

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.

Owen Sound has purchased electric fire alarms.
Kingston is flooded with Straits Settlement coin.
Hiram Maxim, the great gunmaker, is talking of building a great pulp mill at Ottawa.

A handsome new theater, known as the Savoy, has been opened at Vancouver, B. C.

The American Shoe Company, of Montreal, is seeking from Kingston a bonus of \$355,000 to locate there.

The union carpenters of Winnipeg have decided to demand thirty cents an hour and a nine-hour day after May 1st next.

Scarlet fever has broken out at Medicine Hat, N.W.T., and the schools have been closed to prevent its spreading.

The Department of Customs has six present 11 vessels under seizure on the Atlantic coast and in the Gulf for smuggling.

The all-rail rate on wheat from Fort William to St. John, N.B., is now reduced by the Canadian Pacific from 28 to 25 cents per hundred pounds.

Ethel Curry, or Gosselin, formerly of Quebec, poisoned herself at Vancouver, B. C. A lovers' quarrel is said to have been the cause of the suicide.

The London Street Railway Company threatens to sue the city for \$20,000 damages for breach of duty during the recent trouble with the street railway employees.

During eleven months in 1898, 4,622 homesteads were entered in Manitoba and the Territories, as compared with 3,383 in 1897. This year Winnipeg real estate men report largely increased sales of land to settlers.

Mr. Charles M. Hays, General Manager of the Grand Trunk, has been presented with a beautifully illuminated address by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, in acknowledgment of courtesies received at his hands.

The Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway Company is asking the City of Hamilton for a 50 per cent. decrease in its taxes and water rates, in consideration of its constructing a line to serve the factories and other industries in the northeast section of the city.

The directors of the Hamilton, Chedoke & Ancaster Railway will apply for an amended charter to build a line to Brantford, to change the name to the Hamilton, Ancaster & Brantford Electric Railway Company, and to increase the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

There seems to be a good chance of an influx of Armenian settlers to Canada at an early date. Rev. Father Jiron, an Armenian priest, is on his way to Manitoba, with a view of discovering whether the country is suitable for the establishment of a settlement of his fellow-countrymen.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Shamrock, the Irish challenger for the America's Cup, will be built by the Thornycrofts at Poplar.

It is said that a combination is being formed in the English bleaching trade. The trust has been started in North Lancashire.

The London Daily Mail credits the report that Australia will join with Canada in defraying the cost of a Pacific cable.

At Liverpool the Marquis of Anglesey has been fined £20 for bringing a French bulldog from the United States to England without the necessary order from the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. William Watson, the poet, who enjoyed a small Government pension conferred by Lord Rosebery, has just received through the death of his uncle a legacy considerable enough to assure him ample competence.

Mr. Chamberlain has sent a despatch to Sir Herbert Murray, Governor of Newfoundland, declining to disallow the Reid railway contract, declaring that he cannot interfere with the legislative acts of a self-governing colony.

Dr. Stanley Kent of London has discovered a vaccine germ. This discovery is of the greatest importance, as its use in pure cultures removes the impure lymph, which has been the cause of the widespread objection in vaccination.

Lord Curzon, before leaving London, completed a book on "The Indian Frontier," and arranged for its publication with the Harpers. The Queen pointed out the impropriety of a book about India by the Viceroy appearing during the Viceroy's term of office. Therefore the book has been withdrawn.

UNITED STATES.

A "Municipal Ownership League" has been formed at Chicago.

A report at Seattle, Wash., says six persons have been killed by a slide in the Chilkoot Pass.

Four girl students at Kimball Female Seminary, Meriden, Conn., have been expelled for smoking cigarettes.

The New York Board of Health has declared grip to be a contagious disease, and patients must be isolated.

Carl Herbst, aged 18, of New York, not being able to make enough money to suit his father, drank carbolic acid and died.

The Carnegies have received an order for 40,000 tons of steel rails for the Cape, at 15 shillings per ton, under the English tenders.

Michael Roffenger, a cook, is under arrest in Chicago, on a charge of hav-

ing murdered his wife in order to get possession of her property.

Hon. E. A. Hitchcock, United States Ambassador to Russia, will succeed Mr. Bliss as Secretary of the Interior. The latter retires in February.

It is said at San Francisco that the North German Lloyd Steamship Co. have arranged to run a Pacific line from San Francisco to Seattle.

Dr. J. G. Campbell, of Elmer, N.J., lived too fast for his income, and when the officers of the law got after him for forgery he shot himself.

The Schenectady, New York, Locomotive Works, has received an order from the Midland Railroad of England, for ten mogul freight locomotives.

Joseph W. Pearson, who last week hurled missiles through the door and windows of the British Embassy at Washington, has been sent to an asylum.

The House at Washington is considering a bill to establish a cable with a capacity of fifteen words a minute, between the United States and Hawaii, the Philippines, Japan and China.

Two girls have died and the remainder of a family of eight, at Hillsboro, Ohio, are suffering and are expected to die from trichinosis, contracted by eating pork the family had killed.

James S. McIndoo, the Minnesota boy giant, is dead. He was 17 years of age, was 7 feet 2 inches in height wore No. 24 shoes and No. 8 hat, and weighed 308 lbs.

In a suit against the Standard Oil Co., at Cleveland, it is stated that the company burned their books to evade an order of the United States Supreme Court for their production.

William Sims, a soldier, for murdering Robert Hottas, at Town Creek, Ala., was dragged from the jail by a gang led by the murdered man's brother, hanged to a tree and riddled with bullets.

The United States House Committee on naval affairs has decided to favorably report a bill providing for the increase of the enlisted men of the navy to 20,000 men, 2,500 boys and apprentices.

Colonel J. G. Randle, of Dallas, Texas, a notorious Texan, was shot dead in a saloon by H. P. Evans of Forney, who has served a term for forgery. Evans gave himself up to the police. Evans put five shots into his victim before the body reached the ground.

The acquiring of the shipyard at Newport News, Virginia, by Vickers, Sons & Maxim, is a condition to their fulfilling the contract with the United States Government for torpedoes, which would have been given to the Schwartzkopfs but for the anti-German feeling in the United States.

Thirty-two prominent cattlemen of South Dakota, who were indicted by a grand jury in Fall River County, South Dakota, for manslaughter, have been tried at Hot Springs. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty after deliberating 15 minutes. The case was the outcome of the murder of John Heckman, a well known sheep man, who was killed last September by a band of cattlemen, while moving his sheep into South Dakota.

At Chillicothe, Ohio, two mere boys, Elmer and George Butler, aged respectively 20 and 13, were found guilty of manslaughter and will serve a term in the penitentiary for the murder of Daisy Browner, a young girl. The crime was a heinous one, and in the trial it was proven the girl had been shot down from ambush for no cause whatever. The defence made an attempt to prove that insanity ran in the Butler family, but the jury could not be convinced.

GENERAL.

Don Carlos, the Spanish pretender, is ill at Venice.

The Berlin Royal Orchestra will give concerts in Paris, after 30 years' absence.

Scurvy is said to be raging among seamen on Russian vessels at Port Arthur.

The Russian Government has ordered ten new destroyers for the Pacific squadron to be completed within two years.

The Lower House of the Japanese Diet has passed a bill increasing the land tax.

The Russian railroad to Afghanistan has been completed to within 95 miles of Herat, the capital.

Grippe is epidemic in New York, thousands of cases being reported. It is said to be due to the filthy condition of the streets.

Theodore Heine, the artist of Simplissimus, who caricatured Emperor William's trip to the Holy Land, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for so doing.

The Russian Minister of War, Lieut.-General Keuropatkin, will be dismissed for countermarching an order given by the Grand Duke Vladimir, who is commander of the St. Petersburg military district.

Lord Kitchener is organizing a campaign for the recovery for Egypt of the Sudan province still held by the Mahdists. Sudanese levies will form a large part of the army of conquest.

Admiral Baron Von Leiden-Bibran, chief of the German Emperor's Naval Cabinet, has been banished for four months to Egypt for giving away the Emperor's secret plans for increasing the navy.

The Rome correspondent of a London paper says that the Pope, in response to another appeal from the Queen Regent of Spain, has confidentially written to Don Carlos asking him to stop the Carlist agitations.

Major Marchand and his party evacuated Fashoda during the morning of December 11, when the French flag was lowered and the British and Egyptian flags were hoisted. The French detachment started for the Sobat River.

In Queen Charlotte Sound, a large herd of walrus attacked six boat-

loads of men from the steamer New England, and would have torn the boats to pieces and drowned the men had the steamer not rammed her way through the herd and rescued the sailors.

The Prussian Government has granted the Rhine Province permission to hold a lottery, the proceeds of which are to be used to rescue the valley of the Rhine from scenic destruction at the hands of manufacturers, who are industriously planting factories all along the mountains skirting the Rhine.

CANADIAN GRAPES.

Market in England for all That Can be Forwarded.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Mr. Peter Barr, of London, England, who is making a tour of the world, is here. Mr. Barr had an interesting talk with Prof. Robertson, Commissioner of Dairying and Agriculture, on the subject of British market for Canadian fruit. He has had large experience in the fruit trade. He believes Canadian grown grapes can be worked into high favor in England, but it must be done by popularizing the grape among the industrial classes, and as dealers will not handle them, this can only be brought about, he says, by direct methods. His plan is to have the Government send over a live, reliable man to London, who will place the grapes with the hucksters. In having them sold in six-penny to shilling boxes, the fruit will be brought within the reach of a class who have never cultivated that taste for the English grape which is detrimental to the sale of most imported varieties. In time, however, even the wealthier classes would begin to use them, for, as Mr. Barr says, the Canadian and Portuguese grapes now so largely consumed in England.

TO STAMP OUT CONSUMPTION.

Important Meeting Held at Marlborough House.

A despatch from London, says:—The Prince of Wales presided at a private meeting at Marlborough house on Tuesday, convened by him to promote a war against tuberculosis. The Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Rosebery, and a number of noted scientists and physicians spoke of the urgent necessity of educating the people in the means of preventing consumption, and of checking the spread of tuberculous disease among cattle. Special stress was laid upon the importance of erecting open air sanatoria.

The Prince of Wales who promised the heartiest support to the movement, said Great Britain ought to follow the good example set before her in the United States, Germany, and elsewhere, in the effort to stamp out the disease.

He mentioned the fact that the Queen had ordered the destruction of thirty-six of her dairy cows which had been found to have tuberculosis. It was an example he urged, such as the farmers ought to follow.

THE MAN WHO NEVER SLEPT.

Went to Theatres and Billiard-Halls to Get Cat Naps.

A despatch from Kenesha, Wis., says:—Millionaire Edward Bain, president of the Bain Waggon Company, whose death was announced on Tuesday, was familiarly known as "the man who never slept." For the last 16 years he did not sleep an hour in his bed. Constant devotion to business was the cause of his sleeplessness. He was known to remain in his factory up to 16 years ago as late as 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning, and when he would seek rest he found it impossible to sleep. At that time he practically relieved himself of business cares.

For the greater part of the last ten years it was his custom to take daily trips to Chicago to pass the time away in street car riding. At night he was always to be found either at a theatre or billiard hall, which were the only places where he was able to get a short nap, the music at the theatres and the clacking of the billiard balls alone lulling him to sleep.

PROHIBITS TOBACCO CHEWING.

Railroad's Effort to Keep Stations and Cars Cleaner.

A despatch from Cincinnati, O., says:—An effort is being made by the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad officials to improve the sanitary conditions of the stations and the passenger coaches by issuing an order taboing tobacco-chewing. Copies of the order have been generously distributed at the shops and yards in Covington and in the stations on the Kentucky and Ohio sides of the river, and have caused a considerable stir among railroad men and tobaccoists.

The railway authorities believe that while they will not be able to stop chewing, they will to some extent be able to prevent spitting about the stations and coaches.

TO STOP-SMUGGLING.

Patrol Boats Established in British Columbia Waters.

A despatch from Victoria, B.C., says:—Owing to the difficulty hitherto experienced in suppressing the wholesale smuggling from Puget Sound, the Canadian authorities have decided to establish patrol posts in British Columbia waters, with a view of aiding in the checking of the traffic.

ANOTHER RISE IN WHEAT.

Peas Sell up to 65 Cents—Oats Rather Firmer—Corn Strong—Produce and Provisions—Live Stock, Etc.

Toronto Dec. 23.—Wheat—Western markets closed strong and the tone here was buoyant. Odd cars of red and white sold to millers and exporters at 68c. Manitobas were higher. No. 1 hard, Toronto and west, sold at 70c; No. 2 hard and No. 1 Northern, Toronto and west, at 76c; No. 1 hard, track, Midland or Owen Sound, was held at 75c.

Flour—Millers asking higher figures. Straight roller, in bbls., north and west, is held at \$3.25, and exporters bid \$3.05.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, in bags, on track here, \$3.40 per bbl.; and in bbls., \$3.50.

Millfeed—Scarce and in good demand. Car lots of bran, middle freights, \$13, and shorts, \$15. Ton lots of bran at Toronto mills sell at \$14, and shorts at \$16.

Peas—Higher again; in good demand. PRODUCE.

Eggs—Receipts light and market holding steady. Quotations are:—New laid, 20 to 22c; held fresh, 17 to 18c; cold storage, 15 to 16c; and limed 14 to 15c.

Potatoes—Movement fairly active, but market is easy owing to heavy supplies. About 55c. was the best price paid for car lots on track to-day. Dealers sell out of store at 60 to 70c; farmers loads sell at around 65 to 70c.

Poultry—Buying on the part of retailers slow to-day, and as receipts are heavy daily and mild weather continuing, prices may take a drop. So far they are unaltered. Quotations are:—chickens, per pair, 25 to 40c; ducks, 40 to 50c; geese, per lb. 5-12 to 6c; turkeys, per lb. 8 to 9-12c.

Beans—Choice hand-picked beans sell at \$1 to \$1.10; and common at 70 to 75c. per bush.

Dried apples—Dealers pay 4 to 4 1/2-20 for dried stock, delivered here, and small lots resell at 4 1/2 to 5c. Evaporated 8 to 8 1/2-20, for small lots.

Honey—Unchanged. Round lots of choice, delivered here, will bring about 5 1/2 to 6c, dealers quote from 6 to 7c per lb. for 10 to 60-lb. tins; and in comb at around \$1.25 to \$1.50 per dozen sections.

Baled Hay—Sales few, prices easy. Strictly choice, in car lots, is quoted at \$6.50 to \$7.50 per ton; No. 2, at \$6. Straw—The market is dull. Car lots are quoted at \$4 to \$4.50, on track.

Hops—Inactive. Prices firm. Dealers here quote choice Ontario stock at 16 to 18c, while holders will take nothing less than 20c.

HIDES, SKINS AND WOOL.

Markets quiet and unchanged as follows:—Dealers here quote as follows:—

Hides, choice steers, 9c; No. 1 cows, 8 1/2-20; No. 2, 7 1/2-20; No. 3, 6 1/2-20. Cured sell at 3-4c advance on the foregoing.

Lambskins and sheep pelts—75c, and for choice, 80c.

Calfskins—Choice, No. 1, 11c; and No. 2, 8c.

Wool—Unwashed, 10c; fleeces, 15c for small lots, delivered; pulled, 18 1/2-20 for super; and 20 to 21c for extras.

Tallow—Local dealers buy barrel tallow at 3 to 3 1/2-20 for rendered, and resell at 3 1/2-20 to 3 3/4-20.

DRESSED HOGS AND PROVISIONS.

Street prices of dressed hogs were a little better to-day on account of light receipts. The market outside of this remains easy. Car lot offerings from the country are free. Western hogs were sold on track, in car lots, at about \$5 to \$5.10, mixed weights; and Northern at about \$5.10 and \$5.15 for select lots. On the street farmers' loads sold at \$5.30 to \$5.40, according to quality. Provision market holds steady and unchanged.

Quotations are as follows:—Dry, salted shoulders, 7 1/2-20; long, clear bacon car lots, 7 3/4-20; ton lots and case lots, 8c; backs, 8 3/4-20 to 9c.

Smoked meats—Hams, heavy, 10c; mediums, 10 1/2 to 11c; light, 11c; breakfast bacon, 10 1/2 to 11c; rolls, 8 1/2 to 9 3/4-20; backs, 10 1/2 to 11c; picnic hams, 7 3/4 to 8c. All meats out of pickle 1c less than prices quoted for smoked meats.

Lard—Tierces, 7c; tubs, 7 1/2 to 7 3/4-20; pails, 7 3/4 to 8c; compound, 6 to 6 1/2-20.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Market in good shape. Dairy is plentiful and holds about steady. In creamery there is no change. Quotations are as follows:—Dairy, tubs, poor to medium, 10 to 11c; choice, 13 to 14 1/2-20; large rolls, 13 to 14c; small dairy, 1-lb prints, about 14 1/2-20; creamery tubs and boxes, 19 to 20c; lbs. 20 to 21c.

Cheese—Early makes are selling at 9 to 9 1/2-20; and late makes at 9 1/2 to 10c.

AMERICAN MARKETS.

Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 24.—Spring wheat—Demand light, limits steady. No. 1 hard, 77 3/4-20; No. 2 Northern, 74 1/4-20; No. 2 Northern, 71 1/4-20. Winter wheat—Nominal. No. 2 red, on track, 73c; No. 1 white, 73c. Corn—Scarce and very strong; No. 3 yellow, 39c; No. 4 yellow, 38 1/4 to 38 1/2-20; No. 3 corn, 38 1/2-20. Oats—Scarce and strong; No. 2 white, 32 to 32 1/4-20; No. 3 white, 31 1/4 to 31 1/2-20; No. 4 white, 30 1/2 to 30 3/4-20. Barley—Quiet but firm. Rye—No. 2, in store, 61c asked. Flour—Firm; fair demand.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 24.—Wheat closed; No. 1 white, cash, 70c; No. 2 red, cash, and December, 69 1/2-20; May, 71c. Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 24.—Wheat No. 1 Northern, 67 1/2 to 67 3/4-20; No. 2 do., 65 1/2 to 66c; No. 2 spring, 64c. Barley—No. 2, 48 1/2 to 49c; extra No. 3, 48 to 48 1/2-20. Rye—No. 1, 53 3/4 to 54 1/4-20; No. 2, 54c. Misssapolis, Minn., Dec. 24.—Wheat

—December, 64 1/2-20; May, 65 3/4-20; July 65 7/8-20; on track, No. 1 hard, 66c; No. 1 Northern, 65c; No. 2 Northern, 63c. Flour—Unchanged. Duluth, Minn., Dec. 24.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, 68 3/8-20; December, 65 3/8-20; May, 68 1/8-20; No. 1 Northern, cash, 64 3/8-20; December, 63 3/8-20; May 67 1/8-20. Toledo, Ohio, Dec. 24.—Wheat—Irregular, easy; No. 2 cash and December, 70 1/4-20; May 71 3/8-20. Corn—No. 2 mixed, 36c.

HE MURDERS A COMPANION.

THIEVES QUARREL AT PARIS AND ONE IS SHOT DEAD.

The Victim's Identity is Unknown—The Two Men Quarrelled, One Struck the Other, and was Deliberately Killed.

A despatch from Paris, Ont., says:—Daniel Stevens, a tramp, is under arrest, charged with the murder of a fellow-tramp, whose identity is unknown. Stevens shot his companion in the mouth in the station yard about 2.30 Tuesday afternoon. A quartette of tramps were hanging around the depot awaiting an outgoing freight, when a dispute arose, and the man now dead struck Stevens. The latter whipped out a revolver and fired, the ball passing through the victim's head. The murderer ran, and threw his weapon down the water closet, but the others remained with the wounded man and assisted in carrying him into the baggage-room, where he died in ten minutes. Stevens gives his age as 24, describes himself as "a tramp, with no abode," and is apparently totally unconcerned at his arrest. James Walker, a third member of the party, is also held by the police as a material witness.

STORY OF THE CRIME.

The story of the crime was told by one of the two eye-witnesses of the tragedy, Norman Lamb, a bright intelligent boy of 12. He said:—"Ernest Stewart and I saw the shooting. We had been in the waiting room, where a curly-headed tramp was making fun for us with a nickel. The curly-headed man went out, and the tall man, who was shot, came rushing in cursing and swearing. He went up to the curly-headed fellow and asked him something. I did not hear what. The answer was, 'I did not see him.' Just then a man in a velvet cap came walking up the track and the tall man ran to meet him. When they came together he struck at him. The man in the cap had one hand in his coat pocket, and as the other struck him he pulled out a revolver and fired. The tall man fell and the other ran up the track. I saw Mr. Hume, the station agent, arrest him, and I told Mr. Hume he had the man who did the shooting."

Station Agent Hume corroborates the boy's story. He had put the murdered man out of the station, on account of his profane language. He declared he had been robbed of his money, and he was going to get even. The shooting took place a few minutes subsequently.

SHOT IN THE MOUTH.

The bullet entered the mouth, knocking out two teeth, and was found embedded behind the ear. The revolver is a short-barreled British bulldog, .32 calibre, and when recovered by the police had two chambers loaded and one containing an empty shell. Walker, the alleged companion of Stevens, denies all knowledge of the murder, but the police state that four tramps came up from Brantford the evening previous and slept in a barn near the station after robbing the barroom of Milton's hotel. Tuesday morning all four got drunk on the three bottles of whiskey stolen, and the murder was evidently the outcome of a quarrel. The police are searching for the curly-headed tramp, as he is wanted for burglary in Brantford. Word was received that he had been put off the mail train at St. George, and his arrest is looked for.

INDIANS FIND GOLD CLAIMS.

Paid Location Fees in Cold Nuggets Taken From Claims.

A despatch from Vancouver says:—Seven interior Indians, headed by Taku Jack, and accompanied by a Chilian named Richard Palacio, arrived at Lake Bennett two weeks ago, and recorded all manner of claims on two creeks, which they called Sheep and Moose. They paid the location fees in gold, which they claimed had been taken from the claims. They had with them nuggets of considerable weight and value. They left Lake Bennett immediately, and came over the White Pass trail to Skaguay, arriving there Monday a week ago. They said nothing, but spent money. The Indians have been missing from their usual camp all summer, and their friends say they have been prospecting for gold. "Chilian Dick," as Palacio is known, has also been away from the established camp for some time. It is believed that the Indians intend to lead a big party of their friends to the new creeks and keep out the white men.

READ HIS SIGNAL IN THE SKY.

Lost Lieut. of U.S.S. Leander Found by a Search Party.

A despatch from Victoria, B. C., says:—Lieut. Harvard, of H. M. S. Leander, left his vessel to explore the mainland and became hopelessly lost. After travelling in the woods for two days his signals flashed on the sky were read at the Esquimaut fortifications, and a search party went out and found the lieutenant.