

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.

Galt will spend \$10,000 in street improvements. London has already received \$243,621 in taxes for this year.

Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere has returned to Ottawa from his trip to the Old Country.

Mr. Joseph Laidlaw, of Hamilton, who had his skull fractured by a trolley car, is dead.

The Hamilton Bricklayers' Labourers Union has been organized, with John Asbury, president.

Col. Hutton has been appointed commandant of the Canadian forces to succeed Major-General Gascoigne.

Jas. Day, a logger, stepped off a boom of logs at Gambia Island, B. C., on Sunday and was drowned.

A British Columbia pioneer died on Sunday in the person of James Reid, a poundkeeper of Vancouver.

The Ontario Government has selected the Mackenzie property, South London, as the site for a Normal school.

It is reported that the Ottawa Street Railway Company has bought the Ottawa and Gatineau Valley railway.

George Meyers and A. A. Coe are charged at Hamilton with burning three G.T.R. freight cars there July 10th.

The dispute as to the quality of coal supplied the Hamilton Board of Education by Myles' Sons has been referred to the decision of an expert.

Arrangements are being made for the trip of a team from the Canadian Lacrosse League to Port Arthur, Fort William, Rat Portage and Winnipeg.

The check of the United States for \$473,000, the amount of damages adjudged by the Bering Sea claims commission, has been received by the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

The Canadian Gold Fields Company, is erecting a new plant at their works near Belleville, to take the place of the plant destroyed by fire some months ago.

Vancouver people suggest that the imperial authorities instead of increasing the dry dock accommodation at Esquimalt that they build a dry dock at Vancouver.

Gen. G. P. Leach, and Col. Dalton, of the Board of Imperial Defence have arrived at Ottawa from England. The Board will commence its sittings immediately.

Prof. Alexander Graham, Bell has arrived at St. Peter's from Sable Island, where he went to search for the bodies of La Bourgogne victims. He reports the search fruitless.

The contract for the construction of the west pier of the entrance to the Welland Canal at Port Dalhousie has been awarded to Mr. John Riley, who built the east pier.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will hold a competition at Hamilton on September 5, open to cab drivers, carters, milk vendors and drivers of laundry waggon.

Bullock's Corners Episcopal Church has a choir trouble, and it is said that last Sunday the choir sang different hymns from those given out by the minister, thereby causing some confusion in the services.

There are eighty-one members of the Senate, of whom forty have been called in the last decade, and ten since the present Government came into power. There are three vacancies at present waiting to be filled.

Mrs. William Rycroft committed suicide at Toronto on Tuesday. She looked herself in her room, swallowed a large dose of carbolic acid, poured oil about the room and set it on fire, and then cut her throat with a razor.

The new People's Telephone Company in London threaten to cease operations unless the city guarantees an extension of the company's franchise at the end of fifteen years.

James Fitzgerald was struck by a train and killed on the Canadian Pacific Railway while crossing a bridge between Keewatin and Rat Portage on Monday. He was a prominent lawyer.

Owing to the action of the London, Ont., City Council in granting the People's Telephone Company a franchise, the Bell Company have met the prices of the new comers, and reduced their rates nearly one-third.

Rev. Dr. Hackett, former principal of St. Paul's Divinity College, Allahabad, India, at present secretary of the Hibernian Church Missionary Society, has been appointed principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

Another application will be made to the Dominion Parliament next session for a charter for a bridge between Hull and Ottawa, to give the Hull & Aylmer Electric Railway entrance to Ottawa. A vigorous lobby defeated the bill last session.

Chas. Schmidt, who robbed his room mate, A. Wright, in the Avenue Hotel, Vancouver, B.C., of \$75 and evaded the police, attempted to steal a ride on the Atlantic express leaving there Monday. He fell and was mangled under the wheels.

There is a movement on foot in Toronto to appoint a special inspector of dry goods imported under the new preferential law, in order that there may be no evasion of the law through British exporters passing foreign goods through their hands and affixing the

GREAT BRITAIN.

It is announced that penny postage will go into force on the Prince of Wales' birthday, November 9.

It is reported in London that Mr. George N. Curzon has accepted the office of Viceroy of India in succession to Earl Elgin.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales left for Copenhagen on Tuesday, owing to the serious illness of her mother, the Queen of Denmark.

In the Parliamentary bye-election held at Grimsby, England, Mr. George Doughty, Unionist, who had resigned owing to a change of political faith, was re-elected with a plurality of 1,751.

Mr. Chamberlain stated in the House of Commons that her Majesty's Government wished to establish direct communication between Canada, Jamaica and London, in order to foster the fruit trade.

UNITED STATES.

A number of stores at Escabana, Mich., were destroyed by fire on Sunday night. The losses will amount to \$100,000.

Employees of the American Wire Co. and the H. P. Nail Co., Chicago, are on strike against a reduction in wages.

George Todd, a wealthy resident of New York, committed suicide on Tuesday by jumping from a tenth story window in the Hotel Majestic.

The reports that thousands of cattle have been dying off in California owing to lack of food are denied by the cattle raisers. The animals are thin but reports are exaggerated.

The directors of the German-American Bank of Tonawanda, N. Y., have decided that the institution shall go into liquidation, and have arranged with the Buffalo Commercial Bank of Buffalo to take charge of the affairs of their bank with that end in view.

Mr. Bartlett, an old man aged 82, of Albion, Mich., was killed by his nephew, aged ten, on Sunday. The boy was fooling with a gun, and aimed at a door near the old man's head. The gun missed fire, and blew the old man's head off.

As a result of a conference between ex-Senator Earner Miller, president of the Nicaraguan Canal Commission, and President McKinley, it is stated the latter intends to make a strong recommendation to Congress for legislation making immediate provision for completing the canal and for making it the direct property of the Government.

GENERAL.

Mediana, Spain, has been partly destroyed by a cyclone.

Signor Turati, one of the leaders of the riots at Milan, was sentenced at Rome on Tuesday to twelve years' imprisonment.

Newfoundland fishermen are to be organized as naval reserves, and to be drilled by special instructors sent from England.

A terrible fire broke out on Tuesday in the petroleum factory, Dunkirk, France. There were three explosions, by which one person was killed and three were seriously injured.

It is reported at Yokohama that Hawaii has agreed to pay Japan \$40,000 sterling in settlement of the dispute which arose out of the exclusion of Japanese emigrants from the Hawaiian islands.

YOUR LITTLE FINGER.

The fact that the hand looks shapelier and more graceful when the middle and third fingers are slightly curved in and away from the index and little finger is shown by the models in the glove store windows, and while it is affectation to hold the hands in such a position, yet this exercise, to make the pose natural, should be practiced.

Someone has said somewhere that the number of cultured generations back of an individual may be judged by the degree of curve in the little finger. Observation will prove this more or less true. When one sees a person holding a glass or cup with the little finger thrust out and curved until it resembles a hook, a little investigation will almost invariably show that the desire for culture has only just awakened in that particular family, and in its newness is somewhat overstepping the mark. Affectation is a sign of lack of breeding.

Someone has said somewhere that hands to perfection. Long, rounded hands, with slightly curved fingers and gently bent wrists, are characteristic of the women whose beauty they have made memorable. Sometimes, perhaps, the beautiful hands were those of some other model than the pictured one, but the painters knew that beautiful hands were as necessary as beautiful faces in order to make a harmonious picture.

The people of almost every other nation have more graceful hands than we have; and those who use their hands most freely when conversing are by far the most graceful. The hands which make no superfluous movements, which appear to obey readily and easily their owner's will, whose movements are free, rhythmic and gentle, are the really graceful ones.

THE MEANEST MAN.

My boy, said the Meanest Man, concluded to shoot no firecrackers this year.

How did you stop him?" asked the other man.

I told him that if he got a finger blown off he couldn't be a soldier when he grew up.

BEAUTIFUL SISTERS

The Duchess of Montrose, Lady Verulam, and Mrs. Faber are asserted to be the three most beautiful sisters in London society.

CURE FOR WEAK EYES.

Spanish peasants believe that the water in which a wedding ring has been

THE THAMES DISASTER.

DETAILS OF THE TERRIBLE ACCIDENT AT A LAUNCHING.

A Huge Wave Swamped a Stage—Hundreds of Women and Children Hurled into the Turbulent Waters—Heartrending Scenes and Brave Deeds of Rescue.

In describing the disaster that attended the launching of H.M.S. Albion, at Blackwall, on the Thames, on June 21. The London Daily Telegraph says: All the preliminaries of the launch were conducted in the usual way. Their Royal Highnesses were taken into an inner elevated draped stand, and a Royal salute was fired. On a table there was stretched a silken cord of red, white and blue, which held the weights suspended above the two dog shores. During the customary short religious service, performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, vicar of St. John's Stratford, and the Rev. Canon Pelly, vicar of West Ham, the blows of the hammer could be heard as the men under the vessel's keel knocked away the last blocks, until, whilst Psalm cvii., "They that go down to the sea in ships," was being sung by the choirs of the two churches, all that held the ship was the silken cord. After the Old Hundredth had been given and prayer offered, a silver-gilt knife, with enamelled haft, and design of York roses and May blossoms entwined, and the monogram V.M.Y., was handed to the Duchess of York by Mr. Hills. The blade was inscribed with the date, and set forth the occasion. With this knife Her Royal Highness, at ten minutes to three, severed the cord at a third attempt. Immediately the heavy weights fell, knocking away the remaining supports, and the Albion was in such haste to get away that she did not give the Duchess time to christen her, by breaking the bottle of wine, which had a richly worked cover, that was afterwards presented to Her Highness, against the bows. It was Mr. G. C. Mackrow, naval architect to the company, who smashed the bottle on the rail of the platform. But the incident passed unnoticed in the cheering and general jubilation as already described.

FORGOT TO CURTSEY.

It seemed, too, that the Albion, which went gracefully down the ways, forgot to curtsy. She took the water quietly, though the strain on the cables was very great, as three of them parted. But everybody was of opinion that it was a very successful launch, for its difficult character, owing to the narrowness of the creek, was fully recognized by experts, and indeed, the point had been noticed by the Duke of York, immediately he saw the ship. No one on the head stage was aware that the wave caused by sudden displacement, consequent upon the launching of some thousands of tons of dead weight into a confined area was overwhelming a stand occupied by two or three hundred sight-seers. Certainly nothing was perceived by the Duke or Duchess or by Mr. Goschen, with whom they remained chatting for some minutes. There were no shrieks, no cries, no panic; but the sirens filled the air with discordant sounds enough to drown any human voice. Very slowly the elevated reserved enclosure, surrounding the Royal stand, where the ceremony had been performed, was vacated, and the guests retired to their steamboats laughing and congratulating each other upon having witnessed a spectacle which, in the beautiful weather, seemed to be without a blot of any kind.

SCENE OF THE DISASTER.

But at that very moment, hidden from view by the newly-launched battleship, the terrible disaster took place. A bridge across the end of an old disused slip, and part of the staging beneath the counter of the Shikishima, on an adjoining slip, had been crowded with sightseers, anxious to view the launch. This was in defiance of all the rules of the yard, and it is stated that on former occasions these wooden erections had been kept clear by the police, in accordance with the notices on the danger board in the yard. As the Albion entered the water, a great wave was raised in the narrow creek, and the backwash caused some eighty feet of this bridge and staging to give way, thereby immersing some three hundred people. The staging gave one swerve, and then fell outwardly. A scene of terrible confusion ensued, the shrieks of the drowning, mingled with the cheers of the thousands who were quite unaware of the accident. The police boats instantly made for the spot, and, with the aid of several dockyard hands, a number of the people were pulled out, whilst many more scrambled ashore themselves. The unfortunate people who were thrown into the water ere for the most part inhabitants of the neighborhood. Several persons were taken out in an apparently lifeless condition, and immediately conveyed away to the sheds in the yards, and attended to. Then several dead bodies were hauled out, one of the first being that of a baby. During the next half hour eight bodies were recovered and taken to a shed, which was turned into a temporary mortuary. The half-drowned girls and women were removed to the fitters' shed, and there attended to by the firemen and several nurses, who were soon on the scene.

HEART-RENDING SCENES.

Meanwhile heart-rending scenes were taking place at the approaches to the yard. The wildest rumors soon got afloat, and every one who had friends in the yard rushed to obtain news of

daughters, husbands their wives, and brothers their sisters, but as nobody knew who was on the staging that had given way the greatest anxiety was manifested. People ran about wildly asking everybody they met for news of their friends, and many touching scenes occurred when some lost one was found to be safe. The police and their assistants worked splendidly, but as the tide was at its height the depth of water rendered their operations very difficult.

One extraordinary circumstance attending the disaster was that the chief guests on the stands at the head of the slips were totally unaware that any accident had taken place, and the majority left Blackwall on the return journey without having heard the news. This was also the case of the Duke and Duchess of York, who left on the Beatrice, and arrived safely at Westminster about half-past four.

THE STAGE "DANGEROUS."

In an interview with Mr. Hussey, secretary of the Thames Ironworks Company, that gentleman said to a Central News reporter: "There is always a return wave at such launches, and we invariably label adjacent stages which this water is likely to reach with the word 'Dangerous.' To-day we followed the usual custom, but although police were posted about to warn people, and although the warning word was printed in enormous letters, about 200 people got on to this particular staging, and were washed into the water. Most of them were women and the majority escaped. It was a most lamentable accident, especially after such a successful launch. The Duchess, I think, knew nothing of the disaster, unless she just caught a glimpse of the scene as she sped away in her steam launch; but that is not likely."

In 1886, when Her Majesty's ship Benbow was launched, the backwash swept nine people into the water, but all were rescued.

TIMIDITY OF CHILDREN.

The first natural duty of a mother is to protect her young; to create around it a shelter, in the midst of which the tender thing can grow, secure from shocks and seeing and hearing only what is good for it to hear and see. . . . By learning the signs of fear in a young child, and knowing how to distinguish true fear from wilfulness, they will be able to exert a soothing and protecting influence at the right moment, and avert danger whose consequences are serious almost beyond belief in the case of our highly organized excitable, modern children.

It is the mother, rather than the father, who is called upon to secure the blessing of a second imagination to her children. She ought to begin away back in the beginning—with the very first surroundings of the new-born infant. Let it find its early life peaceful, quiet and untroubled. And when infancy merges into that older period when young faculties are springing forward in rapid development, and each day the little one takes on more of the hue of its larger fellow-creatures, let her be doubly careful that no untimely scare stunts its intelligence. It is said that to be afraid of shadows is an inevitable passing experience of childhood. Yet I know one small toddler who never has shown any such disposition, but whose great delight is to play with her own shadow and other shadows when the lights are brought in each night. She is a peculiarly sensitive, sympathetic, little thing, and could easily be made timid, by unwise treatment. But, under the sheltering care of fond and judicious parents, she is remarkable for not knowing what it is to be afraid; and although she is given to unpleasant dreams, as many young children are, and often awakened with a start, a low word or touch soothes her into serenity. Happy above others is the little child who thinks of his mother as a veritable refuge from trouble, a bulwark against danger and a sympathizing presence.

CANADA'S GREAT EXPOSITION.

Many new and interesting features will be offered at the Toronto Exhibition this year, which is to be held from the 29th August to the 10th September. The harvest throughout the Dominion is good, and with the return of better times and the unusually low fares now being given by the railways, many will be induced to visit this great exhibition who perhaps would not otherwise do so. The entries in all departments will be great, and the attractions offered will be of a character to draw. Among the many will be realistic representations of the present Cuban-American War, the blockade, bombardment and battles of Santiago, or Havana, firing and explosion of shells, explosion of sub-marine mines and blowing up of vessels on the lake in front of the exhibition grounds, exhibitions by Maxim and Gatling machine guns, etc., all of a specially interesting nature at the present time. The programme of attractions promises to far excel that of last year, which is saying a good deal. The exhibits will include many from Great Britain, France and the United States, whilst almost every section of the Dominion will be represented.

AN EXODUS OF RATS.

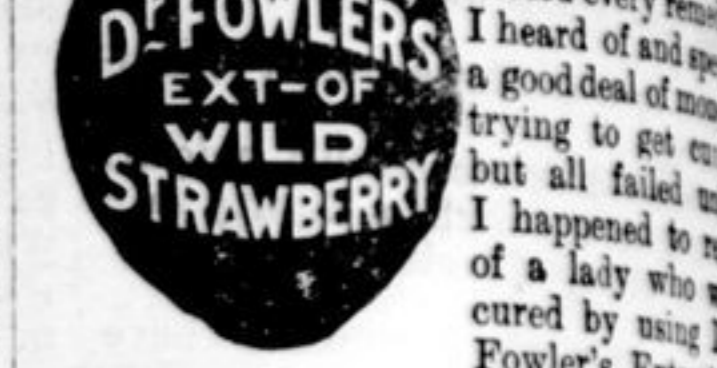
The North China Herald says that a curious phenomenon was witnessed recently at daybreak upon the opening of the Ch'angmen gate of Soochow. Some 4,000 or more rats of all sizes were seen to file out of the gates, showing no fear of the country people who were flocking to sell their market produce in the city. There is much excitement, amounting almost to a panic, therefore, in Soochow, and a dire fate is prophesied to the city, it being remembered that a similar exodus happened in the 5th, just prior to the fall of the city into the hands of the Taipings.

A Martyr to Diarrhoea.

Tells of relief from suffering by Dr. Fowler's Ext. of Wild Strawberry.

There are many people martyred to bowel complaints who would find Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry a wonderful blessing to them. It not only checks the diarrhoea but soothes and calms the inflamed and irritated bowel, so that permanent relief is obtained.

Mrs. Andrew Jackson, Houghton, Ont., sends the following letter: "For the past two or three years I have been a martyr to that dreadful disease diarrhoea. I tried every remedy I heard of and spent a good deal of money trying to get cured, but all failed me. I happened to read of a lady who was cured by using Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. I purchased a bottle and commenced taking it according to directions and was cured in a very short time. I cannot praise the remedy too highly for what it did for me."



Wild Strawberry. I purchased a bottle and commenced taking it according to directions and was cured in a very short time. I cannot praise the remedy too highly for what it did for me."

Advertisement for R-I-P-A-N-S medicine, describing it as a modern standard family medicine that cures common everyday ills of humanity.

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DR. A. L. BROWN, Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, Scotland. Office and Residence, opposite Temple Hall, Holstein.

DENTIST. DR. T. G. HOLT, L. D. Office—First door east of the Commercial Pharmacy, Calder's Block. Residence—First door west of Post Office, Durham.

Will be at the Commercial Hotel, first Wednesday in month.

Legal Directory

J. P. TELFORD, Barrister, Solicitor, etc. Office at the Commercial Hotel, first floor.

G. LEFROY McCAUL, Barrister, Solicitor, etc. Office at the Commercial Hotel, first floor.

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Mrs. Northside, I am certain that Mr. Esplanade's business makes you so certain? Ask Mr. Northside. I have seen Mr. Esplanade's and he has made me mostly agree that it is a business.

AMABLE YOUNG MAN. Mrs. Northside, I am certain that Mr. Esplanade's business makes you so certain? Ask Mr. Northside. I have seen Mr. Esplanade's and he has made me mostly agree that it is a business.