

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

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.

A serious epidemic of measles is raging at Tweed.

Stratford will spend \$14,000 on its Public schools this year.

Pieton's High School was badly damaged by fire on Saturday.

Engineer Baker and Fireman Smyth were killed on the C.P.R. at Moose Jaw.

Brantford legislators are talking of establishing a civic electric lighting plant.

Hon. C. Fitzpatrick has been re-elected Member of the bar of the district of Quebec.

Mr. W. B. McMurrich, has been appointed to enforce the alien labor law at Toronto.

More than a score of Klondikers fell through the ice near Crater Lake and were drowned.

The G. T. R. will construct 250 refrigerator cars for the general service of the system.

Mr. F. Bourassa, ex-M. P. known as "the father of the Canadian House of Commons," is dead.

A. F. McDougall, brother of Judge McDougall, Toronto, attempted to commit suicide at Winnipeg.

The G. T. R. has accepted Montreal's offer of city land for the erection of new G. T. R. head offices.

It is possible that the shipbuilding yards of the Bertram Company may be moved from Toronto to Kingston.

News has been received at Montreal of the drowning at Bangor, Wales, of T. F. B. Evans, C. P. R. agent at Liverpool.

London's City Solicitor holds that the corporation has no power to raise money for elder paths by taxing bicyclists.

The report that there is to be a general deduction of salaries on the G. T. R. is denied by the management at Montreal.

The barque Crofton Hall, from Dundee for New York, is a wreck off Sable Island. The crew have been brought to Halifax.

Five destitute children, whose parents had deserted them, were found in St. Sauveur, Quebec, Tuesday, half dead from cold and hunger.

Hamilton workmen will ask the Board of Education to give the teaching of domestic science a trial in one or two of the Public Schools.

Five hundred tons of coal sank five feet with Smith & Company's dock at Owen Sound on Saturday. Fifty yards of C.P.R. track also settled.

Alexander Milloy, traffic manager of the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co., at Montreal, has resigned after 50 years of service in the company.

The Toronto Board of Control has decided to recommend the appropriation of \$100,000 for the provision of additional school accommodation in the city.

An Italian named Soyner has been sentenced at Nanaimo, B. C., to imprisonment for life for wounding a man named Jones at Halle Crossing with intent to murder.

Angelo Oliver, an alleged New York murderer, traced to Halifax, has eluded the authorities there as a result of a false description telegraphed from New York.

The Kingston Board of Education has adopted progressive ideas in regard to cheap school books. Each pupil will be supplied with an outfit of books at a small yearly fee.

Twenty-four thousand six hundred bushels of Quebec potatoes have been shipped into the United States since last Saturday. The increased demand is a result of the war.

It is reported at Vancouver, B. C., that an Anglo-French company intends to build a telegraph line from Vancouver to Dawson City, via Skaguay, Dyea and Wrangle.

Wm. Hemstock of Buffalo was found dead in his uncle's back yard at Hamilton. George Goodale has been arrested on a charge of aggravated assault on Hemstock. An inquest will be held.

E. C. Gildersleeve and W. Moore, of Kingston, are organizing a party to proceed to the Klondike. Already five young men have signified their willingness to join the gold hunting expedition.

A Buel's Man, correspondent writes that Hon. J. C. McKim had informed him that the Canadian Pacific Railway had purchased the Great North-West Central Railway and that that line would be extended at least twenty miles this year.

Adam Thomson, late city clerk of Nanaimo, B. C., who pleaded guilty at the Assizes to having falsified the city accounts and stolen \$100 of the city's funds, has been sentenced to fifteen months with hard labor. He has a wife and child and pleaded mercy on their account.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The great Welsh coal strike will be settled this week in a compromise or a complete victory for the men.

British Board of Trade returns for April show an increase in imports of \$29,550,000, and a decrease in exports of \$11,020,000.

British and American papers, including The New York Sun, warmly endorse the proposed Anglo-Saxon alliance. France and Spain resent it.

Owing to the United States being at war, the St. Jean Baptiste Society of Worcester, Mass., has decided not to celebrate the 24th of June this year.

The engagement is announced in London of William Angus Montagu, fifth Duke of Manchester, to Joan, daughter of Charles Henry Wilson, M. P. for West Ham, a noted shipowner.

Lieut. Pennant of the Canadian Artillery, at present quartered at Aldershot, has entered for several of the competitions at the Royal Military Tournament to be held in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, from May 19 to June 2.

The drawing-room of the season

MR. GLADSTONE IS DEAD.

The aged statesman passes at last to his rest.

The Grand Old Man Died Peacefully at Five O'clock on Thursday Morning—Story of His Illness and Death.

A despatch from Hawarden says:—Mr. Gladstone died at 5 o'clock on Thursday morning.

Mr. Gladstone's family were by his bedside at the last moments. Mrs. Gladstone, exhausted by her long watching, only now and then reluctantly yielded to the persuasions of the physicians and her family to recline briefly on a couch in the same room with her husband. The death chamber is immediately above the terrace, from which Mr. Gladstone used to address admirers visiting Hawarden. The window is surrounded by blossoming creepers, through which the pale light of early morning fell upon the last scene.

The London newspapers had gone to press before the end came, but all editorially refer with deep appreciation to the life that was known to be swiftly closing. They all paid tribute to Mr. Gladstone's devotion to duty, his lofty ideals, his religious fervor, and his influence on Great Britain's and the world's history.

THE LAST SAD DAYS.

The whole world has followed with the keenest interest and melancholy the closing scenes in Mr. Gladstone's life, which have been days of sadness and pain. The nature of the disease which brought to a close all too early the career of the venerable statesman was an affection of the bone of the nose. In a younger man whose vigor had not been impaired by years of active arduous public service an operation might have been performed with comparative safety and the cause of the trouble removed. But Mr. Gladstone's impaired strength and advanced years precluded the possibility of

obtaining relief by radical measures. The disease was of a most distressing nature, causing intense neuralgic pains. For many months past the deceased statesman has been unable to obtain rest and sleep, except by the use of morphine and other drugs. Although his vitality has been very great, the inroads made upon his system have been steadily sapping his strength, and for many weeks past it has been apparent that the end would come at no distant date. For some time before his death Mr. Gladstone was except at brief intervals in a semi-conscious condition. The resignation, fortitude and sublime faith which characterized his last conscious hours were a fitting close to a noble life.

GLADSTONE'S LAST MESSAGE.

Mr. Gladstone's last public message to the world was given in his journey from Bournemouth, a watering place on the south coast of England, to Hawarden. The aged statesman left Bournemouth on the morning of March 22nd, traveling in a royal saloon carriage. At that time he was strong enough to walk firmly from his carriage to the train. He was greeted with frequent cries of "God bless you, sir." "God's richest blessings rest upon you." Upon entering the train Mr. Gladstone turned and said in a clear voice: "God bless you all, and this place, and the land you love." Along the route to Hawarden special precautions were taken to avoid demonstrations when passing stations. It was noticed that Mrs. Gladstone, wherever it was regarded as entering the train, was taken as an expression of his farewell to the public.

Mr. Gladstone's journey from Bournemouth to Hawarden recalled the one of his late speeches alluding to Liverpool as his birthplace, he continued: "With Hawarden, if it pleases God, my last acquaintance with light and air is likely to be connected."

When he made his last journey to Hawarden Mr. Gladstone evidently knew that his end was approaching. Friends, referring to several old friends, said to a friend:—"A final lesson—a final trial." The old statesman was sensibly happier at Hawarden than either at the Riviera or Bournemouth.

A SUPPLY OF HER OWN.

Salesman—An interesting book? Yes, madam. How will "The Sorrows of Satan" do?

Madam—No, thanks. I have troubles of my own.

A BIOGRAPHY.

Mr. Gladstone was born at Liverpool, Dec. 29, 1809. The son of a Liverpool corn merchant—Sir John Gladstone, M. P., sometime of Leith—and of Ann Robertson, daughter of Mr. Andrew Robertson of Stornoway, and Provost of Dingwall, the greatest Liberal statesman of his time has ever been proud to boast of his Scottish nationality and middle-class origin. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, and at both places early developed High Church tendencies, and those Tory principles which he apparently inherited from his father. At school he contributed largely to The Eton Miscellany, and subsequently took an active part in the discussions of the Oxford Union. He was married in 1839 to Miss Catherine Glyne, daughter of Sir Stephen R. Glyne, of Hawarden Castle, Flintshire.

ENTERS PUBLIC LIFE.

Shortly after the passing of the first Reform Bill, in 1832, Mr. Gladstone made his entry into public life at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the Tory interests, defeating Sergeant Wilde, the popular candidate. It was on May 7, 1833, that he delivered his maiden speech in the House of Commons, in reply to Lord Howick, on the slavery question, when he expressed himself as opposed to slavery, but not in favor of hasty and wholesale enfranchisement.

On the dissolution of the Melbourne Ministry, at the end of 1834, Sir Robert Peel called Mr. Gladstone to his first public appointment as Junior Lord of the Treasury, which post he resigned in February of the following year for that of Under Secretary for the Colonies. A month afterwards (March 1835) however, Lord John Russell introduced his motion with regard to the temperance of the Irish Church, which Mr. Gladstone vigorously opposed; but the Ministry were beaten and Lord Melbourne again came into power. The death of William IV., in June 1837, caused another election, when Mr. Gladstone was once more returned for Newark. In 1841, on the accession of Sir Robert Peel, after the defeat of Lord John Russell in the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone accepted of office as Vice-President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint.

He took an active part in the Corn Law debates of 1841-42, and, although

AN AWFUL CATASTROPHE.

TERRIBLE FIRE AT THE ST. HYACINTHE HOSPITAL.

Three Young Girls Nearly Throttled Nativate Among the Dead—Origin of the Fire Unknown.

A despatch from St. Hyacinthe, Que., says:—A terrible calamity has befallen the St. Hyacinthe hospital—the loss of eight or ten lives.

Monday morning about one o'clock Chief Chenette and physicians here were informed that Metairie, as the hospital farm building across the river is called, was on fire. Permission had to be secured before the engine could be taken outside the city limits. When the firemen arrived on the scene, the main building was doomed, and they set to work to save the out-buildings.

In the meantime most of the 300 persons in the building had made their exit, but search was made as thoroughly as possible, lest some should have been unable to escape.

As soon as there was light enough to see, people set to work to search the ruins. Among the bodies found are the remains of two boys of St. Pio, named Beauchemin aged 10 and 13.

JUMPED FOR THEIR LIVES.

Many people had to jump from the third and fourth stories, and all escaped with but slight injuries except Dr. Chagnon's wife, who died a few minutes after jumping from the third story. Dr. Chagnon himself is in Fall River, Mass., where he has been practising for several years.

Three young girls who were nearly through with their novitiate, and would soon have been nuns, perished. There are also four persons still missing, and although they may have escaped from the burning building and sought refuge in some house, it is feared that they too have lost their lives.

The origin of the fire is unknown. It may have started in the chapel, where lamps were burning all the time, or it may have been set by some coal-oil lamp.

The building was valued at \$20,000, but was not insured.

THE DEAD.

The names of those who perished are:—

Two Beauchemin boys, Sisters Alexandrina, Philomena, and Des Agnes.

Mrs. Guertin, boarder, Mrs. Dr. Chagnon, of Fall River, Mass.

The names of the missing ones are:—

Maria Milotte, servant, Noflette Meunier, servant, Mrs. Berthiaume, boarder, Sisters Bouvier and Auge.

BERESFORD ON ALLIANCES.

An Anglo-German Arrangement He Favors—An Anglo-American Premature.

A despatch from London says:—Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, Conservative member of Parliament for the city of York, addressing the Junior Constitutional Club on Wednesday evening, expressed his strong approval of the Birmingham speech of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies on the Anglo-Saxon Alliance, but described it as the "right thing said in a wrong way."

Lord Beresford said that, as he read Mr. Chamberlain's speech, he felt that an alliance and it would appear that the alliance was one with Germany, but he added, "If people speak in enigmas and fail to bring a thing out straight, they often defeat the object they have in view. Mr. Chamberlain meant to ask Lord Beresford understood for an Anglo-German alliance, Germany herself being in danger of isolation owing to the difficulties in Austria and Italy, and he, Lord Beresford, quite approved the idea of an Anglo-German alliance, which would tend to peace and to the advancement of trade."

"As for an Anglo-American alliance," his Lordship continued, "I sympathize with that idea also; but it seems to me premature. The Americans, he declared, were shrewd and suspicious, and it was not advisable that it should appear as if England was in a position of difficulty, and suggesting an alliance for her own benefit. He hoped, however, that such an alliance would come."

AFTER CUBA'S CAPTURE, WHAT?

Will the United States Weigh Down the Monarchical Destinies of Little Old Europe.

A despatch from Paris says:—The Patrie continues its violent campaign against Americans. Every form of insult is used and startling headlines lead its readers to believe that a sort of anarchy reigns in the United States. The article, which is headed "Remember," tries to excite public opinion by declaring in 1870 America congratulated Germany upon its victory over France, as the triumph of civilization over barbarism.

The Figaro has a peculiar passage extracted from the Comte de Beust's book, entitled "Le Dernier des Napoléons," which appeared in 1870. The author, after blaming Europe for remaining simple spectators of France's oppression in 1870, says:—"Europe, entire, will suddenly see the American eagle, after having ravished the Queen of the Antilles from Spain, begin to meddle with her affairs, and weigh down with redoubtable heftiness the monarchical destinies of little old Europe."

A REGIMENT OF CANADIANS.

Offer Wired to President McKinley from Chicago.

A despatch from Chicago says:—The following message was sent on Thursday to President McKinley:—

I have the honor to offer you a full regiment of trained Canadian-American soldiers. Majority have been under fire. We desire service with Merritt. (Signed),

"GEO. A. BARNES, Lieut.-Colonel."



THE LATE WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.