

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.

Peterboro fair is to have a dog show. A Chinese joss house has been opened in Montreal.

Belleville has decided upon civic control of the waterworks.

Hamilton aldermen have declined to reduce water rates for baths.

London Board of Health is investigating the prevalence of scarlet fever there.

The Manitoba Government may establish four chairs of natural science in the University of Manitoba.

The Canadian Cannery Association met in Hamilton and decided to raise the price of their goods.

Mr. W. W. Turner, a retired merchant, has given \$100,000 to establish a Home for Incurables in St. John, N.B.

A syndicate, represented by Mr. John Patterson, has made an offer to purchase the Radial Railway of Hamilton.

Hattie Grantham, aged 22, took poison at her home in St. Thomas on Tuesday after a dispute with her father. She may recover.

A committee of the Hamilton Council is to investigate the City Engineer's Department, which is alleged to be out of date.

Work was begun Tuesday on the Grand Trunk Railway's new offices in Montreal. They will cost about half a million dollars.

The Bear Lake Mica Co. is asking for a site, exemption from taxation and water, if they establish in Kingston a mica refinery.

A mother has been committed for trial at Hamilton on a charge of pouring a cup of boiling tea down her son's neck. She says it was accidental.

In a railway accident on the Calgary & Edmonton Railway, nine cars left the track. Several Galicians and three train hands were injured, but not fatally.

The Queen-Regent announced at the opening of the Cortes yesterday that the Spanish Government has ceded the Carolines, Palaos and Marianne Islands to Germany.

The action of ex-Ald. Griffin against the Montreal Street Railway for \$20,000 for injuries sustained while trying to board a car has been settled by the company paying \$3,000 and costs.

Rudyard Kipling will be unable to attend the convocation of McGill University at Montreal, June 16th, to receive in person the honorary degree of LL. D.

Beginning early in July, a new line of steamers will run between Montreal and Bordeaux, France. The company will be known as the Societe de Navigation Franco-Canadienne.

A body found in the St. Lawrence near Cornwall is presumed to be that of one of the victims of the bridge disaster on September 6.

In the Regina gold mine, near Rat Portage, Henry Langshire fell 45 feet and was killed. He left an invalid widow and five small children.

A spread of leprosy is threatened in Victoria, B.C., from the fact that vegetables purchased by Chinese and Japanese from lepers on D'Arcy Island, Lazaretto, are sold there.

The Brantford Board of Trade has decided to have a grand reunion of all the former residents of Brantford at the beginning of next year, to usher in the closing year of the nineteenth century.

Ex-Mayor McLeod Stewart, of Ottawa, who has just returned from England, says he has succeeded in the formation of a company with \$2,000,000 to construct the Ottawa and Georgian Bay Canal.

East Flamboro Court of Revision has exempted William Hendrie's race horses from taxation, because they are bred on Valley Farm, where he carries on general farming. They were assessed for \$10,000.

C.P.R. land sales in Manitoba were very heavy in May. Several days' sales have run as high as 3,000, and on Tuesday the sales of the company reached the 4,000 mark, 3,000 acres being sold in North Alberta alone.

The Fish and Game Clubs of Montreal which have leased waters in the Province of Quebec are greatly perturbed by an order just issued by the Department of Lands, Forests and Fisheries at Quebec, imposing a license fee of \$1 per day on guests of clubs who are not residents of the province.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Dr. Norman Kerr, the inebriate specialist, is dead at London.

Mr. Robert Cox, M. P. for South Edinburgh, Liberal-Unionist, is dead.

The reports as to the Queen's eyesight are stated by The British Medical Journal to be incorrect.

The Duke of Albany, the Queen's grandchild, is to be made successor to the Saxe-Coburg throne.

Sidney Cooper, the veteran artist, who is now in his 96th year, has sold four pictures at the London Academy at a price reaching four figures.

The London Daily Chronicle announces that Mrs. Maybrick is likely to be liberated shortly, as the result of the pressure brought to bear by Mr. Joseph H. Choate, United States Ambassador.

In the forthcoming sale of Dickens' manuscript, owned by Wm. Wright of London, is the manuscript of "Mrs.

Gamp With the Strolling Players." Although the first portion of the tale was written it was never published.

Harley House, Marylebone Road, London, once occupied by the Queen of Oude, who brought from India 2,600 idols, and was attended by a suite of 300 persons, is to be torn down to make room for a new building.

The Marquis of Londonderry has been asked and has consented to preside at a meeting in a committee room of the House of Commons, when a statement will be made of a project for constructing a tunnel between Great Britain and Ireland.

UNITED STATES.

A girl has died in New Orleans of yellow fever.

There is talk of a consolidation of Michigan railroads.

The Nicaraguan Canal Commission thinks the canal can be built for \$118,113,790.

Six United States revenue cutters have been ordered to Behring Sea, to protect the seal from slaughter.

Robert M. Murray, farmer, aged 60, of Bridgeport, Ont. fell from a trolley in Buffalo and sustained concussion of the brain.

Robbers wrecked the express car of a train at Wilcox, Wyoming, with dynamite, but got little for their trouble. The engineer was severely injured.

William H. Holland, the bookmaker who shot Samuel Holler, ticket seller for Buffalo Bill's Wild West show in New York, afterwards escaping, has been arrested in New York.

The United States has reconstituted the courts of the Philippines Islands, appointing a number of prominent native lawyers as judges and retaining the Spanish language.

GENERAL.

Fall River, Mass., has twelve cases of smallpox.

The steamer Perthshire is missing in Australian waters.

Over 4,000 factory employes are on strike at Le Creugot, France.

Liberia is understood to be asking for an American or British protectorate.

The steamer Moscow has sailed with 3,500 Cossack emigrants for Port Arthur, China.

The reported marriage of Paderewski, the pianist, to the former wife of Ladislas Gorswi, the violinist, is denied.

A new discovery of gold in lower California is reported. The average yield is from an ounce to two ounces a day.

Since March 4 there has been 498 plague cases in Hong Kong and 436 deaths. The weekly average of deaths now is 60.

The director of the Germania ship-building yard at Kiel was accidentally killed while preparing for the launch of the battleship Kaiser Wilhelm.

The winter wheat crop of Southern Russia has been completely destroyed by a protracted drouth. The spring wheat crop is also in jeopardy from the same cause.

The arrival of Major Marchant in Paris has stimulated an anti-British feeling, voiced by cries of "Down with England." Fifty agitators have been arrested.

The Spanish speech from the throne announces the sale of Spain's last islands, except the Canaries, to Germany. They include Marianne, Caroline and Palaos.

A sensational report from South Africa says that the Transvaal Government is supplying Mauser rifles and ammunition to Boer farmers on the British side of the Transvaal border.

German physiologists are interesting themselves in the case of a woman who lay concealed in a cellar twenty-seven days without food or water at Lubeck to escape arrest.

The Diet of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, in spite of several ministerial protests, will ask Prince Arthur of Connaught, heir to the throne of the Duchies, to reside in his future kingdom and receive a German education.

Lord Kitchener of Khartoum has been detained in quarantine at Trieste, Austria, on board the steamer Semiramis, from Alexandria, where deaths from the plague have occurred.

The French steamer Alosia, from Marseilles for Palermo and New Orleans with 233 passengers is at Algiers with her cargo of sulphur on fire. The cook of the vessel was asphyxiated and several passengers were burned.

TALLEST AND SMALLEST.

A Russian Successor to Tom Thumb—An Arabian Who Measures 7 Feet 11 Inches.

Tom Thumb's successor, according to veracious authorities, is a Russian dwarf named Great Peter. He is said to be just 22 inches high, a little under the height of a 2-foot rule. He is 18 years old and weighs only 61-2 lbs. At this rate Peter is the smallest of all midgets, and beside him even the renowned Tom Thumb was a very Colossus.

Without a doubt the tallest man in the world is Hassan Ali. Chang was regarded in former times as a wonderful man, but Ali is still more so. He is at least 21-2 inches taller. He was born at El Koronfiel, a suburb of Cairo, and near Mousky, the celebrated bazaar, of Arabian parents, and has for some time made Cairo his home. Hassan has no difficulty in forming a kind of human arch for mankind in general. His actual height in his bare feet is 7 feet 11 inches. When he stretches forth his hands to full length the measure is 7 feet 9 inches. His head is 31 inches long, and his foot 26 inches, while the palm of his hand measures one foot. Although 29 years of age, Ali is reported to be "still growing" both in length and weight.

HINTS FOR THE FARMER.

HOW TO MAKE A CEMENT TANK.

In building cement water tanks it is preferable to make them either square or oblong, for convenience in constructing the frame in which to mold the cement. For the foundation dig down until solid is reached, or below any danger of frost, and then fill this excavation with small stones up to within seven inches of the top, or if the bottom of the tank is wanted above the level of the ground it can be filled up as much as three or four inches more. After this is done put on five inches of concrete, which is made of six parts clear gravel and one part portland cement, just damp enough to firmly pack. This is a part of the work to be very particular about, as the firmer you pack it the better the job will be when finished. As soon as the concrete is put down, and before it dries any, put on a top coat one inch thick, which is made of two parts sharp, clean sand and one part cement thoroughly mixed and just wet enough to be like common mortar.

The side walls should be at least 12 inches thick, 10 inches of the concrete and an inch of the finishing coat on the inside and outside. A wall of less width than this is apt to spring if the tank is very large. The walls must be built inside of a frame and as soon as the wall begins to dry the frame can be removed. In building the wall the frame can be put up as the wall is built. After the frame is started, take some of the finishing coat and put an inch thick on the frame, so that when the frame is removed it will make both the inside and outside of the tank smooth. After plastering up six or eight inches in this manner, fill in the center with concrete and firmly pack it. These operations can be continued to any height desired.

The boards should be planed, to prevent the cement sticking when the frame is removed. A tank any size or shape can be built in this manner and it will stand the test if care is taken in building. It is not practical to build a frame and then lay it and plaster with cement, for it is not only hard to make the cement stick, but in a short time the wood will decay and the work is lost.

USING INSECT POWDER.

More chickens are killed through the ravages of vermin than through all the diseases put together. The birds are so weakened by these pests that they are very susceptible to many ailments, and where chickens have been practically killed by lice in some cases the gall duct of the liver is found very full. When chickens have many vermin upon them, their feathers look a little rough, eyes pale and sunken, there is a line underneath the eye which gives the bird a peculiar appearance, as if the beak were too long for the head, crown head, and the wings too long for the body. Even when the chickens appear strong and healthy, it is well to catch one or two occasionally and examine them very closely, and if there are the least sign they should be well dusted with insect powder. Those that have a large number of vermin upon them should be dusted with insect powder twice, the second time from five to seven days after the first dressing, also at the same time applying a few drops of sweet oil on the heads.

When dusting the chickens place a large sheet of paper on the table, and lay the bird on its back. Then part the feathers and shake the powder well in, so that the whole of the skin is covered with it. Turn the bird over and rub the preparation well into the ends of the flights among the quills. After they have been well dusted with the powder it should be knocked off the surface of the feathers with the hand, onto the paper, so that none is wasted.

MANURE IN THE ORCHARD.

Whatever orchards are manured with stable manure, much of the value of the manure is not merely wasted, but worse than wasted. The effect of the nitrogenous fertility is to encourage a rank, sappy growth of wood, and in young trees to retard fruit bearing. What the tree mainly needs is potash, and if fruiting some phosphate also. This will furnish the mineral material for producing a moderate amount of wood and plenty of fruit. The bulk of the wood growth if sound and healthy, is taken from the small amount of carbonic acid gas in the atmosphere, and elaborates in the sunlight by the leaves. If a young tree, but one large enough to bear, grows shoots more than 18 inches long, it should have no more manure, except potash and phosphate, until it begins to bear. In old trees a growth of 12 inches in shoots per year is as much as is best for them. At this moderate rate of growth the tree will keep on bearing so long as it has plenty of potash and phosphate, and be much healthier than if over supplied with nitrogenous fertility. One of the objections of cropping orchards is the fact that to make the crops more stable manure is sure to be applied than is for the best good of the tree.

HEAVES IN HORSES.

There is no permanent cure for heaves in horses. It can be lessened in extent by feeding nutritive material

in small bulk and more frequent rations. All coarse feed should be avoided, such as timothy, millet and clover hay. The best wild hay is preferable and it should be cut fine and given in small quantities mixed with mill feed or steamed food. Feed everything wet. Food and water should be consumed at least an hour before the animal is used for work.

SOLID FLOORS FOR STABLES.

Wherever there is a crack in a stable floor where horses or cows are kept, fertility, which is really money, is constantly being lost as the liquid excrement runs to waste. There are under many old stables several feet depth of soil filled with this excrement, which if drawn out on the fields makes the richest kind of manure. The stable floor should be solid, either made with matched plank, or better still, laid in cement, which will not absorb the excrement or rot as it lies upon it.

DISCOVERY OF ALUMINUM.

VAST DEPOSITS FOUND BY AUSTRALIAN MINING OFFICERS.

Used in Mistake for Roadmaking—Samples Equal to Any in the World—One of the Great Metals of the Future—Inexhaustible Beds.

The immensity and variety of the mineral wealth of New South Wales has just received another illustration in the discovery by officials connected with the Department of Mines in that colony, of vast deposits of bauxite, which, it may be mentioned, is a hydrated oxide of aluminum, and practically the only ore used in the arts of manufacture of aluminum at the present time, having taken the place formerly occupied by cryolite, says a Sydney letter. The ore invariably has a certain quantity of iron associated with it, and this metal is of the present in sufficient quantity to cause it to be of value as an iron ore. In addition to iron, variable quantities of silica and titanic acid are nearly always found as impurities. Deposits of bauxite have been discovered in the United States, Ireland, France, Germany, and are being extensively worked as an ore of alumina. The value of aluminum in the industrial arts is very great and rapidly increasing. In appearance it resembles silver, and is very malleable and ductile, approaching iron in tenacity and capable of high polish. It does not oxidize, and is one of the brightest of metals.

DOES NOT TARNISH.

It does not become tarnished like silver, but retains its lustre under almost every circumstance. Cheaper methods of production have enormously increased the demand for the metal within the last few years. In 1886 aluminum cost \$12.50 per pound, and the production in the United States of America did not exceed 3,000 pounds. In 1897 the metal could be obtained for 1s. 41-2d. per pound, and the same country produced 4,000,000 pounds from bauxite ore.

The process now in vogue is an electrolytic one, and the largest item in the cost of production is power—steam, water, or otherwise. The ores from which aluminum is obtained are abundant in the mountainous country south of Sydney, also in the northern districts and elsewhere, but up to the present, notwithstanding the richness and immensity of the deposits, have remained unutilized. Samples of ore from Wingello, in the northern portion of the colony, were analyzed by the New South Wales Mines Department, and found to contain a considerable percentage of alumina.

ENORMOUS QUANTITIES.

It has since been ascertained that variously tinted bauxite ores occur in enormous quantities in the district. In the southern country have been found iron ores containing a considerable quantity of aluminum, and which in some respects resemble the ferruginous bauxite of Wingello, passing by insensible gradations into basalt. The American bauxite ores shown at the Chicago International Exhibition resembled somewhat the laterite ores found in the New South Wales tin-mining country, in one part of which the laterite formation has a superficial area of 11 square miles, 577 acres, and a thickness from a few feet to 40 feet. The beds consist at the surface of a red, dusty soil, passing downward into the red, yellow, or gray tufts and compact psilolitic ironstone, which in their turn graduate into rotten, spongy basalt.

USED FOR ROADMAKING.

The ore, in ignorance of its real character and value, has been largely used for roadmaking purposes. Three samples of ore, on being analyzed, were found to contain 58.31, 35.28, 39.82 per cent of alumina. The first sample is equal to any in the world, being richer than the bauxite ores of France, Austria, Ireland, and the United States, which at present constitute the leading sources of supply. Bauxite ore forms the source from which all the aluminum of commerce is produced, and in view of the increasing demand for what is regarded as one of the great metals of the future, especially in connection with naval architecture, the discovery of bauxite in New South Wales may be regarded as an event of the highest industrial importance.

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NAPOLEON'S RETREAT. Three Tales of the Terrible Time in "Memoirs of Sergt. Bourgoigne." On the retreat of the French from Moscow Sergt. Bourgoigne struggling onward to reach the Russia, whose terrible crossing is his story.

"Unfortunately a terrible sleep the certain forerunner of death, began to come over me. I felt exhausted, my legs refused to carry me further. I fallen down half asleep several times and had I not been roused each time the cold all would have been over me. The road was here completely blocked by dead men and horses. Whenever I fell it seemed as if I were dragged down by the unfortunate stretched on the snow. Often these would try to catch hold of the legs of those who passed, imploring their aid, and many, in stooping to give help, themselves, not to rise again." But Bourgoigne lived to be eighty-two years old. Once, at Smolensk, he heard riotous, happy music. He could not believe that there were men of joy anywhere in the world. He thought his senses were wandering. However, he discovered a church at last, full of wretched troopers, singing and drinking and playing on the organ. A fire had been lit on the stone floor. They were all drunk, but he found some brandy in the cellar. There was a dog named Mouton, of an old sergeant named Daubenton. Mouton's paws were frozen and several days Daubenton carried up his back this dog, who had been with the regiment in Spain, at Essling, Wagram, Starving himself, perishing with the cold, Daubenton would not let the dog die. Bourgoigne's memoirs have but appeared in an English translation.

WHEN TO SHAKE HANDS. Here are some simple rules for shaking hands— observe in the matter shaking hands— A hostess should shake hands with every guest who comes to her house, whether her own friend or the friend of her friend both on arrival and on departure. A young girl introduced to an older woman should await the action of the elder, who, if kindly disposed, will shake hands. Any man presented to a woman, even if he is decidedly elderly or distinguished, must wait for her to make movement toward shaking hands. When one woman presents to another the man accompanying her, it is the duty of friendship, as well as of duty, for the man to be met with a cordial handshake. Ordinarily, however, women are supposed to shake hands with men when they are presented to them. It holds good even at a dinner party where a woman for the first time meets the man who is to take her to dinner.

Hardware!

Who will be the Lucky 4? Only four Spraymotors left in stock. Secure one and save your trees as well as your fruit.

Just received a large shipment of Harvest Tools, such as Seythes, Snaths, Cradles, Rakes, etc.

Another consignment of Screen Doors and Windows just to hand, which we are selling very cheap. Every farmer should have them.

Our weekly supply of Ready-Mixed Paints come to hand to-day for House, Buggy, Wagon, Implements, etc. You will save money by painting your buggy.

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