

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 City Council is considering a curfew by-law. Mr. John Carnegie was elected President of the Peterboro' Board of Trade. Mr. E. J. Sanford, son of El Paso, Texas, died at Hamilton, Ont. on Saturday.

Anti-toxine is being successfully used at Brockville for the cure of diphtheria. Mr. Watson Croxley, Patron member of the Manitoba Legislature for Dennis, is dead.

The London City Council has decided to impose a license fee of \$100 on cigarette vendors.

The Montreal rolling mills have closed down, throwing about 100 men out of employment.

The Nova Scotia Legislature has been dissolved, and the general elections ordered for April 20.

Charcoal, or "Bad Young Man," the Indian mascot, was lodged at the police barracks, Macleod.

Rev. Dr. Potts of Toronto has been elected Chairman of the International Sunday School Lessons Committee.

A fortnightly steamship service between Montreal and Manchester will be inaugurated when navigation opens.

The Dominion Line has ordered a new steamship from Harland & Wolff of Belfast for the St. Lawrence trade.

Rev. Dr. Jackson, of Knox church, Galt, has accepted a call to Madison, Ontario, to succeed Rev. Dr. Mackenzie.

Two cases supposed to be leprosy are under the supervision of the Winnipeg Health Department. Both are foreigners.

The St. Thomas Board of Education is taking steps to suppress the habit of cigarette-smoking among the school children.

Joseph Froeborn died at the Hamilton City Hospital from the effects of a rib broken several years ago and neglected.

An old lady named Mrs. Mary E. Monteith, living in Stratford, Ont., was killed on Saturday by a runaway horse in that city.

Nine of the marksmen eligible for positions on the Bisley team have notified the secretary of the D. R. A. that they will go.

There is every prospect of a large make of butter in Manitoba during the approaching season.

It is left to the discretion of the Canadian Militia Department as to what troops shall be sent over to take part in the diamond jubilee.

Mr. Peter Mitchell has been appointed General Overseer of Fisheries for Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, with headquarters in Ottawa.

The Governor-General will shortly announce a date for the closing of the national Indian famine fund, which has now reached about \$130,000.

Mr. George Mercer, governor of the county of Guelph, died on Friday, aged 70. He had held the position of governor of Ontario for 37 years.

Harry Velverton Goring, a tobacco-nobleman of Tanworth, has succeeded to a baronetcy by the death of Sir Craven Goring, the tenth baronet of that name.

The Hon. T. Nosse, the Japanese Consul-General at Vancouver, B.C., is in Montreal to report on the advisability of appointing a Japanese Consul in that city.

By the bursting of a watermain on Atwater avenue at Montreal part of the western end of the city was inundated and damaged to the extent of over \$5,000.

Mr. Nosse, Consul-General for Japan at Vancouver, B.C., who is at present in Montreal, will shortly have a conference with the Toronto Board of Trade on trade matters.

It is reported that Lieutenant-Governor Mackintosh of the Northwest Territories is about to resign his office, and move to Rossland to look after his mining interests.

Minister Davies has published through the High Commissioner's office in London a cablegram denying the statement that there is danger in the use of Canadian canned salmon.

Students of Laval University, Montreal, mobbed a French newspaper for publishing a caricature which they thought reflected on them. The police were called and dispersed the students.

The Hull Electric Company has served the Ottawa Electric Company with notice of a claim asking \$29,000 damages for infringement upon the territory and rights of the Hull company.

Sir Donald Smith, High Commissioner for Canada in London, has arrived at Montreal. He spoke encouragingly of immigration prospects in England, and also discussed the school settlement.

Ottawa is divided in opinion as to whether the military celebration should take place on May 24 or on July 21, the diamond jubilee. Sir Richard Cartwright has promised to talk the matter over with Major-General Gascoigne.

The Rev. George H. Wells, whose death by a railway accident is reported from Milwaukee, was pastor of the American Presbyterian church in Montreal for twenty-two years. He was fifty-six years of age.

Hon. Sidney Fisher announces that the Government has made final arrangements for the cold storage of butter and other perishable food products which will be shipped weekly on steamships running between Montreal and Avonmouth in London and Liverpool.

GREAT BRITAIN. Prof. James J. Sylvester, the noted mathematician, is dead at London, England. Lord Salisbury is suffering from a mild attack of influenza, and cannot leave the house at present. Lord Justice Edward Elmes Kay, Lord Justice of Appeal, is dead. He was seventy-five years of age.

The President of the National Liberal Federation states that home rule is nailed to the masthead of the Liberal Party.

The lookout in the engineering trade of England began on Friday night, and bids fair to paralyse the tra's of the country.

The largest diamond in the world has arrived in London from Kimberley. It is said to be worth two million and a half dollars uncut.

Jan Maclaren (the Rev. Dr. John Watson) is to be cited before the Presbyterian Synod, for alleged heterodox teachings in "Mind and the Master."

The Lord Mayor of Dublin has issued invitations to a meeting at the Mansion house, to start a Parnell family fund, Mrs. Parnell and Mr. John Parnell being both in needy circumstances.

Another step in the direction of municipal ownership has been taken in Liverpool, where the corporation has purchased the horses, vehicles and good-will of the United Tramways & Omnibus Co.

Complaints have recently been made in London that among Canadian horses imported during 1896 some were affected with an infectious catarrhal disease, which greatly lessened their value.

Secret and rapid preparations are now being made at Woolwich and other military establishments of Great Britain, and war stores are being forwarded to Cape Town, as a trouble is expected in South Africa.

Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick has sufficiently recovered from the effects of his recent operation to be enabled to attend a meeting at Brighton, where he will remain a short time before returning to Toronto.

UNITED STATES. Two cases of smallpox have been discovered in New York.

Wild cats are reported to be killing cattle in northern Michigan.

The loss caused by the big fire in St. Louis, Mo., on Monday will reach \$1,000,000.

The new United States tariff, it is expected, will increase the revenue over \$60,000,000.

The village of Pigeon, Mich., is inundated as a result of the overflowing of the river there.

A mother, father and child were burned to death at Omaha, Neb., on Tuesday by a gasoline explosion.

Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling were executed at Newport, Ky., on Saturday for the murder of Pearl Bryan.

The floods in Tennessee are increasing, and reports from Memphis record loss of life and great destruction of property.

William T. Adam, better known as Oliver Optic, the writer of stories for boys, is dying at his home in Dorchester, Mass.

Frank Butler, alias Newman, the accused Australian murderer now in custody at San Francisco, will not fight extradition.

The Tariff Committee have agreed to report an amendment to the Dingley bill which will allow the import of fish caught in the Canadian waters of the great lakes free of duty.

The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, of Brooklyn, will not be allowed to lecture in the Y.M.C.A. hall in Philadelphia, because he recently threw doubts on the story of Jonah and the whale.

Commercial telegraphic advices from the United States tell a story of business depression that even the facile pencil of a commercial editor cannot effectively gloss over.

Business is increasing but it is much below the average of previous years. There is, we are told, increased activity and necessarily increased demand for labour, but the value of labour does not appear to rise.

GENERAL. Signor Grimaldi, the Italian statesman and ex-Cabinet Minister, is dead.

Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria will visit St. Petersburg next month.

A very serious water famine exists in the central and southern portion of the Island of Jamaica.

Despatches in the London Daily Mail say that Emperor William is showing marked signs of insanity.

It is rumored that Prince Henry of Orleans will be offered the position of Governor of Crete.

According to a census just taken the Japanese in Hawaiian Islands number 21,000 and the Hawaiians 31,000.

Violent gales prevailed all Thursday night throughout Germany, causing some loss of life and great destruction of property.

The Dutch steamer Utrecht, which is supposed to have foundered at sea, carried a crew of thirty-six men, but no passengers.

At Cana a gun exploded on board the Russian turret ship Sisoï Velikiy, killing fifteen men and wounding an officer and twenty seamen.

La Liberté, of Paris, commenting upon President McKinley's tariff policy, strongly recommends a European combination against the United States.

President Kruger is very evasive in his reply to Mr. Chamberlain's denial of Boer violation of the London treaty, and there is fear of a Transvaal war.

Twelve women charged with poisoning their husbands and other near relatives in order to obtain insurance money, are being tried at Hold Mezzo-Vesarely, Hungary.

Despatches from Cape Town announce that British troops have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for emergencies, and that the situation in the Transvaal is very grave.

There is reason to fear that the Dutch mail steamer Utrecht, which sailed from Rotterdam on February 28th for Java, foundered in the vicinity of Usant, and that the drowned persons she had on board are lost.

THE DUKE OF LEEDS. He Will Succeed Lord Aberdeen as Governor-General.

A despatch from London says that the Duke of Leeds will succeed the Earl of Aberdeen as Governor-General of Canada in 1898.

George Godolphin Osborne, tenth Duke of Leeds, and a Prince of the Holy Roman Empire, was born in 1808 and succeeded to the title on the death of his father in 1895. He was educated at Eton and at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was a lieutenant in the Yorkshire Hussars.

He unsuccessfully contested East, or Newmarket, division of Cambridge-shire (C) in 1886, but the following year he succeeded to the title on the death of his father in 1895. He was an assistant private secretary to the Secretary of State for the Colonies from 1886 to 1888, and was appointed treasurer of the Queen's Household in 1895, in 1884 he married Lady Katherine Frances Lambton, daughter of the second Earl of Durham, and has four daughters living.

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.

NINE CHILDREN KILLED AND SEVERAL SERIOUSLY INJURED.

A Cyclone Blows the High School Building to Pieces at Arlington, Ga.—Scenes of Horror.

A despatch from Atlanta, Ga., says:—A cyclone struck this town on Monday, and has left behind it a trail of death and destruction. The High School building was blown to pieces, and from the wreck nearly 100 dead, dying and injured people have already been taken.

The following named pupils were instantly killed:—Ollie Parramore, Claude Roberts, Alice Putnam, Albert Butler, Willie McMarra, Kenneth Boynton, Maud Johnson, Mary W. Ellons. At least ten others will die, according to the reports of the corps of emergency physicians now caring for the injured. Prof. Walker, it is feared, cannot live, and Prof. Covington is badly injured.

Not a single person in the big building escaped injury. About 1.30 o'clock there was a fall in the high winds which had prevailed, giving some promise of a clear day. Prof. Covington, going out to look around, beheld a dark cloud, well fringed with electricity, moving rapidly in the direction of the school. His trained eye at once told him there was danger. Hurrying the children into the building for safety, the roaring of the coming cyclone was upon them before they had time to think. The storm increased in strength and velocity and the building began to shake rapidly in all directions, so that the pieces fell inward, and among the first struck were Claude Roberts and Alice Putnam who were killed at the first blow. Professors Covington and Walker, both worked to succor the children, notwithstanding both had received serious wounds. The scene was soon surrounded by the parents of the children. The sight of eight little ones already dead and of ten others crushed and bruised and bleeding in all the phases of torture was enough to wring the stoutest heart. Among those wounded quite a number are not expected to live, and it is more than likely that the list of dead will be doubled before morning. The deaths were all struck by a severe storm on Monday morning, and did enormous damage and cost several lives. The chase caused by the storm still continues, and during the confusion nothing can be definitely learned as to the amount of harm done or the number of lives lost.

MASSACRES AT TOKAT.

SEVEN HUNDRED ARMENIANS KILLED BY THE TURKS.

Sir Philip Currie's Protest—Officials Dismissed and Ordered to be Tried—The Patriarch Resigns.

A despatch from Constantinople says:—Further and probably more accurate details of the recent massacre of Armenians at Tokat, in the Siivas district of Anatolia, have been received at the Armenian Patriarchate here. The first report of the affair was issued by the Government. This declared that fifteen Armenians and three Mussulmans had been killed. Little reliance was placed in the report, for the officials have always made it a rule to under-state the number of persons killed in the various massacres. Later information was received at the Embassies showing that fully 100 defenceless Armenians had fallen victims to the fury of the Moslems at Tokat, and this number, it was thought, was probably correct. The news received at the Patriarchate shows that both statements were incorrect, and that the number of victims was fully 700. It was further stated, that the figures were obtained from reliable persons in Tokat and the vicinity, and that the number of victims is without doubt correct. Sir Philip Currie, the British Ambassador, made most vigorous protest against the massacre in a note to the Porte, which was said to have been the strongest ever received by that Government.

The Sultan ordered the dismissal and arrest of the Turkish officials in Tokat who are suspected of complicity in the massacre and the appointment of a special commission to try them. It is believed that the British Government will demand a trial closely to see that it does not prove a farce, as so many trials of Moslem officials charged with the murdering of Christians have been.

Mrs. Ormazian, the Armenian Patriarch, has made a protest to the Sultan against the murders at Tokat, and has offered force to his protest by insisting that the Sultan should accept his resignation. At that time the Sultan refused to accept it, and promised the Patriarch that further concessions would be made to the Armenians. His Majesty, however, has deferred until after Easter. The massacre of Tokat followed.

Eight Armenians were arrested here on Thursday as a measure of precaution, the Government fearing that the news of the Tokat massacre might precipitate an outbreak. The prisoners are suspected of having been engaged in an attempt to make a demonstration here.

INDIAN PLAGUE.

Strong Opposition to Segregation Measures in Native Towns—Riots Result.

A despatch from Bombay, says:—There is strong opposition to the segregation measures in the native towns. A large crowd on Sunday attacked and smashed a van conveying patients to the hospital. The police suppressed the disorder, but the scare was renewed next day. The natives are desperate. One native made an attempt to kill the auditor of the South India railway by striking him on the neck with an axe. The native afterwards committed suicide.

A strong Mohammedan deputation has waited upon the authorities, and begged them to revoke the segregation, as far as the Mohammedans were concerned. The authorities, however, de-

DEATHS FROM STARVATION.

HARD TIMES IN THE STATES AT THE PRESENT TIME.

A Dollar a Week Insufficient to Feed a Family—Starved Himself and Failed to Save a Sick Husband—Poor III and Starving.

Grus Eppi Grossi lives at No. 51 Hill street, New Haven, Conn. He is capable of doing any kind of labor, and is willing to work; yet his little daughter Marie died from starvation on Saturday.

Grossi has been employed as a polisher at the big hardware factory of Sargent & Co., by Contractor Alfred T. Mix and he did not make enough to live on. He says he was paid \$1 a week. Mix says he was paid what he earned on piece work. That his pay did not average more than a dollar is proved by his pay envelopes.

A week ago Friday his wife applied to the Outside Poor Committee of the Board of Selectmen for aid. The Selectmen investigated and learned what Grossi had been earning.

Mrs. Grossi appeared before the committee again Friday and they gave her \$1 and said they would renew it weekly. Mrs. Grossi told them her husband had looked into the case.

Contractor Mix said Grossi had earned only \$1 a week or thereabouts because he did not work steadily. Polishers, said Mr. Mix made from \$7 to \$9 a week. But Grossi was very slow. Mix said he discharged him because he couldn't earn enough. Grossi, on the other hand, said he had to work eight hours a day for six days for \$1.

He pays \$3.50 a month for the three small dining rooms in which he lives. There were four children before Marie died. She was five years old and the eldest. The youngest is two months old and the mother has been forced to give up her work of washing.

TO SAVE A SICK HUSBAND. After weeks of terrible suffering, Mrs. Edward Bergerud and her three children appeared before Overseer of the Poor Frederick Wright at New Brunswick, N.J., on Saturday and said she had been a widow but three days, her husband having died of starvation.

The Bergeruds were in one of the outskirts of the town. Bergerud made a good living working in a factory, but he was taken ill last June. Since that time he has been in bed. Mrs. Bergerud had some money saved when her husband was stricken, but her funds grew lower and lower until she was penniless.

Then she sought work herself, and for a time succeeded in keeping the wolf from the door. She told the Overseer for five days she and her children hardly ate anything so that her husband could be fed, in the hope that he would regain his health and again go forth to earn a living for them. Mrs. Bergerud says that many times her husband had to go to bed without having eaten a morsel. At times he begged piteously for food, but she was powerless to assist him. A doctor who examined him said that Bright's disease killed him, but Mrs. Bergerud is positive that he had been fed properly he would have been alive.

Mrs. Bergerud realized that if she did not secure aid she and her three children would soon meet the same fate as her husband. They are now in the long and 1,799 tons burden. She was owned by Thomas Wilson, Sons and company.

THE KAISER'S SANITY.

The Mental Condition of the German Emperor Causes Great Alarm.

A despatch from Berlin, says:—In regard to the stories of Emperor William's insanity, it is stated privately by men who know him more or less intimately that his Majesty is very nervous and irritable, his features twitching frequently. They admit that the Emperor has certain eccentricities, chiefly denoting inordinate vanity, concerning which many queer anecdotes are in circulation, but his behaviour has always been that of a sane person.

A letter to the London Daily Mail reiterates the story of Emperor William's insanity with startling frankness, mentioning his Majesty as being the sovereign previously referred to as pinching his guests and trying to trip them by his sword. The writer says that the fact is now that there is no doubt that the Emperor, if not specifically insane, is liable to fits of erratic behavior, which, when they occur, are undistinguishable from madness.

His lord derangement behind the ear, and almost in contact with the brain, has hitherto, it is added, been a frequent cause of a treatment which provokes a constant discharge. While the discharge lasts the pain is not very great, and the inflammation and swelling of the affected parts being relieved, there is nothing either intolerable or alarming. But, it appears, it has lately become increasingly difficult to maintain the process, and the result is a combination of pain, excitability, depression and restlessness which has brought the Emperor to a condition fearfully alarming.

Continuing, the writer says that no Hohenzollern is allowed to ascend the throne or keep it if he is afflicted with an incurable disease, and that it is obvious no madness can be tolerated in the Emperor. The knowledge of this is said to be disabling the rule of his house, and is doubtless intensely aggravated by the symptoms of disease.

It is said that should things get but little worse, Prince Henry of Prussia, the Emperor's brother, will be proclaimed Regent, with an advisory council, which is a constituent sovereignty of the Empire will be represented.

BUDDHISTS' IDEA OF HADES.

Buddhists believe that Hades is a place of eight divisions, each with a form of punishment somewhat different from the other seven. In the first division, which is the easiest, the sinner wails eternally in his bare feet over red-hot needles, points upwards.

Dressed dogs are in limited supply, and prices are higher. Cured meats are also higher. Pork in Liverpool has risen 2s. 6d. This week and the provision markets at Chicago are higher than for months past.

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THE FIELD OF COMMERCE.

Some Items of Interest to the Busy Business Man.

The net gold balance of the United States treasury is \$151,200,000.

The world's visible supply of wheat decreased 4,000,000 bushels last week.

Choice securities are firmer in Canada. There has been a good demand of late for bank shares.

Eggs are very low at this season of the year. Case lots of fresh at Toronto bring only 11c. per dozen.

Money is a little firmer in New York. Large amounts are being paid into the Customs, and merchandise taken out.

The stock of wheat at Toronto amounts to 208,407 bushels as against 199,844 bushels last week and 31,889 bushels a year ago.

Brain in Ontario is very scarce, owing to many mills running only part time. At outside points \$12 per ton has been paid.

The Russian wheat crop of 1896 is now reported at 387,648,000 bushels against 388,112,000 bushels in 1895 and 464,312,000 bushels in 1894.

There is no change in the rate for money at Toronto. Call loans can be obtained at 4-1/2 per cent, and prime commercial paper is discounted at 4 per cent.

The stocks of wheat at Port Arthur and Fort William are 2,874,000 bushels a slight increase for the week. A year ago the amount was 3,372,000 bushels.

There is really very little new in the general trade situation at Montreal, unless it be that complaints regarding remittances are even more general and emphatic than they have been. In this direction as well as in the demand for merchandise, there is much room for improvement.

Business has been moderately active at Toronto this past week. The general feeling is more hopeful and the outlook is considered satisfactory. Prices are steady as a rule, but payments are slow and somewhat behind expectations.

The Ontario wool market is improving. Stocks of merchandise are comparatively small, and the expected increase in demand would result in a higher bid to prices. The flour trade has been disappointing. The large offerings of French wheat flour in Britain, and to the surplus of wheat in this country, prices of white wheats are relatively much lower here than in Michigan and Ohio the crops in those states being smaller than usual this season, and some dealers are predicting a local consumption. Of late there have been large purchases of corn, oats and peas for export to Great Britain, while the demand for wheat has been comparatively small. Hog products are higher this week in sympathy with better prices for hogs, the offerings of which have been limited. Call money markets remain easy. Call loans at Toronto are 4-1/2 per cent, and prime commercial paper discounted at 4 per cent.

The Bank of England's discount rate remains unchanged at 3 per cent, while the open market rates are weaker at 17-16 to 11-12 per cent. Choice investments are in demand owing to the cheapness of money.

HUSBAND POISONING.

A Common Crime in Hungary—Arsenic the Principal Agent Employed.

If the attention of the European world were not absorbed by the threatened march of great events, popular interest would be directed in large measure to the astounding revelations made last week in the criminal courts of Hungary and Austria. A dozen women are on trial in one town for poisoning their husbands, and it is freely admitted theirs are only typical cases which illustrate what is almost a national custom in the country. Husband poisoning, it is coolly announced in court, is as common a calling as midwifery, and the public prosecutor declared that he only proceeded in these few cases because the culprits had confessed, and desired to break up the practice.

A trial in Vienna, which ended in a sentence of death on Friday, showed what an important part arsenic plays in the domestic economy of the inhabitants of Styria. A peasant named Schindlauer began shortly after his marriage in 1891 to have intimate relations with a servant, Marie Penzisp, with whose assistance he poisoned his wife by mixing arsenic in her food. He married her paramour, and on her foster sister, Katharine Miller, then only fifteen years old, entered into service in 1895. He also became intimate with her, and murdered her on the night of the first of July, after sprinkling arsenic over pieces of meat on her plate, which, while she was away, were turned over to her by the mother. She returned to the table. The two children, girls of two and three years, asked their mother for more meat, and as she gave it to them from her own plate, they ate it. The children recovered, but the mother died. Suspicion being roused, the exhumation of the first wife took place, and, speaking of it in court, a chemist made the remark that all the village cemeteries in Styria were full of arsenic.