, fertilizers which contain materials furnishing phosphoric acid and potash.

CONTROLLING PLANT LICE.

Plant lice are among the most important of the injurious insects. They may be found every year in the orchard and garden, but seldom in such numbers as during the past season. They do not devour the tissues of the host plant but suck the sap by means of their tube-like mouth parts. They swarm upon the open leaf buds and on the under surfaces of the leaves, causing them to curl and to become otherwise distorted. These insects multiply with great rapidity, but are held in check to a certain degree by numerous predaceous and parasitic insects. In most species the young are born alive during the spring and summer, eggs not being produced until fall.

As plant lice suck their food, paris green and similar poisons cannot be depended upon when used in the ordinary manner. Some external irritant must be used instead. Numerous insecticides of this nature are recommended. One of the most important is good whale oil soap. Experiments during the past season show that 1 lb. of whale oil soap to 7 gallons of water will kill plum and currant lice. The solution should be applied in a fine spray to the under surface of the leaves. It is important that the work be done very thoroughly. The first application should be made as soon as the lice appear in the spring, which will be soon after the leaf buds open. A second or third application may be made as occasion demands.

HEIRLOOMS.

Isabel wants to sell her grandfather's clock.

Is she in reduced circumstances? No; she has bought an older one.



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