

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.

The cost of the recent plebiscite in Hamilton amounted to about \$1,300. Lord Minto has consented to become Patron of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada.

John Torrance, of Montreal, has subscribed \$50,000 towards the debt of St. James' Methodist church there.

Hamilton Police Commissioners have finally refused the Verral Transfer Company's application for a license.

Belleville ratepayers have voted in favour of the by-laws to bonus the carpet factory and rolling mills there.

Mr. Strathcona and Mount Royal, the Canadian High Commissioner in London, has arrived at Ottawa on a brief visit.

Mr. Thomas McDougall of Hamilton was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun while duck-shooting on the bay on Thursday.

The body of Samuel Burns has been found in a swamp near his home at Weymouth, N.S. Foul play is suspected.

English bondholders of Winnipeg's water-works system have accepted \$237,500, the city's offer for the whole system.

Mr. James Marshall struck a flow of natural gas while drilling a well on Mr. Wm. Esthane's farm, near Ryckman's Corner, Wednesday.

The Elder-Dempster Co. is increasing its Montreal Atlantic fleet by the addition of six new vessels now in course of construction.

P. A. Sinclair, law student of Winnipeg, is reported to have fallen heir to an estate worth several millions, by the death of his uncle in New York.

The annual exhibition of the Ontario and Toronto Poultry Associations in connection with the American Poultry Association will be held in Toronto in January.

J. H. and C. Glass, commercial travellers of London, were slain by samples and personal effects in the fire which destroyed the C. P. R. station at Virden, Man.

The Government has decided to extend clemency in the case of Henry Davidson, who was sentenced to be hanged on December 18 for murder in Antigonish County, N. S.

John Medland, an employe of the Kern Organ and Piano Company, at Woodstock, is under arrest there on a charge of ill-treating his four-year-old ward, Charles Skeates.

Five shares of the Bank of New Brunswick stock, par value one hundred dollars each, were sold at auction in St. John, on Tuesday for \$300.50 per share. The highest figure heretofore reached was \$280.

The Winnipeg section of the Canadian Bankers' Association has adopted an emphatic protest against the city of Brandon pursuing any course which would lead to a repudiation by the city of its financial obligations.

Mrs. Thomas Wright of Hamilton was attacked by a cow in front of her house on Wednesday. She was caught on the horns of the cow and thrown over its head, but was in danger of being seriously injured when rescued.

The Locomotive Works of Kingston have now thirteen engines under contract, two building for the Intercolonial R. R., six for the C.P.R. Company, and now five more have been ordered by Hon. Mr. Blair for the Government railway.

Galician detectives are now engaged in the work of unearthing the Stuartburn, Manitoba, murder mystery, in which a Galician settler and his four children were found slaughtered. A bloodstained coat has been found some distance from the house.

The Stevens Manufacturing Company's building at London was damaged to the extent of \$10,000 by fire on Saturday night. During the blaze some of the policemen were called off their beats, and burglars took advantage of the occasion by robbing about half a dozen places.

Recent gales caused serious floods in Ireland.

The latest vogue of fashion in London is monocles for women.

Sir John Goldie-Taubman, Speaker of the House of Keys since 1877, is dead at London.

The American trans-Atlantic Line has ordered six twin screw liners from firms at Newcastle and the Clyde.

Sir John Power, who was engineer-in-chief of the Forth Bridge, for which services he was created baronet, is dead at London.

Sims Reeves has completed his treatise on the art of singing, in which he expounds the secrets of the old Italian methods.

Rev. Dr. Kane, rector of Christ's Church, Belfast, and Grand Master of the Belfast Orangemen, is dead from a stroke of apoplexy.

Japan's cruiser Kasagi, built by the Cramps, of Philadelphia, is at Shields, Eng., en route to Newcastle to ship her Armstrong guns.

British exports for the year ending with October, decreased \$10,000,000, chiefly, it is said, through the alteration in the U. S. tariff.

It is announced that Sir Thomas J. Lipton will convert his tea, coffee and provision business in the United States into a stock company in February.

One hundred and forty-four baskets of the fragments that remained from the Lord Mayor's banquet on November 4th, were distributed among an equal number of hungry persons.

The British Government will add a generous sum to the Mansion House fund of \$220,000 for the relief of the distress and damage caused by the recent hurricanes in the West Indies.

Anonymous donors have paid to the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy (the cost of the gold communion plate which Mr. Ernest T. Hooley, who is now in

the Bankruptcy Court, presented to St. Paul's Cathedral.

The British Government has decided to make a generous grant for the relief of the distress and damage caused by the recent hurricane in the West Indies. The Mansion House fund for this purpose is inadequate, only £44,000, being realized.

Right Hon. Charles T. Ritchie, discussing the subject of British trade before the Croydon Chamber of Commerce, regretted that the exports of the year ending with October had decreased £2,000,000, chiefly through the alteration in the United States tariff.

Statistics show a decided increase in the consumption of meat in Great Britain. In twenty years it has risen from 112 to 122 pounds per capita per annum. This is supposed to be due to the vast importations of frozen meats from Australia, and live cattle from America.

The Bruce case, in which a Mrs. Bruce claims the Dukedom of Portland for her son, has taken a sensational turn through a decision of the court permitting the exhumation of the alleged remains of her father-in-law, known as Thomas C. Bruce, but said by her to have been the fifth Duke of Portland. Appeal has been entered.

Col. Henry Lee, noted banker, is dead at Boston.

Kansas, Minnesota and Wisconsin have been visited by a blizzard.

A trust to control the peanut trade of the United States, is being formed at Norfolk, Va.

The Wilson Bank at Utica, Ohio, has been robbed of \$5,000 in currency and \$7,000 in bonds.

The widow of George M. Pullman, the car magnate, will receive \$9,000 a month as her share of the estate.

Franz Abel, an Austrian artist, fell dead while finishing a picture in New York. He was working there in poverty. His sister is a countess living in Vienna.

An ex-tax collector is charged at Holyoke, Mass., with embezzling \$115,000.

Nearly 3,000 operatives in the cotton mills at Augusta, Ga., are on strike against a reduction of wages.

Eight persons were injured in a wreck caused by a cow on the Big Four Railroad near Alton, Ill., on Tuesday.

The French Line steamer La Normandie, at New York from Havre, is detained at quarantine owing to small-pox among her steerage passengers.

Eleven men were injured, four probably fatally, in a fire in East Cambridge, Mass., on Tuesday. The watchman of the destroyed factory is missing.

It is estimated at Duluth there there is between four million and five million bushels of wheat, now under contract to go forward before the close of navigation.

John Wagenblast, aged 20, is in St. Catharines Hospital, Brockton, N. Y., with both eyes, cheeks, nose and lips gone, but the physicians say he will live. He had accidentally shot himself.

An American naval demonstration, it is said, will follow Turkey's refusal to make good the indemnity which the United States has exacted on account of the damage done to American citizens and property of American citizens in the Armenian massacres.

The grand jury at Philadelphia has returned true bills against United States Senator Quay, his son, Richard Quay, and ex-State Treasurer Benjamin J. Haywood, charged with conspiracy to unlawfully use public moneys deposited in the People's Bank of Philadelphia.

GENERAL.

Madrid is threatened with a strike of lamp-lighters.

A Carlist rising is again reported imminent in Spain.

The chief of the rebels in Sierra Leone has been captured.

Bai Bureh, the rebellious chief of Sierra Leone, has been captured.

Two descendants of Christopher Columbus are said to be occupants of a farmhouse in Cadiz.

The Columbus monument, formerly in the Cathedral at Havana, has been shipped to Soan.

Recent gales are reported to have wrecked many fishing vessels on the Normandy coast.

France will raise a loan of \$54,000,000 with which to extend the Indo-China railways into China.

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er has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment for boasting that he had been chosen by lot to assassinate the German Emperor.

The Philippine provinces have suffered from the severest typhoon in years. Malolos, the headquarters of the Spanish Government, has been damaged, and many villages have been destroyed.

Prince Henry of Prussia, unveiled at Shanghai on Monday, the monument to the officers and sailors of the German third-class cruiser Illis, lost in a typhoon on July 23rd, 1896.

The Italian Government has sent an ultimatum to the Sultan of Morocco on the subject of the ill-treatment of Italian subjects, and a warship has been appointed to bring the reply back.

Lapland has just begun to publish its first newspaper. It is dated in a town with an unpromising name, is written upon a single sheet, and is issued every Sunday.

Electric tram lines have been laid over a portion of the street car system in Liverpool, and experimental cars have been run, though the route is not yet open for public use.

A young female clerk named Jennie Dyk was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for writing a portrait of Emperor William displayed in a store window at Breslau.

A London medical paper has been solemnly warning its readers not to wear old boots. It declares that after a time the leather harbours microbes, which prey on the feet of the wearer.

The Liberta, of Paris, says that the winner of the capital prize of \$100,000 francs at the last drawing of Paris Exposition bonds of 1900, is a chimney sweeper named Louis Hervey, living in Lyons.

The former Spanish cruiser Maria Teresa, which was put out of business at Santiago, and afterwards raised to be towed to New York, has become a total wreck on Cat Island, and has been abandoned.

The number of fires in Paris during the year 1897 was 1,190, and the loss of life was 135, but five of the deaths having occurred in the fire of the Charity Bazaar.

The projected birthday audience of the Dowager Empress of China to the ladies of the diplomatic corps has been abandoned owing to the difficulties raised by the Chinese in regard to ceremonial matters.

The rebellion of the native forces in the Spanish military service on the Visayas Island, has been subdued. Twenty-five rebels were shot and sixty-nine were sentenced to imprisonment for life with hard labour.

Attorney General Stanford in a case in the Circuit Court at Anderson, Ind., insist on the right to present and argue their side of the suit in poetry. The judge pending an adjournment, is looking up precedents.

It is reported from Bombay that a Hindu mendicant, arrested at Patiala, while eating an uncooked corpse of a child, has confessed that he and two comrades have subsisted for years on corpses exhumed from village cemeteries.

Father Felix, the head of the monastery at Mount Carmel, in the Holy Land, recently visited by Emperor William, was for twenty years a resident of London. He was the first head of the Carmelite Monastery in Kensington.

The food of the Sultan of Turkey is prepared by one man. It is cooked in silver vessels and sealed in hermetically closed dishes, which are opened in the presence of His Majesty by the High Chamberlain, who takes a spoonful of each viand.

The Sultan has ordered the closing of an orphanage at Zeitung, which shelters six hundred orphans of Armenian troubles. The institution is admirably managed by American missionaries, being chiefly supported by British charity.

The French Government proposes to seal for building purposes the near St. Cloud, where Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugenie passed their honeymoon. The Parisians object, fearing that this is but the first step towards the disposal of many of the wooded parks and history reservations about the city.

HAS GIVEN AWAY \$2,800,000.

Lord Mountstephen Shares His Wealth With His Relatives.

A despatch from Montreal says:—Lord Mountstephen has just made a handsome donation to his relatives. He has transferred the sum of \$2,800,000 to J. W. Sterling, of New York; Robt. Meighen and John Turnbull, of Montreal, as trustees. Amongst the beneficiaries are his brother, William Stephen; Frank Stephen and his four daughters; Mrs. Robt. Meighen and her three children; Frank Meighen; Miss Margaret Smith Meighen; Mrs. R. W. Renford, Mrs. James A. Cantile and her children, George S. Cantile, James A. Cantile, Jr., Lieut. W. Northcote Cantile, Francis P. Cantile, Mrs. Adams, George Stephen and his four sisters, being the children of the late James Stephens, Mrs. G. S. Pelton, and six children, J. C. Covington, and five children, Mrs. Stephenson, besides other relatives in England.

His Lordship's desire, which is generally commended in Montreal, is apparently to give his relatives that as a matter which is often required by worthy heirs before a testator's death.

WAR IS OPENLY SUGGESTED.

Tension Between Norway and Sweden is Increasing.

A despatch from Christiania, says:—The tension between Norway and Sweden is increasing. A bitter feeling between the countries was caused by Norway's removal of the emblem of Swedish union from her flag. She is now seeking openly to break the compact between the two countries.

War is openly suggested by the newspapers, which print the comparative armaments of the two nations. There has been a notable increase of armaments on both sides of the boundary. The Norwegians claim they must assert their independence.

THE FEEDING OF POULTRY.

Remarkable Results Achieved by the Government Establishments.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Remarkable results have been achieved by the Department of Agriculture in connection with the poultry-feeding establishments which were opened a short time ago. At Carleton Place, where the station was placed in charge of Youill and Son, ordinary fowls were purchased from the farmers, placed in coops, and put under a special feeding process. The rations consisted exclusively of oatmeal ground as fine as flour, and mixed with skimmed milk. In two and a half weeks the first lot of birds, which were not obese specially, but were taken from ordinary farmyard stock, made flesh so rapidly that when killed they ranged in weight from 7 to 8 1/2 pounds each. Even Prof. Robertson was astonished at the result of the experiment. The birds had been made in which to pack the birds for export, twelve birds to each box, but after allowing even for a substantial increase in the weight of the birds, results proved that the boxes were not so small. This experiment opens up quite a field of work for the Canadian farmer. It shows that as regards the dairy and poultry feeding industries one is the complement of the other, skimmed milk being the by-product of the dairy industry, being the one essential to the success of the poultry-fattening business.

FARMERS HOLD THEIR WHEAT.

Larger Quantities Carried Over Than Ever Before.

A despatch from Winnipeg, Man., says:—The receipts of wheat of this year's crop at Fort William and Port Arthur elevators to November 21st inclusive amounted to 4,500,000 bushels, compared with 6,250,000 bushels received to same date of last year. The amount shipped forward to Ontario and seaboard was 3,100,000 bushels, against 6,600,000 a year ago.

The following table shows how the wheat in ported into the elevators compared with the inspection in 1897 to November 21st:—

Table with columns: Crop, No. 1 hard, No. 2 hard, No. 3 hard and No. 2 North, No. 1 Northern, No grade, Rejected, Total.

The farmers are still disposed to hold their wheat for higher prices, and it is thought that a larger quantity will be carried over next spring than ever before in the history of grain-growing in this country.

Prices in the country range from 50 to 60 cents. No. 1 hard, spot, Fort William, about 70 cents; December, 68 1/2 cents; Duluth, 70 1/2 cents. Prices to conform with all-rail freight rates will be made on Monday.

ONE HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

Passenger Steamer Portland Totally Wrecked Off Highland Light.

A despatch from Boston, Mass., says:—A special to the Herald from North Truro says the steamer Portland, of the Boston and Portland Steamship Company, plying between Boston and Portland, was totally wrecked at 10 o'clock Sunday morning off Highland Light and the entire crew and passengers perished within a short distance from shore. A large quantity of wreckage, including trunks and other material, has come ashore, and at dark on Monday night 34 bodies had been recovered from the surf by the life-saving crew at High Head station. One body was that of a woman.

The news of the disaster was brought to the Herald through the agency of a special train, as communication with Boston by wire from points on Cape Cod is impossible on account of the storm.

The crew of the Portland numbered 49 and her passengers 52, or a total of 101, all of whom, so far as known, are lost.

That Portland was built in Bath in 1870, and was a side-wheel steamer of 1,317 tons net burden. Her length is 230 feet; beam, 42; depth, 15 feet. She was valued at \$250,000, and fully insured.

It is thought here that the Portland took the storm on Saturday night, causing her to break down and finally to drift on to these lee shores and to destruction.

LIPTON WILL INVEST \$5,000,000.

Mr. Chamberlain Invites Capitalists to Assist in Reviving the West Indies Sugar Industry.

A despatch from London says:—In addition to inducing the Treasury to make a substantial grant to the British West Indies, Colonial Secretary Chamberlain has incited the cooperation of several capitalists of England in reviewing the sugar industry of those islands.

Sir Thomas Lipton is among those who responded to the invitation, declaring his willingness to invest about £1,000,000 if independent investigations warranted it.

A FEARFUL PANIC ENSUED.

The Charity Bazaar Fire Nearly Repeated in Paris.

A despatch from Paris says:—There was a very narrow escape to-day from a repetition of the terrible disaster of the Charity bazaar fire. While a religious ceremony was in progress in the vestry-room of the Church of St. Germain des Pres, where many girls from the schools were in attendance, the cinematograph lamp was accidentally extinguished, and a fearful panic ensued, everybody instantly fleeing. The Charity bazaar fire called the panic, but before 40 girls were more or less seriously injured by trampling.

ALL CREEKS CONTAIN GOLD.

Inspector Moody's Investigations in North British Columbia.

A despatch from Ottawa, says:—Inspector Moody of the North-West Mounted Police, is daily expected here. Mr. Moody was despatched by the Government on the 12th of September, 1897, to locate a trail from Edmonton to the mouth of the Peelly river. The party met with hardships such as are fortunately rare even in the West, but the information obtained is certain to prove of very great value. From Fort Graham, in British Columbia, to Selkirk, at the mouth of the Peelly, their journey occupied in all three months.

Inspector Moody is satisfied that there is scarcely a creek in Northern British Columbia which does not contain gold. The Indians are wholly unreliable as guides. Comparatively easy passes exist through the Rocky and Wolverine mountains between Fort St. John and Fort Graham.

Mr. Moody lost five months by going to Quesnell for horses, and before he could get back to Fort Graham, where his party were wintering, the ice had broken, blocking his passage.

RUN OVER BY A LOCOMOTIVE.

An Old Lady Killed in the G. T. E. Yard at Brockville.

A despatch from Brockville, says:—A sad fatality occurred on Tuesday morning in the Grand Trunk railway yards at what is known as the William street crossing, by which an old lady named Mrs. Geo. Huddleston lost her life. She started to walk over the track a short distance in front of a light engine. The fireman, taking in the situation, signalled the engine, who stopped. At that moment Mrs. Huddleston drew back, and the fireman, thinking she had changed her mind and decided to wait until the engine had passed, gave the signal to proceed, and the engine, turned on steam again. As he did so, she stepped on the track, and before the engine could be brought to a standstill the second time the tender struck her and knocked her down, the wheels passing over both legs, cutting them off at the knees. The unfortunate woman died in a few minutes from the shock.

She was somewhat deaf, and partially blind, and it is supposed she became confused, and misjudged the distance of the engine. Mrs. Huddleston was one of Brockville's oldest inhabitants, being 66 years of age. She is survived by a large family.

HIS CRIMINAL DATE.

The Pope has Been at Death's Door Several Times.

The Pope appears to have recovered from the serious indisposition which gave rise to the recent alarming report. His Holiness has never had a strong constitution.

About his twentieth year he believed that he was wasting with phthisis, and wrote an eloquent piece of Latin verse on his approaching end, "Why flatter thyself?"

Ten years later, when he was apostolic delegate at Benevento, he came near dying of a fever. It was thought that he was lost.

He was saved by the act, then thought foolhardy, of Dr. Volpi, physician to the King of Naples, in plunging him into a bath of cold water at the moment of the most violent attack of the fever.

Leo XIII. has not gone out of the enclosure which surrounds the Vatican in twenty years, and yet has surpassed the years of life of Pius IX., who alone of all the Popes had exceeded the years of Peter.

In the eyes of superstitious Romans Leo XIII. has performed another miracle of longevity. He has escaped a calamistic calculation, which set the seal of his life for the year 1892.

It is said all his predecessors in this century, Pius IX., Gregory XVI., Pius VIII., Leo XII., Pius VII., have obeyed the law of figures.

Leo XIII. alone has escaped it, and the sum calculated, if it were exact in his case, would assign him ten years more of existence, which would make the Pontiff surpass even the age of Dage Dandolo.

SEARCHERS FOR ANDREE.

The Expedition Was Wrecked in Eastern Siberia.

A special despatch to London from Yeniseisk, on the the River Yenisei, in Eastern Siberia, announces the arrival at the mouth of the Yenisei of an expedition that had gone in search of Herr Andree, the aeronaut. The expedition was wrecked while crossing from the delta of the River Lena to the River Olenek which flows into the Arctic Ocean Southwest of Bennett and Delong Islands, but managed to reach an uninhabited island about 120 miles from the mouth of the Olenek. There the party was inclosed for seventeen days before it was sicoured.

LEARNING MADE EASY.

I don't know that there is much use of my keeping my school open more than a month or two each year, said the German pedagogue.

Why is that?

Our emperor has simplified matters to such an extent that when you ask the name of the world's greatest poet, painter, musician, general, traveler or monarch, there is only one answer to all the questions.

MISPLACED SYMPATHY.

Doctor, why is it that my head aches so when I've come off a spree?

Because your brain is in sympathy with your stomach.

It is! Well, it shows mighty poor judgment.

SELLING AND BUYING.

Farmer—I don't see how we're to get along this winter. No money in anything.

Wife—What's the matter?

Farmer—The market is glutted, and pays to send things to town.

PEAS AND OATS ARE FIRM.

Wheat About Steady—Millfeed Scarce and Wanted—Corn Higher—Produce—Live Stock.

Toronto, Dec. 2.—Wheat—Values here were about steady to-day. Exporters bid 67c for red and white, north and west and holders asked 68 to 69c. Manitoba fairly steady at 60c for No. 1 hard, Toronto and west, and 61c. g.g.; No. 2 hard and No. 1 Northern, Toronto and west, 77c. Goose wheat, outside, 70c.

Flour—Straight roller, in bbls., north and west, offered at \$3.10, and exporters bid \$3.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, in bags, on track, here, \$3.30 per bu.; and in bbls., \$3.50.