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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.

According to the census taken on May 26th, the population of Winnipeg is 31,619.

The high water in the Fraser River is subsiding, and railway traffic has been resumed.

Mr. T. A. Wardell of Dundas has been elected Grand Master of the Canadian Order of Oddfellows.

The crop outlook in Manitoba continues to improve, and the prospects for a bountiful harvest are promising.

The Ottawa City Council has adopted a by-law prohibiting bicyclists going faster than eight miles an hour within the city limits.

Assistant Engineer E. G. Barrow has been recommended for the appointment of City Engineer of Hamilton in succession of the late Mr. Haskins.

John Charlton M.P., has entered suit against the New York Central Railway Company for damages for injuries received in an accident at Tonawanda last December.

Manitoba crop reports continue to be of a gratifying nature. With favorable weather wheat has made great progress, and a good harvest is assured.

Thieves broke into the vestry of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, and after drinking all the wine in sight, ransacked the box containing the Archbishop's vestments.

Archie Ramillard of Ottawa was drowned in the South Nation River, below the city. He was tipped out of a buggy while crossing the river with some companions.

United States officers are in Edmonton, Alberta, looking for a man known as Cigarette Charley, who is accused of murdering a son of A.W.G. Ott at Wheaton, Ill.

Mr. George Olds, until recently General Traffic Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been appointed as the representatives of that road on the Board of Managers of the Joint Traffic Association.

A shortage of nearly $4,000 discovered in the books of the late town treasurer of Stratford has been made good by Wm. Lawrence, son of the deceased, who was appointed treasurer on his father's death.

A number of well-known Toronto bankers and financial men, who were interviewed on Friday, expressed the opinion that the adoption of a silver standard by the United States would seriously affect the business relations of the Dominion with that country, and that Canadian investments would undoubtedly suffer.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A scheme is on foot to erect a gigantic model of the globe in London, on a scale of one-five-hundredth of nature.

Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, formerly British Ambassador at Vienna, is dead. He was seventy-three years of age.

The Infanta Eulalie of Spain is in London, where she is entertained elaborately during the height of the present season.

Returns of the British Board of Trade for June show an increase in imports of $6,650,000 and an increase in exports of $13,650,000 as compared with June, '95.

It is announced in London that after the naval manoeuvres the Duke and Duchess of York will go to Australia on board the Blenheim the fastest cruiser in the British navy.

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, on Friday visited, by special invitiation, Marlborough house, and were given a cordial welcome by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Imperial House of Commons has voted in favor of compelling the India Exchequer to pay the expenses of the troops sent to Suakin to replace the garrison troops there who are being used in the Soudan expedition.

Lady Mary Bligh, a daughter of the Earl of Darnley, committed suicide on Sunday night by drowning herself in a pond at Cobham hall. She was in poor health and was despondent over a disappointed love affair.

The Allan State line steamer State of Nebraska, from New York to Glasgow, refused to answer her helm while ascending the Clyde on Tuesday, and collided with the warship Dido. Both vessels had several plates smashed.

The Town Council of Birmingham has before it an offer from Mr. William Mackenzie, president of the Toronto Street railway, and Mr. James Ross, president of the Montreal Street railway, to purchase the whole street railway system within the town.

Mrs. Anna Hodgins, wife of Mr. Frank E. Hodgins, a Toronto lawyer, while riding a bicycle in London, Eng., on Wednesday, fainted, and fell from the wheel, and died in a few minutes. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict that she died from apoplexy, induced by sun-stroke.

UNITED STATES.

Mrs. Monroe H. Rosenfeld at New York, is recovering from the effects of a five weeks' trance.

Police of Fargo, Dakota, believe they have James Dunham who murdered a family of six in California recently.

Alonzo J. Walling, convicted of the murder of Pearl Bryan, was sentenced yesterday to be hanged on August 7th.

At the convention of the Christian Endeavourers held in Washington, it was decided to meet next year in San Francisco.

The New York Sun (Democrat) has bolted the Democratic platform, and exhorts all Democrats to support Mr. McKinley.

Thirty-one persons were killed and many injured in a collision on an excursion train on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad near Logan, Iowa.

Three commissioners have been appointed by Governor Hastings to investigate the Wilkesbarre mining disaster and discover who is to blame.

By the explosion of a Chicago & Northwestern locomotive boiler at Trombly, Mich., one man was killed and three others terribly injured.

Emil Gebhardt, Charles Habel and William Sauchagrin have been arrested at Detroit, charged with smuggling old iron and steel from the Canadian side.

One of the largest life insurance corporations in New York is discharging a number of its clerks owing to unusual dulness in its business at the present time.

By the explosion of an oil lamp in Buffalo on Wednesday night, a dwelling-house was destroyed, three people were killed and a fourth was probably fatally injured.

The New York Board of Health has made spitting upon the floors of public buildings, boats and cars an offence, punishable by arrest and imprisonment. The law becomes a section of the Sanitary Code.

Harry L. B. Nead, formerly assistant paymaster on the Canadian Pacific railway, was arrested on Friday in New York, suspected of having appropriated $5,000, which he stated was lost from his pay car in May.

The Pittsburg, Pa., city auditors have finished their examination of the books of ex-City Attorney Moreland and his assistant, House, and report $297,000 unaccounted for on the books.

O'Donovan Rossa recently recalled to mind an old-time friend who had been sent to the penitentiary, and at once sat down and wrote a letter to Governor Morton, asking for his pardon. He was somewhat startled to receive a reply stating that his friend had been dead for three years.

Business throughout the United States continues unusually quiet, and according to reports from the two principal commercial agencies in New York, not mush change for the better is apparently immediately probable. The dulness has been increased somewhat by unfavorable weather, and considerably by uneasiness as to the future financial position of the country caused by the action of the Chicago convention. Collections are unsatisfactory, and there is a general disposition to curtail credit. Wool is depressed, with no satisfactory activity in the demand for fall goods. Iron and steel is in lessened request, with no prospect of present revival. Boot and shoe manufacturing is still active, but the outlook is weak.

GENERAL.

Dantzig has a case of Asiatic cholera.

Three thousand houses have been destroyed by floods on the west coast of Japan.

The cattle plague in Australia continues. Entire herds of cattle are being destroyed.

It is rumoured that Abbas, the young Khedive of Egypt, will visit Europe during the present summer.

The rumour is again revived that the Prince of Naples is likely to marry Princess Elena of Montenegro.

Baron Hirsch's widow has donated four million pounds to promote the emigration of Russian Jews to Argentina.

It is reported in Berlin that the Transvaal Government has ordered 60,000 rifles from German manufacturers.

A Cairo despatch says it is reported that there are 20,000 Mahdists in Dongolaa, and that they are resolved upon fighting.

A German sub-marine cable company has been formed in Berlin, to lay a cable from Germany to Spain, and thence to the United States.

It is reported in Constantinople that sixty thousand Kurds in the Diarbekir district have revolted and are pillaging the villages indiscriminately.

The town of Cobrin, in the Province of Grodno, Russia, has been burned. Three hundred houses were destroyed, and two thousand people are homeless.

British troops made an attack upon the Matabele position at Theba Imamba on Sunday, and were repulsed. They repeated the attack on Monday, and were successful.

Governor Murray, the British and French Commodores and the Newfoundland Ministry held a conference on the fishery troubles, and there is hope of the matter being settled.

There were seventeen cases of cholera and five deaths from the disease among the Egyptian soldiers at Cairo on Monday, and four cases and four deaths among the British soldiers in the same place.

A despatch from Athens says that Russia is prompting France to occupy Crete and hold it against Great Britain's tenure of Cyprus and Egypt. The British fleet has been so strengthened in Cretan waters as to almost blockade the island.

The new Shah of Persia has announced that henceforth public posts, dignities, and military titles will be bestowed solely on the merits of the candidates, and that no money consideration will be allowed weight in the matter of appointments.

It is related of the late Jules Simon that when he was directed to make an official report on the Paris Exposition of 1889 the amount named for the work was $8,000. He, however, of his own accord, reduced it to $2,400, to the amazement of all office-holders.

A NERVY GANG.

Long Record of Chicago's Tall Man and Short Man—Daylight Hold-ups With Many Spectators.

A despatch from Chicago, says:—The history of the "tall man" and "short man," includes twenty-one holdups, and in nearly every instance the famous pair have been the active men. The present series began with the robbery of the dry goods store of John F. Bowman & Co., in West Twelfth street. Four men entered the place one night in May, and after taking $300 from the till, locked Mr. and Mrs. Bowman in a small closet in order to prevent pursuit. Then the dry goods store of Jonathan Innes, No. 657 West Twelfth street was robbed of $100; next R.E. Morris, a tea merchant, in Blue Island avenue, was forced to give up $35. In each instance the robbers walked into these places either in broad daylight or early in the evening, covered those present with revolvers and then helped themselves. Then Raymond's dry goods store, at Lake street and Centre avenue, was looted, and two days later Thomas J. Marshall, of the Golden Rule dry goods store, at Centre avenue and West Madison street, was killed in his doorway, as he pursued four bandits, who held up his cashier, customers and clerks, but failed to get any money. The bandits fired a dozen or more shots outside the store, and besides killing Mr. Marshall, wounded two by-standers. The bandits entered the Columbia Restaurant, No. 235 Wells street, terrorized the cashier and customers, and captured a small amount of money. Gustav Peters, a grocer, at Leavitt and West Madison streets, was the next victim, and then Meine & Hinkle, grocers at Wells and Indiana streets, gave up about $100. The daring robbery of the cashier of Klein's dry goods store, followed after an interval of two days. In that case seven hundred persons were frightened by the bandits' pistols, and $300 was obtained. Eight other robberies followed, in which two of the bandits were killed by citizens, and finally came the looting of the safe of the New York Biscuit Company, when $2,000 was taken. The robberies succeeding that were small.

THIRTY-ONE KILLED.

An Awful Accident on the Chicago Northwestern Railroad at Logan, Iowa—Details of the Fatality.

An appalling accident to an excursion train occurred early on Saturday evening at Logan, Iowa, 35 miles east of Omaha, on the line of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, in which 31 persons, living in Omaha, Council Bluffs, Missouri Valley and intervening points, were killed and 40 injured. The train consisted of fifteen coaches, loaded down with members of the Union Pacific Pioneer Association of Omaha and their families and friends. The excursion party left Omaha early in the day, picking up recruits at Council Bluffs, Missouri Valley, and Woodbine, Ia. Its destination was Logan, Iowa. About 7 in the evening the journey home was commenced. The train had hardly passed the limits of the city, and was rounding a curve, when down brakes was whistled, and then came a crash. The excursion train had been run into by a fast freight, and all the coaches were ditched. This has been a day of general mourning in Omaha. The crowds of anxious people at the depots did not scatter with the break of day, although the excitement of the night wore off as relatives and friends of the dead ones became convinced of the worst. About 7 o'clock the first funeral train from the scene of the catastrophe arrived at the Union Depot, and there was an involuntary push forward to gratify a morbid desire to learn the news from those who had been in the disaster. The first train contained many of the more seriously injured, and, as the poor unfortunates were lifted, in blankets, from the car, the groans of the wounded mingled with the agonized sobs of relatives and friends. Twenty passengers were taken in ambulances to St. Joseph's Hospital. Several of them cannot hope to live more than a few hours. At 8.30 o'clock the train carrying the dead was sighted coming across the long Union Pacific trestle. As it drew up to the station a special cordon of police guarded the approaches and kept the crowd back. Seventeen bodies laid on pine boards and covered with a plain muslin shroud were taken one by one and placed in a long row on the floor of the baggage-room. Only friends of the missing ones were allowed admission. Those silent forms gave evidence of the force of yesterday's collision. Headless trunks, bodies without limbs, limbs without bodies, were gathered in that small space. Occasionally some one would recognize the features of a son or a daughter. Kind friends would gently lead them from the room, and the body would be ticketed and sent to the undertaker's.

DIPLOMATIC POTHER.

The Queen's Invitaiton to the Young Czar and Czarina to Visit Her at Balmoral—Objections Raised by France and Germany.

Her Majesty has sent an official invitation to young Czar Nicholas and his wife to visit Balmoral during the coming autumn, and the news of this action appears greatly to have agitated French diplomats and caused some stir at the German court. The Queen sent the invitation as the grandmother of the Czar's wife, and certainly had no idea of arousing international passions; but it looks as though that would be the result if the Czar comes to this country. The French Ambassador has been instructed, so the story goes, to delicately hint to the Czar that he had much better stay at home, or if he wants a change, that he should take it on French soil. It seems scarcely credible that French diplomacy should make such a fearful mistake. As far as the Czar is personally concerned, he has no particular love for the French alliance, and has never concealed his own conviction that an Anglo-Russian alliance could stand against the world. He has subordinated his personal opinion and predilections to the unanimous advice of Russian statesmen and diplomats, and has even made believe to love the French alliance, another proof that autocracy has its limits. If, however, the French presume to give advice and make representations in connection with such a purely family affair as a visit to the Queen, the Czar, as likely as not, will tell the Frenchmen to mind their own business. The German Emperor seems to think that if he is not to go to England this year no other monarch ought to go there, and German diplomats undoubtedly would regard the Czar's visit to this country as an intentional rebuke to their efforts to get England within the meshes of the triple alliance. Hence it is possible that there will be a prodigious pother over a distinctly innocent transaction on the part of a sovereign of whom it may truly without flattery be said that she, personally, has never, in the sixty years of her reign, made a serious mistake of policy or etiquette in dealing with foreign monarchs and international questions.

FLOODS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Growing Crops Upon the Low Lands Damaged—Atlantic Lobsters and Oysters Reach the Coast.

Unprecedented heat during the last two weeks in the mountains resulted in melting the accumulated snow lying on the mountain tops in all parts of the interior swelling the Columbia and Fraser Rivers almost to as great an extent as in 1894. So far beyond inundating low-lying lands no great injury has been done, except to growing crops which are considerably damaged, especially in the lower Fraser valley. The mountain streams are still high. The Columbia and Kootenay Rivers are greatly swollen, overflowing their banks to the coast. No lives are reported lost, but much damage has been done. Traffic on the Canadian Pacific runs with remarkable regularity, considering the immense difficulty to be contended with. The telegraph service is uninterrupted.

All the canneries are now busy and the salmon are running, but not to as great an extent as will be the case during the next and following weeks.

Mr. Stayner of the Fisheries Department has arrived at Vancouver with a refrigerator car loaded with lobsters and oysters from Halifax for transplanting in the Pacific waters. The long journey, the hot weather and the lack of sea water it is feared will militate against the success of the experiment. Out of 300 large, healthy oysters taken on at Halifax it is believed there are only about 100 now alive, which will be let loose in the Gulf of Georgia. The oysters are all alive and healthy. Ten tons of ice were consumed on the journey.

Half our knowledge we must snatch not take.—Pope.

SOME MERRY MONARCHS.

ANECDOTES OF RULERS OF FAR-AWAY COUNTRIES.

An Irish Sultan in Morocco—The Musical Shah—A Prince That Went Broke—A Family Tree.

The dusky King Khawa, ally of the English in South Africa has had to pay dearly for his recent jaunt to London. He has sent the following message to the English people: "I shall never forget the kindness received in England. I send greetings. When I returned I found all my cattle dead and my crops eaten up by locusts. Famine will stare my people in the the face in a short time."

AN IRISH SULTAN.

It is not generally known that the present Sultan of Morocco is of Irish descent. Such, however, is undoubtedly the case. Early in this century his grandfather Sultan Sidi Mahomet, chose as his wife a handsome Irish girl, widow of a sergeant of sappers who had been detached from the British garrison at Gibraltar and taken into the Sultan's service. Her son is Muley Yezid, nicknamed the "Red Beard."

THE MUSICAL SHAH.

The late Shah of Persia had a somewhat curious taste in music. During one of his vistis to England he sat through a concert at the Albert hall, and after it was over he asked that the first item in the programme might be repeated for his benefit. It was done, but still the Shah was not satisfied. "The tune before that is what I want," he explained, "the very first tune of all." And then it became clear that it was the preliminary tuning of the instruments that had made such a favourable impression on the king of kings."

PAWNED HIS WATCH.

Nearly every crowned head in Europe has an alias. Some have two or three, which are used according to the amount of style they intend to support while travelling incognito. The Prince of Wales usually travels incog. under the title of the Earl of Chester, but if he intends slipping off very quietly he goes as Mr. Moulton. On one of these occasions the prince was actually reduced to pawning his watch, as well as that of his equerry, Gen. Teesdale. It was at Sedan, shortly after the war of 1870. The prince was visiting the battlefields in the strictest incognito, and was exceedingly anxious that he should not become known, fearing that it might give offense to his French friends to know that he was viewing the scene of their disaster. When the time came to leave Sedan he found he had not enough money to pay his hotel bill, and that Gen. Teesdale was in an equally penniless condition. Any telegram that he could have sent would have disclosed his rank, and there were similar objections in confiding in the innkeeper. So after much discussion he decided to send the general to place both their watches in pawn.

A SCIENTIFIC KING.

In the matter of ancestry King Menelek of Abyssinia seems to have things pretty much his own way. Alongside of him the Mikado of Japan, with his 2,500 year old family tree, is a mere parvenu. Menelek is a direct descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, though the beauty of the latter is not at all manifest in the short, squat, inky black Abyssinian. His mother, however, was a woman of unusual beauty. Menelek has great ability at mechanical construction; years ago explorers likened him to a monkey, declaring that his chief delight was in destroying watches and clocks for the sole pleasure of putting them together again. Little did they understand the steady development of mind indicated by these diversions. Some years ago the French Government sent Menelek a mitrailleuse as a present; it was packed in cases for convenience of carriage across the mountains, and the cases reached the emperor's palace at Goudat several days before the French officer who was sent with them. Great was the surprise of the latter on entering the courtyard to find that the weapon had been unpacked, properly put together and mounted. The fact was that Menelek had been making a careful study of the mechanism of firearms for years, and with the aid of pictures of the mitrailleuse he was able to direct its setting up. This is but one indication of the advance in modern warfare made by the Abyssinians. Thanks to their ruler's scientific turn of mind, they are now able to manufacture gunpowder, and if not to make, at least to repair their own weapons.

THE BRITISH INCOME TAX.

John Bull's Way of Raising Money An Object Lesson to the Yankees.

Financiers at Washington are beginning to cast very wistful eyes at the British mode of raising revenue by the income tax. Possibly the great difference in the situation of the two Governments at present has made officials at Washington enamoured of British ways. This year the Treasury at Washington will have to report a larger deficit than the British Exchequer showed a surplus—enormous though the latter was. Now while keeping their thumb on Britain's free trade, the officials at Washington are pointing out how easily Britain raises money by the income tax. They say and rightly, the estimate of the income tax are made on the yield per penny, and this yield, in spite of recent remissions which amount to £175,000 per annum, has grown in twenty years by £200,000, and now stands at £2,012,000. This means that the British Government, whenever it needs an additional ten millions of dollars or twenty millions of dollars of revenue, is able to get it by merely adding a penny or tuppence to the income tax. This tax touches no one whose income is less than $800 a year, and at 8d. on the pound easily produces £16,000,000, or $80,000,000—a striking object lesson in taxation to the people of the United States, who boast of their republicanism, but have submitted to the repeal or nullification of every tax upon wealth.

CHERRIES FOR THE PUBLIC.

In Germany and other parts of the Continent cherry trees are commonly planted by the roadside. Any passenger may eat of the fruit, except that about which the owner has bound a wisp of straw, in token of reservation. This intimation is universally respected.

HAD PROVED HIS CAPACITY.

Have you any doubt as to my ability to support your daughter? asked the impecunious lover.

Not a doubt, young man, not a doubt, was the discouraging answer; I know to a dead certainty.

THE BOSTON ARTILLERY.

The Ancient and Honourable Greatly Delighted with Their Reception—Greeted with Enthusiasm by all Classes—Obtaining Souvenirs at Windsor.

A despatch from London says:—Col. Walker, of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, said to a representative of the Associated Press:—"Our visit virtually concluded on Friday night, with the smoker of the Honorable Artillery Company, though most of the Ancients were present in uniform yesterday afternoon at the annual inspection of the Honorable Artillery Company. I wish to record our keen delight at the character of the reception we have met with here. Of course, we expected the generous wholesouled courtesies of our comrades. But we were totally unprepared for the great popular reception by the mass of the people which we have met with every moment since arriving here. It is very clear to all of us that the mass of Englishmen are heart and soul against any interruption of the peaceful relations between the two countries, and they took this occasion to spontaneously demonstrate the same. This is the spirit manifested by the Queen, Prince of Wales, Duke of Connaught, Lord Wolseley, and everyone in authority. They all seem to be most anxious to emphasize the pleasure of seeing the Ancients."

The reception accorded to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in England surpasses anything in point of genuine, hearty enthusiasm in the history of the country. On all sides, from the Queen and the Prince of Wales down to the poorest of the masses, the hand of good-fellowship has been loyally extended to the visitors, who, as distinctly stated by the Prince, were not received as foreigners, but as brothers from across the sea. But there has been a humorous feature in the proceedings, which it will do no harm to record. When the Ancients were entertained in the Royal Orangeries at Windsor on Wednesday many of their ladies were anxious to obtain souvenirs of the occasion, and they persuaded the waiters to sell them knives and forks. Consequently the waiters did a thriving trade. They charged five shillings each for common steel knives, and it now develops that these knives were the property of the contractor at Windsor who supplied the feast, and that they were never used inside the castle.

VESSEL DAMAGED BY A WHALE.

A Leviathan of the Deep Almost Sank a Vessel in Australian Waters.

A strange incident lately occurred in Australian waters. The brigantine Handa Isler arrived at Sydney Harbor from New Zealand, presenting the appearance of having been struck by a heavy sea, as she was much damaged amidship. The vessel had made a fair voyage from Mercury Bay, New Zealand, with a cargo of timber, up to within ten days of Sydney. Two large whales were sighted, each being about 60 feet in length. At first they appeared to be heading across the ship's bows, but they suddenly slewed round and came broadside on to the ship at a tremendous speed. The first whale struck the ship amidships and, although the vessel is 200 tons register and was laden with nearly a million feet of timber, the concussion was so great that the vessel shook from stem to stern. The second whale, fortunately, did not ram the ship, but dived just before reaching the Handa Isler, and passed under the keel. The brigantine was badly damaged by the collision, and the whale must have been terribly injured, as the sea around was speedily dyed with its blood, and the animal did not rise after striking the vessel. The well of the ship was at once sounded, and it was discovered that the water was making at the rate of a foot an hour, which, in a vessel so deeply laden, was a very serious matter, Sydney being 220 miles distant. Examination showed that there was a large dent in the side where the whale's head had butted in the planking and framework. As the water gained on the pumps, the deck cargo was jettisoned, but continuous pumping enabled the crew to finally get the vessel clear. On the next day, the weather being very favorable, a pad composerd of green hides, in which pillows had been sewn, was fastened over the dent in the timbers. The inrush of water was then checked, and the vessel was also enabled to weather the severe gales which followed, and to reach Sydney Harbor in safety.

THE BRAIN.

Is Nourished More Than Any Other Organ.

There are two parts of the human organism which, if wisely used, largely escape the decay of old age. These two are the brain and the heart. Persons who think often wonder why brain workers—great statesmen and others—should continue to work with almost unimpaired activity and energy up to a period when most of the organs and functions of the body are in a condition of advanced decay.

The normal brain remains vigorous to the last, because its nutrition is especially provided for. About middle life, or a little later, the general arteries of the body begin to lose their elasticity, and to weaken, slowly but surely. They become, therefore, much less efficient carriers of the nutrient blood of the capillary areas. But this is not the case with the internal carotids, which supply the capillary areas of the brain. On the contrary, these large vessels continue to retain their elasticity, so that the blood pressure remains higher than within the capillary area of any other organ of the body. The blood paths of the brain being thus kept open, the brain tissue is better nourished than the other tissues of the body.

THE SHAH'S VAST WEALTH.

The vast wealth in jewels and specie left by the late Shah will be inherited by the new one, and fifteen millions is not too high an estimate of their worth, the great globe of gold, incrusted with huge gems, being valued at £1,000,000, while the historical diamond, the Deryah-i-Nur, or Sea of Light, and a vast treasure of gems, form part of the largest and most valuable collection of precious stones in the world. Mozaffered-Din commences his reign as the wealthiest monarch in the world.

A peerage has been conferred upon Sir Hercules Robinson, the Governor of Cape Colony.

THE FIELD OF COMMERCE.

Some Items of Interest to the Busy Business Man.

The world's shipments of wheat for the past week were 7,260,000 bushels.

Canadian stocks are quiet and steady. Bank shares are higher than last week, with a fair investment demand.

The stocks of wheat at Toronto are 177,253 bushels as compared with 181,393 a week ago, and 24,557 bushels a year ago.

Stocks of wheat at Port Arthur and Fort William are 1,603,148 bushels as against 1,458,420 a week ago and only 215,622 bushels a year ago.

The price of wheat in Ontario is lower, there being sales of white at 62c. on the G. T. R. west. Cables rule easy and large receipts in Western States keep prices low.

The flow of oil is so great at the new wells a couple of miles west of Bothwell, Ont., that teams are required constantly to haul the oil to the cars, there not being sufficient tankage at the wells to hold the oil for any length of time.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada is 47,199,000 bushels, a decrease of 661,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the total was 43,359,000 bushels. The total afloat to Europe is 24,800,000 bushels, a decrease of 1,200,000 for the week, while a year ago the total was 40,400,000 bushels. The visible and amount afloat to Europe combined, are 71,999,000 bushels as against 73,680,000 bushels last week, and 83,759,000 bushels a year ago.

The total sales of real estate in Montreal for June were 99 with a value of $270,924.53, as against 89 sales and $317,138.01 in May, and 85 sales and $285,986.62 in June, 1895, showing a decline of over $46,000 from the previous month and only $15,000 from June last year. The total sales for the city and suburbs are 140, of a value of $349,255.78, against 138 sales of a value of $437,479.19 last month, and 119 sales of a value of $414,249.09 in June last year.

The Winnipeg Manager of the Molsons Bank, reports that the crop outlook in Manitoba continues to improve. The wheat acerage will not equal that of last year, but on the whole the prospects for a bountiful harvest are very promising. There is less credit in the country, consequently farmers are more prudent, and instead of running into debt are gradually reducing old liabilities; in fact are in a better shape financially than ever before. Quite a number are carrying over a percentage of last year's crop, something unprecedented in the history of the country. Mixed farming is becoming more general, and with it, the assurance that the failure of any one crop will not mean the impoverishment of the whole community.

The Keewatin Milling Company of Manitoba have just contracted with the Canadian-Australian Steamship Company to carry 900 tons of flour and wheat each trip for the next three boats to Australia and Suva. The reports of this trade show a steady and marked increase in the demand for the Canadian product, and so great are the exports that it is almost impossible to get freight space on the steamers without booking it several trips ahead. The Canadian flour made from the famous hard wheat of Manitoba, is steadily gaining favor in the markets of the southern colonies. One of the chief reasons of this is that flour made from hard wheat is very much stronger than that which has heretofore been used in Australia and Suva, and can be sold in the market even at seventy-five cents to $1 a barrel higher price than soft wheat flour. At the increased price it is found more profitable and economical and hence its popularity is growing.

There has been a moderate volume of trade at Toronto this week. Orders were chiefly a hand-to-mouth character for seasonable goods, and prospects are fair. The feeling with regard to the future has improved somewhat, and there is apparently less uncertainty than a week ago. Harvesting of winter wheat is in full swing in the Niagara and Lake Erie districts. The grain is of first-class quality, but the yield will be light. The spring crops both north and west look remarkably well. Barley, oats and peas are all doing well. Dealers in winter goods are taking the usual interest in crop reports and are guided to a great extent by them. Prices of the leading staples are generally unchanged. To effect sales prices are shaded in some lines of woolens and cottons. The money market is quiet with rates unchanged. Call loans are quoted here at 5 1-2, and the best commercial paper is discounted at 6 to 6 1-2 per cent. Speculation has been fairly active in the Stock Exchange. Bank shares in demand and firm, while loan issues in some cases are weaker.

ULTRA COURTEOUS.

The late General Sir Henry Ponsonby, Queen Victoria's private secretary, was noted for his politeness, and whenever an artist performed at Court he always telegraphed the following day to inquire after the performer's health. On one occasion Rogers Prat was sent for to Court to exhibit his educated geese before Queen Victoria's grandchildren. The day following the artist received the traditional telegram from General Ponsonby, written in the following immutable terms: "Her Gracious Majesty would be delighted to know if the members of your troupe are well, and if they have had an agreeable journey. For my own part, I beg you to convey to them the expression of my esteem."

HE MARRIES ROYALTY.

The Most Reverend Edward White Benson, ninety-third Archbishop of Canterbury, has officiated at the greatest number of royal marriages. Archbishop Benson officiated at the three following royal weddings, namely: Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice to the late Prince Henry Maurice of Battenberg, on the 23d of July, 1885, at Whippingham Church, in the Isle of Wight; Her Royal Highness Princess Louise, eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales, to the Duke of Fife, at the Chapel Royal, St. James, London, on the 22d of July, 1889, and His Royal Highness George Frederick, Duke of York, to Princess Victoria May of Teck, at the same chapel, on the 6th of July, 1893. He will in all probability officiate at a fourth royal wedding in July this year—that of Princess Maud of Wales to Prince Charles of Denmark.

TORONTO