ONTARIO ARCHIVES
TORONTO

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

Winnipeg will celebrate jubilee day with a big demonstration.

Mr. J. H. R. Molson, President of the Molsons Bank died at Montreal.

Immigrants from Galicia and Dakota are arriving at Winnipeg in large numbers.

The Medical Society of Winnipeg has pronounced against the proposed Victorian Order of Nurses.

Dr. Blanchard, a prominent Winnipeg physician, was sandbagged by footpads, but not seriously injured. The assailants escaped.

A lot of Paris green was discovered in the cistern of Rev. George Honey's residence at Wellandport, the water of which is used for drinking.

Mr. Robert Woolley, Hamilton, a letter carrier, and his wife and child were poisoned by eating canned fish. They recovered under doctor's care.

It is thought desirable that the Canadian fund for the relief of the distress in India should now be finally closed, and the lists of the subscribers are now being prepared.

Peterson, Tait & Co., who have been awarded the contract for the fast service, have agreed under their contract to establish a service to St. John without any additional subsidy.

The Governor-General, at the request of a deputation of Toronto citizens which waited upon him, has agreed to submit to her Majesty a memorial praying her to authorize a Canadian military service medal.

The running of electric cars in Kingston on Sunday will likely be taken to the courts. It is said that the Lord's Day Alliance will accept the challenge and see whether such action is legal or not.

According to the report of the Department of Fisheries, the value of the Canadian fisheries for 1896 is computed at $20,199,338, being a decrease of more than half a million dollars as compared with the previous year.

It is evident from a report which has been presented to the Dominion Parliament that the British Government has refused and is likely to persist in a refusal of the application of the United States to reopen the seal question at the present time.

A communication has been received by the Ottawa authorities from the Imperial Government asking that the American fishing cruiser J. Gerring, Jr., which was convicted of fishing within the three-mile limit, and confiscated, be let down as easy as possible.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited Canterbury on Saturday, and opened the restored chapter of the cathedral.

Mr. Aubrey Beardsley, who has been in bad health for some time, is rapidly recovering, and is able to resume work.

The Jacobites are preparing to celebrate White Rose day by a banquet in London, on June 10th, the date of the birth of James, the Pretender, in 1688.

Oscar Wilde, in a long letter to the London Daily Chronicle, says the cruelty practised day and night upon children in English prisons is incredible except to those who have witnessed it.

It is believed to be certain that many, perhaps all, of the political prisoners will be pardoned early in June in commemoration of the Queen's diamond jubilee.

The Duchess of Teck spends more than $5,000 a year in religious and philanthropic works. The sum is just one-fifth the annual amount granted her by Parliament.

Mr. Henry Labouchere has retracted most of the charges he made against members of the Chartered South Africa Company of stock-jobbing in connection with the Transvaal raid.

The King of the Belgians has caused some excitement by paying a visit to London, incognito, travelling to Balmoral to see the Queen, and then departing from Glasgow in his yacht at midnight.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun says nothing more has been heard of the suggestion to appoint the Duke of Teck Governor-General of Canada, and even his friends appear to think it wise to cease the advocacy of his claims.

A Danish missionary, who has arrived in London from the Congo Free State, says the natives are being treated with great cruelty, with full knowledge of the Belgian authorities, and that an appeal for intervention will be made to Germany.

A recently sold copy of a first edition of Keats' poems, 1817 had the autograph, "To W. Wordsworth, with the author's sincerest reverence." But Wordsworth had not even cut the leaves. Of course, he may have bought a copy for himself before, but it is not likely. He was not fond of books, and his little library consisted largely of autograph copies.

UNITED STATES.

The striking garment makers of New York are sanguine that the strike will be short-lived and will end in victory.

George Beggs, a Kingston man, employed in a drug store at Syracuse, poisoned himself because his sweetheart discarded him.

Steps looking to the formation of a powerful alliance in opposition to the Bell Telephone Company are to be taken in Chicago this week.

By the use of kites the Weather Bureau at Washington expect to be soon able to forecast the weather with greater accuracy and for a longer period.

Lieut. Peary has obtained a five years' leave of absence from the United States navy in order to organize another expedition in search of the North Pole.

Otto Keppling, aged 18, while racing on his bicycle with a train on the Iron-dequoit Bay Railroad, near Rochester, on Sunday, was thrown under the train and killed.

The British fruit steamer Ethelred, which arrived at Philadelphia on Sunday, was on two occasions chased by Spanish cruisers, which fired shots across her bows.

The log of the Mayflower, which was entrusted to Mr. Bayard by the London consistorial convention, was formally presented to the commonwealth of Massachusetts on Wednesday.

Henry Marion Howe, of Boston, the son of Julia Ward Howe, who has been appointed professor of metallurgy in Columbia College, is a cousin of F. Marion Crawford, the popular novelist.

Robert J. Powley, under sentence to be electrocuted at Auburn, N.Y., for wife murder, says he is a Canadian and that he intends to call the attenion of the Canadian Government to his case.

At a meeting of about thirty rabbis and laymen in New York on Tuesday night a resolution was drafted favoring the colonization of Palestine by Hebrews, but opposing the scheme of making it a State.

A father and two sons were killed near Duluth, Minn., on Wednesday, by an explosion of dynamite, which they were "thawing out." Their home was wrecked and the mother and a third son probably fatally injured.

Mr. Booth-Tucker, commander of the Salvation Army in the United States, was on Wednesday convicted of maintaining a disorderly house at the big army barracks in New York. He was remanded for sentence, and admitted out on bail.

Mrs. Eliza D. Stewart, who organized the first Woman's Temperance Union in the West, celebrated her eighty-first birthday at Springfield, O., recently. "Mother Stewart," as she is called, organized the first union at Osborn, O., with 100 members, in 1873.

The Right Rev. C.C. McCabe, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, says that Dr. Depew misrepresents American feeling in describing it as anti-British. The Bishop has written to Lord Salisbury at length, assuring him of the kindly feeling in the United States towards the Mother Country.

The reports of business in the United States furnished by the commercial agencies indicate a slight ,although very slow improvement in the general trade movement. Manufactures usually are quiet, but as yet prices are fairly well maintained. Cotton goods are dull and print cloths are at about the lowest possible price. The extremely unreasonable weather has had a serious effect up to the present time on the dry goods trade.

GENERAL.

Levanger, Norway, has been almost wiped out by fire.

Zanzibar's Sultan has by proclamation abolished the legal status of slavery.

Five hundred horseless cabs will be placed on the streets of Paris early in July.

Earthquake shocks were felt on midnight of Saturday in Rome, and at Massena, Ischia, and other points.

Prof. Andree expects to start from Spitzbergen on June 20th, to discover the North Pole in his balloon.

Spain is negotiating a large loan, secured by the Almaden quicksilver mines, to meet her war expenses.

The Pope has completed a Latin poem in eighty stanzas, pointing out the beauties of frugality and the evils of gluttony.

Pietro Acciarito, the Italian Anarchist who attempted to assassinate the King, has been sentenced to imprisonment in the galleys for life.

There is a feeling in Paris that a visit from Emperor William during the Exhibition of 1900, owing to the feeling over Alsace-Lorraine, would not be agreeable.

The German Reichstag on Wednesday adopted a credit of thirty million marks for the purpose of rearming the German artillery with improved fieldpieces.

The Dole Government has decided to give to the British Company the concession for the ocean cable. British men-of-war are now surveying the cable route.

Another crisis exists in the German Cabinet, caused by the introduction of a reactionary measure placing all political meetings and associations under police control.

The Paris Figaro makes a complete denial of the statement that the Duc d'Alencon, whose wife perished in the Charity Bazaar fire, is about to enter a monastery.

During a special service in the Pisa cathedral on Saturday a panic was caused by the fall of a lighted candle, and seven persons were killed and seventeen injured.

It is stated that the Latin Republics of Central and South America are ripe for revolution, and they would willingly become colonies of Great Britain if it could be arranged.

The natives of Portuguese East Africa are defeating the Portuguese troops, and the Governor of Delagoa has urgently requested the Government at Lisbon to send reinforcements.

It is reported that the historical gem known as the Imperial diamond, which was intended as a Jubilee present for the Queen, has been stolen from the Nizam of Hyderabad.

The big French naval scheme calling for one hundred million francs, in addition to the regular naval expenditure, has been endorsed by the Naval Committee of the Chamber of Deputies.

A Santiago de Cuba despatch reports that the dread disease beri-beri, characterized by paralysis and fatal effusions, has appeared there, and that the mortality among those attacked exceeds seventy-five per cent.

A YOUNG QUEEN'S DEVOTION.

The young Queen of Holland is a very affectionate and devoted girl to her mother. Up to the present time these traits are the most marked in her character. One day she said to her mother, the queen regent."

"I don't want to become queen if it means that I must take the first place and you take the second'."

"Oh, my dear," replied Queen Emma, "that will be only natural and right. Mothers have always, sooner or later, to stand aside for their children. Besides, it will not be so hard to lose the first place in the State as to lose the first place in my daughter's heart. But that too, will happen some day when a husband comes along."

"No, my dearest mother," exclaimed the girl, "you shall always have the first place in my love. I don't want a husband. I shall reign alone, like Elizabeth of England."

ANGERED THE BEAR.

An aesthetic bear that dances for a living in England, was trudging along the road behind its master near Kensington, and had paid no attention to the men and women in skirts that wheeled by. When a fat woman in bloomers, however, appeared riding a bicycle, the bear broke away from its master and made a rush for her, smashing the wheel, but being caught before it hurt the rider.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

PREPARATIONS BEING MADE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

Buffalo's Citizens to Celebrate the Event—Review of the Navy to be Held—Disposition of the Troops in London.

The contribution of the Navy to the Queen's jubilee promises to eclipse all previous reviews, "a pageantry," suggested by a High Lord Admiral, "commemorating the fact that the monarch who will then have reigned fully 60 years, is sovereign of the first of naval powers, and the greatest of maritime nations." The Queen has seen many mighty gatherings of her navy, from the time she wished the Baltic fleet a god-speed up to the great review of ten years ago, but the show next month is to be the greatest spectacle of them all. Over three hundred vessels will take part in it, and they will be representative of every type of warship. Preparations are also being made for a sea display of the Navy of Peace—the mercantile marine—on the Mersey. It will include all types from the collier to the huge Atlantic liner, and it is estimated that the line, in singleu file will be more than 20 miles in length.

INDIA'S CELEBRATION.

The Viceroy has directed June 21 and 22 to be observed as public holidays throughout India, in honour of the Queen's diamond jubilee; but his Excellency is of the opinion that, owing to the prevalence of the famine and plague, public ceremonies and great assemblages are undesirable.

THE POPE'S PRESENT.

The Pope's present to the Queen on the sixtieth anniversary of her accession to the throne will be a "sedia," or portable chair, such as that in which the successor of St. Peter is borne in the great religious functions of St. Peter's. The suggestion is that Victoria may need it if she goes to St. Paul's on commemoration day.

JUBILEE SOUVENIRS.

Jubilee souvenirs of all kinds are plentiful in London. There are jubilee spoons and medals galore, and any number of quaint devices gotten up for the celebration. One of the most original and attractive souvenirs is a salt-cellar of sterling silver, made after the model of the cradle in which the Queen when a baby was rocked. The salt spoons that belongs with this receptacle has the Queen's head chased in the round bowl and a plain round handle finished at the end of the crown.

THE BOYS IN BLUE.

The Admiralty intend to bring to London for the celebrations on June 22 about 1,000 blue-jackets, and to make the force as widely representative of the entire service as possible. A review of the bluejackets will probably be held on the Horse Guards' parade on the morning of the celebrations, and after the procession they will be given a dinner in the open air near to the new Admiralty buildings. The official list of the British troops ordered to be in London on Jubilee day shows that they will number 46,061 men and 5,715 horses, and will have 108 guns. So large a force has never before been under arms in London.

DISPOSITION OF THE TROOPS.

The Duke of Connaught, who will command all the troops in London, in conjunction with Lord Wolseley, Sir Redvers Buller, Sir Evelyn Wood, and Lord Methuen, has now arranged their final disposition. The cavalry will march from different quarters in the neighbouring divisions of London in time to be at Hounslow on Monday, June 21, where they will encamp, and will march into London for street duty on the morning of June 22, under the command of Major-General the Hon. Reginald Talbot. The infantry will all entrain at their different camps—Aldershot, Dover, Shorncliffe, etc.—in the early hours of Tuesday, June 22, and will be conveyed by special train in time to reach the metropolis before 9 o'clock, and these regiments will return the same afternoon by the same means to their respective camps.

Among the representatives of the Imperial Service troops of the Native Rulers of India, who are coming specially to England will be found some of the greatest names in India. They will march in the great procession as ordinary escorts of the Queen.

THE QUEEN'S PROCESSION.

The first portion of the Queen's procession to St. Paul's is to be composed of the colonial troops and Premiers, who will assemble shortly after 10 o'clock on the Horse Guards parade, and will march past Buckingham palace. At the same time, the procession of foreign Princes, Indian troops, and escorts of the Life Guards and Royal Horse Guards, will assemble to the westward of Buckingham palace, probably in Birdcage walk, and will march thence to Buckingham palace and up Constitution hill a quarter of an hour after the colonial procession has passed, the Queen and Princesses, in Royal carriages, coming in at the end of this brilliant cavalcade. This arrangement will leave Constitution hill free until used by the processions.

A BUFFALO CELEBRATION.

A meeting of British-born residents of Buffalo and the subjects of her Imperial Majesty, which was largely attended, was held at the Ellicott Club the other night for the purpose of making formal arrangements for the jubilee banquet, which has already been announced. A general committee of arrangements was chosen, and a number of special committees were also named for various purposes. Mr. Albert E. Jones was named chairman of the general committee and Mr. Arnold D. Ralph secretary. At a subsequent meeting the general committee passed the following resolution: "While it is plainly requested that all citizens of British birth should take a warm interest in the matter on the occasion of her Majesty's diamond jubilee, it is the sense of the committee that no barriers of nationality shall be raised, and that all good American citizens, well-wishers of her Majesty, are cordially invited to participate at the banquet, and will be most welcome."

The banquet will be held at the Ellicott Club on the evening of the 22nd of June.

TOOK ROUGH ON RATS.

Amelia Townsend, of Toronto, Tires of Life and Suicides.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Amelia Townsend, the wife of Henry Townsend, a woman 50 years of age, committed suicide on Wednesday afternoon, by taking a dose of rough on rats, at her home, 185 Eastern Ave.

At a quarter to one Wednesday afternoon her husband left her to return to his work, and at that time he says she was in the best of health and spirits. Shortly after three o'clock one of the children, a little girl, went to the next door neighbor, a Mrs. Rowe, and told her that "mamma was awful sick." Mrs. Rowe went to the house and found the woman in bed suffering intense agony.

REFUSED AN EMETIC.

Not knowing what was wrong, Mrs. Rowe hastily called Dr. Ferguson, of King street east, who found every trace of arsenic poisoning. The woman refused to take emetics, and so the doctor had the ambulance called and removed her to the General hospital. Here the stomach pump was applied, but nothing could save the woman and she died inside of two hours. At the hospital she made a statement to the effect that she was tired of life and took the poison with every intention of committing suicide.

Her husband, Henry Townsend, is utterly at a loss to understand why she should do such a desperate deed. "I left her at a quarter to one," he said; "she was out in the back yard washing clothes and as happy as could be."

It is stated by some of the neighbours that the woman drank rather heavily, and it is possible that her state of melancholy might have been caused by too much whisky. She leaves a family of two small children.

TORTURED TO DEATH.

Inhuman Treatment of a Little Child—Beaten and Cut With Knives—Made to Stand on a Red Hot Stove.

A despatch from Paris says:—The celebrated Gregoire case ended in the Assize Court on Thursday evening in the conviction of the accused persons. Pierre Gregoire was sentenced to penal servitude for life, and his mother and his mistress, Louise Deshayes, were each condemned to five years' imprisonment.

The prisoners were tried on the charge of having caused the death in December last of Gregoire's son, who was only three years old. Since the facts showing the incredible brutality of the three prisoners became known the little fellow has been called the "infant martyr."

He was made to stand on a red-hot stove, and to struggle for his food with a dog. He was beaten frequently and at times his tormentors would cut him with knives. The father would place a lump of sugar on the child's head and bid the dog jump for it. In doing so the animal would scratch the boy's face, which afforded amusement to the inhuman parent.

Finally, the helpless child was abandoned in the street on a freezing cold night. When found he was unconscious. He was taken to a hospital, where he died. The police made an investigation, which led to the arrest of those responsible for his death, a clue being furnished them by a few words the boy muttered in his delirium.

The evidence presented at the trial created a sensation. The court-room was crowded, and when some particularly damaging point was brought out the audience would shout:—

"A mort!" "A mort!"

When Gregoire was sentenced, he said:—"I ask society to pardon me for the crime I committed."

WITH BLOODHOUNDS.

The Murderers of a Young Farmer Being Hotly Pursued.

Sterling, Ill. June 2.—Robbed, murdered, and cremated—that tells the awful fate of George Kauffmann, a young farmer. He stood guard over his father's granary to protect it from thieves, who killed him at his post and sought to wipe out the evidence of their fiendish cruelty with fire. There is no clue to the murderers, but bloodhounds are on the trail. George Kauffmann began his vigils two weeks ago. He was unsuccessful and regularly went back to his father's house for his breakfast. On Tuesday he did not come at the usual hour. The family waited for some time without concern. Then his father became alarmed, and started for the barn, accompanied by Charles Schrader, the hired man. They noticed that the straw stack had been nearly burned down and was still smouldering, and went to examine it. They were horrified to find on the top of the smoking stack the body of young Kauffmann, burned to a crisp, and with the clothing all consumed. The victim had been clubbed and his skull crushed. His throat had been cut and the head was nearly severed from the body. A bullet-hole showed that the murderer had shot the young man.

TROUBLE IN AFRICA.

An Outbreak in Matabeleland—The Wa Expedition Safe—Gifts From Chief Samory.

A despatch from Cape Coast Castle, West Coast of Africa, says:—Lieutenant Henderson, and other members of the expedition attacked early in April at Wa, where they were making treaties with the chiefs of the Hinterland, have been released and are returning to Coomassie, bearing presents from Chief Samory to the Governor. It was at first feared that the mission had been massacred by the followers of Chief Samory, who is very powerful, and who has hitherto professed friendship for the Briitsh. Wa is considered to be within the sphere of British influence, and preparations were being made to send an expedition to Wa with instructions to ascertain the fate of the Henderson expedition and punish Chief Samory if disaster had befallen it.

Alarming news has reached at Salisbury, Matabeleland, of the movements of the insurgent Mashonas. The town of Ballyhooly, twelve miles from here, is surrounded by armed natives.

THE ONE ABOVE ALL OTHERS.

Who is accepted as the head of your household, Easer, you or your wife?
The cook.

SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS.

TURKEY STILL OBSTINATE IN HER DEMANDS.

She Claims All Conquered Territory in Thessaly—Forward Movement of Turkish Troops—The Porte's Reply to the Collective Note.

The correspondent of the London Standard at Constantinople says:—"The Council of Ministers has decided to prolong the armistice. It will refuse even to discuss the retrocession of Thessaly, but will leave the other points for consideration to the powers. So far as the note to the European arbitrators is concerned there can be no doubt that whether the Sultan is only bluffing, or is the victim of popular pressure, a peace such as Europe expects cannot be arranged without the risk of the gravest complications.

TO RETAIN THESSALY.

"The Grand Vizier on Saturday presented a report to the Sultan, urging that the whole of Islam was fully determined to retain Thessaly, and adding:—'Your Majesty proved victorious in Armenian and other matters, when you firmly refused to be dictated to by Europe. Therefore you should be equally firm on this occasion. But if my views are unpalatable to your Majesty, I beg of you to accept my resignation.'

THE SULTAN WEPT.

"It now appears that the armistice was, originally, for three days only, and nothing but the energy of the powers secured an extension for a fortnight. The story is current that a wounded Turkish soldier at the Yildiz hospital, on being invited by the Sultan to proffer a dying request, implored him not to yield up Thessaly. The Sultan grew pale, and his eyes filled with tears.

"Seyfullah Bey, chief of the staff of the Sultan, and the Von Moltke of the campaign has been summoned to Constantinople to give the military commission the benefit of his advice."

TURKEY'S FORWARD MOVEMENT.

The correspondent of the Times at Salonica, telegraphing on Wednesday, says:—"I have just arrived here, after passing through Larissa, Elassona, and Sorovitch en route. There is a steady forward movement of reinforcements along all the roads. The forces under Edhem Pasha's command must now be close on the 200,000 men."

REPLY TO THE NOTE.

The Daily Mail's correspondent at Constantinople says the Porte has replied to the note of the powers, and consents to negotiate for peace, provided the Greek commanders first sign an armistice.

THESSALY TROUBLE.

The correspondent of the Standard at Constantinople says:—"The immediate entourage of the Sultan favours restoring Thessaly to Greece. The Turkish Foreign Minister has spoken on the subject in a conciliatory tone to Baron de Calico, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador.

"Russia does not conceal her extreme irritation at Germany's policy, which is so openly and persistently directed against Russia, that many Turks accuse Germany of deliberately plotting to produce a rupture between the two countries."

THE TURKS IN THESSALY.

The Greek Government has sent a memorandum to the powers protesting against the indemnity demanded by Turkey, and also protesting against the proposed rectification of the Greek frontier.

It is reported that the Turks have confiscated 1,250,000 bushels of wheat at Volo, and that the Turkish commander has issued a proclamation calling upon the peasants to return and gather the harvest, as otherwise their crops will be confiscated.

RUSSIA'S ATTITUDE.

According to a despatch to the Frankfort Zeitung from Constantinople Count Nuraireff, the Russian Foreign Minister told the Turkish Ambassador at St. Petersburg that Turkey must renounce her impossible claim to annex Thessaly. He added in his opinion the claim had only been advanced to prolong negotiations, or as a pretext for prolonging the war which Europe would on no account permit. This statement so impressed the Sultan, according to the correspondent of the Frankfort Zeitung, that he has been making special efforts to restore friendly relations with Britain, and ordered the whole palace entourage to attend the garden party given at the British Embassy in honour of the Queen's birthday.

SCALPED BY INDIANS.

Two Former Canadians Meet an Awful Death—Benjamin H. and Peter M. Dorland Captured and Murdered.

A despatch from Akron, N. Y. says:—Dr. J. S. Dorland, a prominent dentist of this place, has received information from D. E. McCann, of Los Angeles, California, of the death of his two brothers, Benjamin H. and Peter M. Dorland, formerly of Oakville, Canada. In his letter, Mr. McCann writes that while a party of seven were prospecting for gold on Mt. Wahsatch they unknowingly crossed the line into the Wahsatch Indian reservation, and, while panning gold, were surprised by a band of about fifty Indians. Four of the party were successful in reaching their horses, but the other three, being farther down the stream, were unable to reach theirs and were captured, murdered, and scalped. Dr. Dorland has telegraphed the chief of police of Los Angeles to investigate the matter thoroughly.

A despatch from Miles City, Mont., says:—Sheriff Gibb returned on Wednesday night from the Cheyenne agency. The Indian situation, he says, is very grave indeed. He reports 200 or more Indians off the reservation, and scattered in the hills. Their warwhoop can be heard frequently and dancing continues. Old settlers look for trouble. The sheriff's posse, 300 strong, under command of Stock Inspector Smith and Captain Brown, are now stationed in small numbers in and about the settlements near the reservation to protect the remaining settlers and prevent the destruction of property by the Indians.

Benjamin H. Dorland was this summer to have been married to a young lady, at present a resident of Toronto.

AERIAL SHIPS IN NEXT WAR

SIR B. BADEN-POWELL WARNS ALL THE GOVERNMENTS.

He Points Out Their Great Destructive Possibility—Must Look Out for Bombs Overhead, Instead of in Front or Behind.

Captain Sir B. Baden-Powell, a distinguished military authority, warns the governments of all nations that they had better put bomb proof roofs on their forts, if they want to stand any chance whatever of winning the next war in which they engage. Captain Powell says that an aerial war ship is an absolute certainty, and that what the military genius of the future will have to look out for will be bombs overhead, instead of in front or behind In other words, Captain Powell states that the fort without a roof will be about as useful as the fifth wheel of a wagon.

When questioned about the matter, Captain Powell said:—"While we have time, let us take what precaution we may for our defence. It may be possible to protect to some extent our fortifications by means of sloping, bomb proof roofs over the more vulnerable portions. The guns must be made capable of firing upward. During the siege of Paris the Germans had a number of guns specially made on swivel mountings for firing at balloons, though it is also true that very few of them were hit during the siege. Rockets might, perhaps, prove more useful. The only really efficient means of defence, however, will undoubtedly be for every army and every government to make themselves equal, if not superior, to their enemies with aerial armaments.

AERIAL MACHINES WILL FIGURE.

"I think we may at all events consider it a fact that aerial machines will figure to a great extent in the wars of the future. These may be the existing cumbersome windbag, traveling with difficulty fourteen miles an hour, or they may be balloons so improved as to go twenty or thirty miles an hour.

"It is also possible that a slow progressing flying engine may be introduced, or that finally some swift darting 'aviativa,' traversing over one hundred miles in the hour, and outstripping the fastest flying bird, will be the foe with which we shall contend. Even if the existing navigable balloon be not greatly improved upon—if we consider the advantages that France actually possesses to-day—we see then many occasions on which this invention will be of the greatest value.

"Every nation has this problem to consider, as they are at present situated, with the possible exception of Russia. Should some foreign nation produce an engine of war such as a dynamite carrying aerostat, there is no certainty that the others would be able at once to imitate it and employ similar tactics. It is more than probable that new inventions of this sort could easily be kept secret, since the difficulties chiefly lie in the details.

"In fact, it may be said that efficient machines of many descriptions could probably be easily made if only we could turn out a suitable light weight motor. Now, a motor, whether it be steam, electric, gas, explosive or any other, can easily be kept a secret. It would be practically impossible, then, for an observer, on seeing an aerial machine in mid-air, to discover and reproduce the details of the mechanism of its motor.

ADVANTAGE OF SUCH AIR SHIPS.

"If two nations actually went to war—two great nations—that power which had organized an aerial navy would possess such an incalculable advantage that its opponent would suffer a most crushing defeat. Within a few hours of the declaration of war some aeromotors could be despatched quite out of range of guns, and perhaps travelling at such a speed as to insure safety from projectiles over the enemy's country. From them explosive shells could be dropped where and when the aeronaut willed. By this means fortifications could be damaged, magazines blown up, ships sunk and cities ruined.

"Is it not plain, then, that an absolute necessity exists for the modern fort to have a bomb proof roof? The facts I have presented are known to every careful student of military matters. They are not theories ripe for explosion, but facts, the realization of which cannot come too soon."

ACCIDENT AT THE TUNNEL.

A despatch from Sarnia says:—A sad accident happened at the Port Huron end of the St. Clair Tunnel on Thursday morning, by which Daniel Gillies, a tunnel brakeman, was terribly mangled. Gillies is employed as a brakeman through the tunnel. At the time of the accident he was making what railway men call a drop cut. He was jerked backwards by his coat becoming entangled in the brake, and fell on the track in front of the van, the wheels of which passed over him, severing his left leg and arm from his body and otherwise bruising him. The unfortunate man was removed to the General Hospital here, where his injuries were attended to. Gillies is a young married man, and resides here on Samuel street.

TRANSVAAL RAID.

A special from London says there is widespread comment on the tolerant attitude of the Parliamentary Committee which is investigating the affairs of the British South Africa Company toward the men composing what is known as the Rhodes group. The belief grows that the true reason for the committee not compelling the production of certain mysterious cable despatches from Col. Rhodes, which are in the possession of counsel for the company, is that these depatches give evidence that the Prince of Wales had knowledge prior to the Jameson raid, that it was to be made, and he did nothing to prevent it.

PANIC IN A CIRCUS.

A despatch from Lynn, Mass., says:—Five persons were fatally burned by a gasoline explosion at 1 o'clock on Thursday morning in the circus tent of a travelling show. A score were injured. The big tent was lighted by gasoline lamps. An employee was filling a torch with the liquid when the fumes took fire and the flames spread to the tent. They crept to the main pole, against which stood an immense gasoline tank. The tank was overturned. There was a wild scramble. Tents and seats were destroyed. The fire made a big uproar in the menagerie.