

# 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.

Stratford will increase its water supply.

An epidemic of sore eyes is troubling the cattle in the vicinity of Kingston.

H. M. S. Renown, Talbot and Indefatigable will visit Montreal about Oct. 1st.

The Kingston Penitentiary officials suspended some time ago have been reinstated.

Warden Metcalfe, of Kingston penitentiary, has been granted a month's vacation.

The Cataract Power Company has supplied its first electric current at Hamilton.

The C. P. R. monthly returns of the sale of lands for August are double those of last year.

Senor Du Bose has brought suit for \$500,000 against Lord Aberdeen for his expulsion from Canada.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen expect to bid adieu to Canada and to sail from Quebec for home on November 11.

The net debt of Quebec Province June 30th, was \$24,279,163, according to reports issued at Quebec.

The price of ice has nearly doubled in Ottawa, owing to a shortage in the supply. It is now \$4.50 a ton.

Major Walsh, who has arrived at Seattle, estimates the Klondike gold output for the year at \$11,000,000.

A London, Eng., despatch says a new loan of the city of Winnipeg will shortly be issued on the London market.

Halifax is to have a new fort. It will be the largest in Canada and will be mounted by the most powerful modern guns.

The Quebec Government has granted \$10,000 towards the agricultural prizes offered by the Quebec Exposition Company.

Dundas has granted a bonus of \$12,000 to John Bertram & Son, Canada Tool Works, to enlarge their premises.

Deposits in the Post-office Savings Banks during July totalled \$34,377,532, a slight decrease compared with July a year ago.

A fire, which started in the lamp room of the steamer Fernendine at Montreal, caused the death of George Venette, one of the sailors.

The Canada Atlantic and Ottawa & Parry Sound Railways have made a record of six days for grain shipments from Duluth to Montreal.

The reports of starvation on the Stickeen routes have been investigated by the Federal Government, and declared unfounded.

Stratford will exempt from taxes for 20 years the Whyte Packing Company, and will guarantee their debentures, as an inducement for the company to locate there.

The Italian barque Eritree arrived at Halifax on Monday from Santos and reports that when four days out from Santos, Captain Amatucci died of yellow fever and was buried at sea the same day.

Mrs. M. V. McLeod, herself an actress, has offered personally to deposit the \$8,000 necessary to secure the release of bail of Actor Emerson, who shot and killed Manager Tuttle at London.

In Vancouver considerable activity continues in the building trade. Street improvements amounting to some \$90,000 are also in hand, and the electric Street Railway Company is intending enlarging its system.

Dr. Clarence Chipman, formerly resident physician in the Protestant Hospital, Ottawa, has been presented with a set of surgical instruments by the medical staff of the institution and associate physicians. Dr. Chipman, after being about fifteen years connected with the hospital, recently retired.

The first month of customs preference to British goods shows remarkable results at Montreal, where the receipts for August were \$709,679.84 as compared with \$580,958.80 in August, 1897, an increase of \$128,721.58.

The Shawinigan Water and Power Company, whose enterprise promises to effect an industrial revolution in the Province of Quebec, are calling for tenders for the construction of the head race, foundation, etc. They intend to instal at once a plant capable of developing 100,000 horse power.

Captains Dan Smith and Millberry, of St. Martin's St. John County, have just returned from the Klondike wiser but not richer men. They report that claims are staked off all round Dawson for sixty or eighty miles, and that there are about thirty thousand idle people at Dawson City without means to get away. Thousands are selling outfits and starting home.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

Arthur Pease, Liberal-Unionist M. P. for Darlington, is dead at London.

The banking department of Low's Exchange in London, England, has suspended.

Lord Minto will sail for Canada on the Scotsman from Liverpool on November 8.

The cruiser Albany purchased at New castle-on-Tyne, England, by the United States Government prior to the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, is to be soon handed over to the United States authorities.

The London Times has a letter from

a correspondent advocating the adoption by the British navy of the American practice of circulating from the flagship to the whole squadron bulletins of all information which it is not necessary to send by signal.

The Millford Docks Company directors expect the early conclusion of negotiations by which an important line of steamers for carrying passengers and general cargo will be established to run between a Canadian port and the Millford docks.

## UNITED STATES.

An Anglo-American trust to control the sewing machine trade is said to be forming.

Commercial failures in the United States last week numbered 172, against 210 a year ago.

The United States mint at Philadelphia has received \$1,477,271 of Klondike gold within the past two weeks.

The consolidation of iron and steel companies is taking place in New York. The combine will control the American output.

Three trainmen were killed on Friday by a wreck on the N.Y.A., and W. at Ingal's crossing, four miles east of Fulton, N.Y.

Prof. A. J. Marks, author of "Holy Land" and "A Birdseye View of Palestine" and a lecturer of note, is dead at Chicago.

The court at Chicago is being asked to appoint a receiver for the Canadian-American Loan and Building Association there.

A one-legged negro tramp has been arrested at Wilmington, Del., in connection with the murder of P. C. Fowbey, of London.

A train struck a rig at a crossing near Ware, Mass., Saturday night and killed five of a pleasure party and seriously injured three.

Mrs. Harriet Scott is suing for her third divorce from James Scott at Muncie, Ind. They have been married three times. Mrs. Scott asks \$3,000 alimony.

It is now stated that Mgr. Ireland may be the recipient of the red hat in honor of his efforts to prevent the Spanish-American war. He will soon go to Rome to see the Pope.

Thieves secured \$6,000 in cash from a safe of the Pacific Express Company at Omaha. The small iron safe in the wagon was broken open while the driver was in a warehouse delivering goods.

Leading members of the Democratic National Committee, declare with marked unanimity that William J. Bryan will be nominated for President in 1900, and that the silver question will be the main issue of the campaign.

Collector Avery, of Port Huron, Michigan, declares that his action in turning back Canadians who were travelling by the Grand Trunk to work in the Northwest harvests has been approved by the Treasury Department at Washington.

The American Steel and Wire Company, of Chicago, organized last April by the consolidation of companies controlling 75 per cent. of the production of wire rods and barbed wire in the United States, has received overtures to become a party to the great iron and steel combination now being consummated in New York.

H. T. Higgins, cashier of the treasurer's office of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway, is dead from burns received by the explosion of a vapour bathing apparatus by which he was endeavoring to secure relief from hay fever. In some unaccountable manner the machine exploded while Mr. Higgins was in it. The shock was terrific, covering Mr. Higgins with scalding steam and leaving scarcely a portion of his body unharmed.

M. R. Todd, the cashier, who wrecked the Filmore County, Minn., Bank, has confessed to the theft of all the bank's deposit funds. He is also a forger, a spurious note having turned up in the bank's paper. A note given by the Presbyterian Church, of which Todd was treasurer, was paid, and Todd said he had destroyed it. The note now turns up as collateral in a Lacrosse, Wis., bank. Todd seems to have completely looted the bank and his mother-in-law's large estate.

## GENERAL.

General Merritt has left Manila for Paris.

Clara Barton with Red Cross supplies was denied a landing at Havana.

German shipyards at Kiel, Stettin, Elberg and Hamburg are unusually active.

A dozen deaths of tourists in the Austrian Alps are reported from Vienna.

A monument to Alexander II., grandfather of the present Czar, was unveiled at Moscow.

Fifteen persons are reported to have been killed in conflicts between the troops and the rioters at Tabriz, Persia.

According to strike statistics issued at Berlin, workmen won over half of last year's labour disputes in Germany.

The New Zealand Legislature has signified its willingness to join with Great Britain and Canada in the Pacific cable scheme.

Frau Dannebury, a portrait painter of Berlin, committed suicide at Berlin, being unable to get any news of her son with the United States army in Cuba.

During a heavy thunderstorm on Friday 20 peasants sought shelter in an old house near Foggia, Italy. The building collapsed and eighteen were killed.

It is said that the Pope has amassed \$20,000,000 during his pontificate. He has received from President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic, a diamond worth \$4,000,000.

Lieut.-Col. H. E. McCallum, R. E. C. M. G., Governor of Lagos, will succeed Sir Herbert Murray as governor of Newfoundland in October next.

Six sailors H.M.S. Cleopatra were drowned in the North Sea while striving to save the Norwegian schooner Livelig, with which the warship collided.

Lieut. Hobson has arrived at Santa-go de Cuba and will superintend the efforts to float the sunken Spanish war vessels, Cristobal Colon and Infanta Maria Teresa.

It is officially announced that there were 2,300 deaths from the plague last week in the Bombay presidency. The epidemic is spreading, and there has been a fresh outbreak in the State of Hyderabad.

## ORDEAL BY BAMBOO RODS.

An Extraordinary Indian Ceremony for Thief Catching.

The following extraordinary narration of facts as they occurred, and which, we are informed, were witnessed and can be testified to by the members of three households occupying a large house in Bentinck street, Calcutta, are so remarkable that it is worth the while of any scientist to test them personally, as this can be easily done on the occasion of any theft by domestics in a house. It may be added that every servant in Calcutta is a lively believer in its efficacy, and, if a thief, at once confesses. A Brahmin is the worker of these marvels. He is well known in Calcutta, and does not profess to work out his method off theft detection for money, but leaves it to those who employ him to reward him if they think fit. It is said that this is readily done, and that he makes a good thing out of it. A cook in the service of a family in the locality alluded to entrusted his nephew with a large sum of money to keep in deposit. The nephew alleged that he placed the money in an earthen pot, which he buried. The location of the exact spot was confided to a friend. Shortly after this the cook was informed by his nephew that the pot and money had disappeared.

With the nephew's consent the Brahmin was summoned to discover the thief, and the following is a bare narration of the extraordinary procedure he adopted, and usually adopts, in such cases. Accompanied by an aid, he comes to the house, provided with

## TWO BAMBOO RODS.

about sixteen feet long and an inch and a half in diameter. He also has with him a number of fresh peepul leaves, a cocanut, some rice and some vermilion and cowries; a fresh earthen dish has to be provided by the person who summons him as well as a stool.

All the servants in the house are summoned, they are made to stand in a half circle, and their names are written on each leaf, and these leaves with one painted with the vermilion are placed on the stool. Two utter strangers are then made to hold the bamboo rods, one in each hand, opposite each other, with their elbows far behind their hips, so that they can have little or no influence in turning or bending the rods. Now comes the strange part of the proceedings. At the Brahmin's call of each name the bamboo rods in the first instance rise together and form a semicircle above; they then bend and, forming a semicircle below, gradually come together pick up the leaf containing the name called out and throw it out of the dish. This strange process is repeated till the name of the thief, as alleged, is called, when they both seize the leaf, lift it up, and only disengage it at the call of the Brahmin, who treats the rods to let the leaf go. To all appearance the two men who hold the rods make no effort whatever. The thing is done in such an extraordinary fashion as to exceed belief. In fact, a reasonable human being cannot believe it till he has witnessed it, and when he has done so his amazement is all the greater. Here is, indeed, a marvel for the scientist to puzzle over. The two rods bend, come together and seize upon the right names as they are called out, and then throw them aside except in the case of the thief. In this instance the nephew confessed to the theft, and a number of his relatives who had come from up-country to witness the ordeal made restitution.

## SMALL NECKBANDS.

Often the neckband of a shirt waist will shrink upon being laundered and will become so uncomfortable when fastened with the collar button that one is in agony until it is removed.

A very simple remedy for this, and one that is always on hand, is the common safety pin. If the collar is only a trifle tight a small safety pin will answer the purpose, but if it is very uncomfortable, a good-sized one may be used.

Just put the pin through the two right-hand buttonholes of the collar and neckband, then through the two left ones and fasten the clasp. The tie will cover the pin and comfort may once more be obtained.

## SUSPICIOUS OF HIS ROLE.

Deadeye Dan—Be sure 'nd turn up at our lynching bee to-night, Bill. You're the M.C.

Bilgewater Bill (cautiously)—What's the M.C?

Deadeye Dan—Master of ceremonies.

Bilgewater Bill (relieved)—All right, pard. Thought maybe 'twas My Choke.

But you can learn to love me, Miss Kinsely—Isabel I am afraid not, Mr. Greef; I never could learn anything that demanded application.

# ROUND THE WHOLE WORLD.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE.

Old and New World Events of Interest Chronicled Briefly—Interesting Happenings of Recent Date.

Germany possesses regular schools for shoemakers.

It is 16 years since the bombardment of Alexandria.

In Greenland potatoes never grow larger than marbles.

A canoe propelled by steam is to be seen on the river at Kingston-on-Thames.

The Prince of Wales is quoted in opposition to the custom of cutting off horses' tails.

The Liverpool docks, one of the wonders of modern commerce, extend along the Mercy a distance of 61-2 miles.

Although the English army returns have not been issued a preliminary report gives the average strength for 1897 as 219,280.

The Duchess of Marlborough is a most accomplished elocutionist, and in this way often entertains her guests at Blenheim.

The Princess of Wales has accepted from the Scottish Kennel Club, the beautiful collie pup "Lochiel" of pure Scottish descent.

Two-thirds of all the letters which pass through the post-offices of the world are written by and sent to people who speak English.

London and Liverpool are both at the level of the sea. Glasgow is 30 feet above it, Manchester 50 feet and Birmingham 300 feet.

Russian peasants eat sunflower seeds in large quantities. You can hardly find a man who has not some sunflower seeds in his pocket.

Charles Fleming, a slater, of Tottenham, has died from heat apoplexy—the result of sitting in the garden in the sun without his hat on.

The cabbage still grows wild in Greece, where it originated. Radishes are native to China, but have been grown in Europe for centuries.

Railways represent an enormous addition to public wealth. The value of the railways of all countries is something like 5,556 millions sterling.

Wherever the Queen takes up residence two detectives accompany her—Charles Fraser, superintendent of the Metropolitan police, and Richard Lowe, of Scotland Yard.

The British Society of Arts has awarded the Albert medal to Professor Robert Bunsen, of the University of Heidelberg, whose achievements in chemistry are known all over the world.

The estimated cost of the Manchester ship canal was \$5,750,000, but before it was finished and ready for business \$10,250,000 more was required making a total of \$16,000,000.

In Europe physicians no longer prescribe medicines for their patients in the form of pills. All medicines which are not liquid are compounded into tablets and cachets. Capsules are also out of date on the continent.

A famous Italian surgeon, Professor Enrico Bottini, has given up his practice for the reason, as she explained in a public card, that he was "oppressed by the weight of the income tax imposed, and no longer able to meet it."

And now it is the Duchess of Orleans who states that Dreyfus is innocent and that everybody at the courts of Austria, of Denmark, of St. James and of St. Petersburg is aware of it, and also of the identity of the real traitor.

The Princess of Wales has had a singular distinction paid her by New Foundland. The latest issue of stamps bears the portrait of her Royal Highness, the third of a series of royal portraits to appear on the stamps of England's oldest colony.

The British Museum contains a very full collection of clay pipes, dating back as far as the sixteenth century. The custom of waxing the pipe end to prevent it sticking to the lips was introduced by the Dutch about the year 1700.

The laws of Mexico provide that a Mormon who wishes to take a second wife must present a certificate signed by his first helpmate to the effect that she is willing, and he must also have the express consent of the second wife and her parents.

The wife of the late Sir John Millais, P. R. A. and also his four daughters, sat as models for many of his most popular pictures. The little boy in "Bubbles" is the son of his eldest daughter, and three of his daughters sat for his famous canvas entitled "The Sisters."

Captain Joseph Lauff, who carries out the dramatic ideas of the Emperor William in much the same way that Professor Knackfuss executes his artistic ideas, has retired from the army in order to take the position of artistic decorator and official playwright to the Imperial Theatre of Wiesbaden.

Among the Queen's daughters Princess Henry of Battenberg, is unquestionably the most shy and nervous, and concerning the sovereign's granddaughters the Duchess of Fife may be said to head the list in this particular way. The Duchess avoids every court function as possibly can, and leads the very quietest of lives.

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