

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.

The Dominion Parliament is expected to meet early in January.

London City Council will consider a motion to abolish the ward system.

There is a probability of a nickel-steel works being started in Hamilton.

Cats are worth \$25 in Dawson City. They are scarce, and mice are numerous.

The Cataract Power syndicate at Hamilton proposes an electric road to Guelph.

The Hudson Bay Co., will send a splendid exhibit of Canadian furs to the Paris Exhibition.

Mr. Samuel Zavitz of Alvinston was killed by falling from the roof of his barn, on Saturday.

A syndicate of Ottawa capitalists, with a capital of \$100,000, will manufacture saws in Hull, Que.

Already six applications for divorce have been filed at Ottawa for the next session of Parliament.

Winnipeggers will enjoy a reduction in the price of gas by 25 cents per thousand feet from February, 1900.

Paul Kruger's private medical adviser is Dr. Paul Gillespie, formerly of Streetsville and Panetanguishene.

Three men are under arrest at Amherst, near Halifax, on charges of passing counterfeit two-dollar Canadian notes.

McGill University circles are talking of instituting a military engineer course similar to that of the Kingston Military College.

A Vancouver report says twenty-six schooners of the sealing fleet have taken 35,741 skins, of which 23,999 were from Behring Sea.

In view of the many daring burglaries recently, the Montreal Police Committee has decided to arm all the constables with revolvers.

Fire broke out in a Grand Trunk car shunted at Merriton and four horses belonging to the Riordon Paper Company were burned to death.

The Council of Niagara Falls has borrowed \$50,000 from the Bank of Hamilton to carry out the purchase of the local electric light plant.

Mr. John McClary, employed by the T. Eaton Company, Toronto, lost his life by the accidental discharge of his rifle while hunting near Moon River.

The Governors of the Hamilton Hospital are in favor of erecting three new wings at a cost of \$25,000 each, to provide for the growing demands on the hospital.

Under direction of the Premier of Prince Edward Island a very fine collection of the cereals grown on the Island is being brought together for the Paris Exhibition.

It is reported at Ottawa that a paper mill is to be located on the Gatineau, to be the largest in the world and employ 1,800 workmen. British capital is behind the enterprise.

About 250 tons of exhibits for Paris will leave Montreal on Saturday next on the Layland Liner Albanian. A further consignment will be shipped from Portland on December 1st.

Mrs. Annie Olmstead, Mrs. Dr. Shoultz and Miss Symons, sisters, of 161 Maple street, London, are first cousins of the late General Symons, killed at the battle of Glencoe.

Miss Ethel Crawley, of Hamilton, mistook a parcel of cocaine for another medicine, and swallowed a large quantity of the drug, with the result that for a time her life was despaired of.

Major T. L. Bulanger, commanding the First Field Battery of Quebec, has offered service of the battery, 7 officers, 95 men and 51 horses, for the Transvaal.

A company has been formed at Montreal, with Sir William Van Horne as president, to build an electric railway in Georgetown, Demerara, for which a concession was obtained some time ago.

Three New Brunswick University professors and six students have resigned owing to the action of the Senate in modifying the punishment of students suspended for hazing freshmen.

An oil portrait of the Earl of Aberdeen will shortly be installed in the Parliament buildings. It is a gift from Lord Aberdeen, and is the work of M. Jonges, a Belgian artist, of Montreal.

Engineer Barrow, of Hamilton, is trying to find out why it is that the consumption of water is as great, or greater, than it was in the summer, when there were street watering and lawn sprinkling.

Mr. D. D. Mann, who has returned from the Orient, says that railway concessions reaching \$200,000,000 have been granted by the Chinese Government, and that more than half of these go to British subjects.

The wave of moral reform which recently swept over the Vancouver City Council has already resulted in the closing down of the semi-public gambling places, and Saturday a policeman made a round of all the saloons and tobacco stores, telling the proprietors to take out all nickel-in-the-slot machines within three days.

Capt. Baisley of the American schooner Vandusen was stabbed by a drunken sailor named Maxwell just

after the schooner left St. John. The Captain fell overboard. Several of the crew went after him in a boat. He died soon after being picked up. In the meantime Maxwell and one other man allowed the vessel to drift, and finally got her into Beaver Harbor, where officers have gone to arrest Maxwell.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Marquis of Dufferin has been elected Lord Rector of Edinburgh University over Mr. H. H. Asquith.

Mr. Jacob Bright, a brother of the famous John Bright, and chairman of John Bright & Bros., of Rochdale, is dead. He was born in 1831.

Deserters from both the army and navy continue to give themselves up in England in order to be returned to their regiments and ships for active service.

The first lot of fattened chickens received at Liverpool from Canada arrived in splendid condition and met with a ready sale. Regular shipments have been forwarded every week since the first week of October.

The gold fever has again broken out in Wales. It is now confidently affirmed that Montgomeryshire is channelled with auriferous ore. The latest reports arose from discoveries made while sinking a well on the estate of Lord Powis.

William Waldorf Astor has contributed £100 to the Maidenhead branch of the national fund for the widows and orphans of the soldiers and sailors killed in the war and for the destitute wives and families of those now serving in South Africa.

An outbreak of scarlet fever at the barracks of the Royal Horse Guards, "The Blues," will probably alter the plans for the Queen's inspection of the Household Cavalry on Saturday, and may cause a postponement of their departure for South Africa.

UNITED STATES.

A combine in rubber is talked of in New York.

By the fall of an elevator in the Phoenix Building, Minneapolis, ten persons were injured.

The three grand stands on the Rochester Driving Park Association's grounds were totally destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$25,000.

Tammany Hall has agreed to pay \$10,000 of the indebtedness on the Farnell homestead in Wicklow, and the property will be saved for the family.

It is said at San Francisco that the sick soldiers returned from the Philippines by the transports Tartar and Newport were scandalously treated by the officers.

The Board of Trustees of the Boston Cemetery Department has voted to allow the Victorian Club to erect its proposed monument to the British soldiers who fell at Bunker Hill.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the United States, shows total receipts for the year from all sources of \$515,960,620. The expenditure was \$335,000,000, leaving a deficit of \$89,111,569.

Lewis Warner, whose embezzlements wrecked the Hampshire County National Bank and the Hampshire Savings Bank, was sentenced at Northampton, Mass., to not more than 12 nor less than 9 years in states prison.

The New York police are hunting for Rev. W. H. Dexter, principal of the New York Naval Academy at Nyack, who has been missing since Nov. 2. The police believe that Dr. Dexter was robbed, and assaulted on Water street.

GENERAL.

Dreyfus is ill again.

The municipal election in Berlin resulted in the selection of 12 Socialists and 6 Liberals to the Common Council.

The little hamlet of House, situated in a wild spot twenty miles from Nice, France, at an altitude of 800 yards, has been thrown into consternation because a baby has been carried off by an eagle.

Verdict of Acquittal in the Winnipeg Bank Robbery.

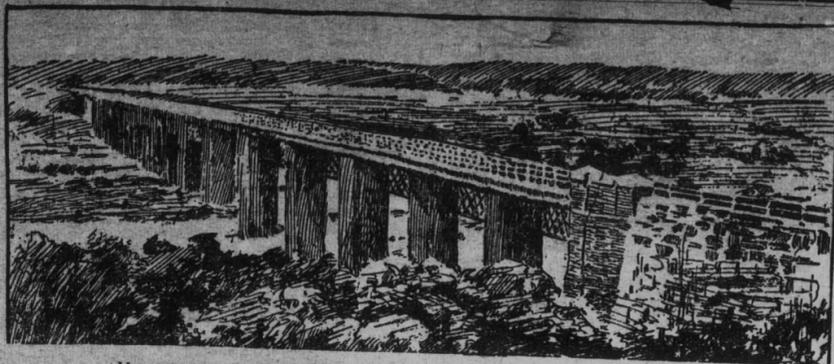
A despatch from Winnipeg, says—So confident were Anderson's friends that the bank robbery trial would end on Tuesday night that they had prepared a banquet and invitations were out, but it was postponed, as the judge's charge was not delivered until Wednesday morning, when the courtroom was again crowded to suffocation.

Judge Bain began his address shortly after ten o'clock, and took up points of evidence very carefully, reviewing it very clearly. The jury listened very carefully to every word.

The jury, after an absence of an hour, returned a verdict of "not guilty."

Many of the Soldiers Using Bicycles Instead of Horses.

The Transvaal war will at least have the credit of being the first campaign in which bicycles have been employed by regular troops; and from the frequency with which they are mentioned in the telegrams, it is very evident that the riders are doing very good service. This fact, coupled with the order of Sir Redvers Buller that departmental officers at bases might have the option of using their cycles instead of horses, and receive an allowance in lieu of rations, leads one to hope that the military authorities are at length beginning to perceive the practical value of the bicycle in warfare.



Hopetown Bridge Over the Orange River on the Cape Colony Border.

THE QUEEN'S FAREWELL.

Her Majesty Reviews Her Household Cavalry Before Their Departure for the Transvaal.

A despatch from London, says—Sunshine so brilliant that it compelled the Queen to resort to a sunshade greeted her Majesty's return to Windsor Saturday morning, when she inspected three detachments of the Household Cavalry bound for South Africa. The Royal Horse Guards and the Second Life Guards had journeyed up from London, joining the First Life Guards. Amid scenes of great enthusiasm the troops formed in two lines unmounted, in khaki instead of their beautiful uniform, with blue tunic, glittering cuirass, scarlet plume, white overalls, and Wellington boots. An immense crowd of people witnessed the assembly. Brigadier-General Trotter, the district commander, with his full staff, conducted the inspection.

After the march past the officers were ordered to the front, and the men were formed in a mass within a yard of the Royal carriage. Then, addressing Colonel Neeld, in a voice plainly audible to the officers, the Queen made this speech:—

"I have called you here to-day, my soldiers, who are always near me, to say farewell before you cross the seas to a distant part of my Empire, to assist your comrades who are fighting so bravely for your sovereign and country. I know you will always do your duty, as heretofore, and I pray God to bless you, and give you a safe return."

After the speech her Majesty beckoned to Colonel Neeld, who thereupon advanced. The Queen shook hands heartily with the colonel, who assured her Majesty, that she could depend on the Guards to uphold the honour of Queen and country.

Colonel Neeld then led three cheers for the Queen, and 500 helmets were raised high on the points of swords and carbines. The cheers were repeated again and again, and the band struck up "God Save the Queen."

Her Majesty drove off amid the cheers of the spectators and troops present.

In London these popular troops were wildly cheered, and an enthusiastic send-off early next week is assured.

There were stirring scenes Saturday at Southampton, where over three thousand troops sailed by three ships about the time when the famous Lancers, who made the brilliant charge at Omdurman, were disembarking from their voyage from Egypt.

HIS LACK.

Mrs. Bludsoe—Was Col. Corkright intoxicated last night?

Maj. Bludsoe—Not by a jugful!

ACTUALLY INSULTING.

Conductor, hastily.—How old is that child?

Young Mother, indignantly.—Do I look old enough to have a child old enough to pay fare?

A MERCHANT SHOT DEAD.

JOHN E. VARCOE, OF TORONTO, KILLED BY A BURGLAR.

Two Men Break Into a Store—One of Them Shot by a Policeman and Captured—The Other Jumped Through a Window and Taken Prisoner.

A despatch from Toronto says—Two burglars entered the house of John E. Varcoe, grocer, 183 Queen street east, at a few minutes before two o'clock on Thursday morning, and, in an endeavour to rob him, shot Mr. Varcoe in the groin and right side. They then endeavoured to escape, with the result that one jumped from a second storey window and hurt himself badly, being found on the ground by Patrol Sergeant Willis when the alarm was sounded. The other ran down Sherbourne street, followed by P. C. Dickson, who fired four shots at him, finally bringing him down near Duchess street. Both men were then taken to No. 2 Police station in the ambulance.

Varcoe resides above his store, and in the next room to him sleeps his clerk, a young man named Noel Thomas. At the hour mentioned he was awakened by a noise, and found

A MAN BESIDE HIS BED.

He jumped up, when the burglar made at him. Varcoe pluckily defended himself with a chair, striking his assailant heavily. In the meantime the second man stood over the clerk in the next room with a loaded revolver and prevented him from going to the assistance of his employer. In his fight with the burglar Varcoe appears to have been getting the best of it, when his opponent brought his revolver into play and fired two shots, hitting Varcoe in the groin and in the right side.

Drs. Ball and Wallace were afterwards summoned, and attended the wounded man, who, it is feared, is dangerously hurt.

Before entering Varcoe's room the burglars went through the house pretty thoroughly, and on the counter of the store, after their arrest, were found the traces of a meal of canned goods and similar luxuries which they had evidently enjoyed.

The burglar who endeavoured to escape tried to shoot the policeman who was chasing him, but the cylinder of his revolver jammed and he

COULD NOT USE THE WEAPON.

When the doctors had done all they could to relieve Varcoe's suffering he was taken to the General hospital in the ambulance. The physicians report that he cannot recover from his wounds.

Outside the house were found portions of a burglar's kit, while an examination of the premises showed that the clothes of the residents had been rifled and all their money taken.

At No. 2 Police station it was found that the two criminals were Henry Williams and James McIntosh. The police did not know either of them.

McIntosh the man who ran down Sherbourne street, has a bullet in his leg as a result of the constable's shooting, and the pockets of both criminals were filled with cartridges.

COFFEE DRINKERS.

supported in the Use of the Stimulant by Late Authorities.

The question of coffee drinking being injurious is agitated for every now and again; then the agitation subsides, and people go on drinking it.

According to the best authorities, coffee taken in moderation is not only harmless, but highly beneficial. Its value as a stimulant has always been recognized, and the fact that it is so highly prized as a beverage, if there were no other reason would go far to prove that it has a powerful influence on the nervous system.

The action imparted to the nerves, however, is natural and healthy, and habitual coffee drinkers generally enjoy good health and live to a good old age.

For brain workers its value cannot be overestimated. It has been called the "mental beverage," and, unlike alcohol, the gentle exhilaration it produces is not followed by any harmful reaction. It causes gentleness of mind, allays hunger and bodily weakness, and increases the capacity for work.

The mental exhilaration and physical activity it causes explains the fondness for it which has been shown by so many scientists, poets, scholars and others devoted to thought. Its effect on the imagination is remarkable, without causing any subsequent depression, as in the case of narcotics. Balzac, the great French novelist, declared that he could not have written the "Comedie Humaine" without its aid.

BANK BURGLARS AGAIN.

An Attempt to Rob the Ottawa Bank at the Capital.

A despatch from Ottawa, says—About 1 o'clock on Friday morning an attempt was made to rob the Ottawa Bank on Wellington street. The burglar in prying open a window broke a pane of glass, and in this way some of the clerks who were in the building were able to give the alarm. The policemen were soon on the spot, but no trace of the burglar could be found.

DIDN'T WORK.

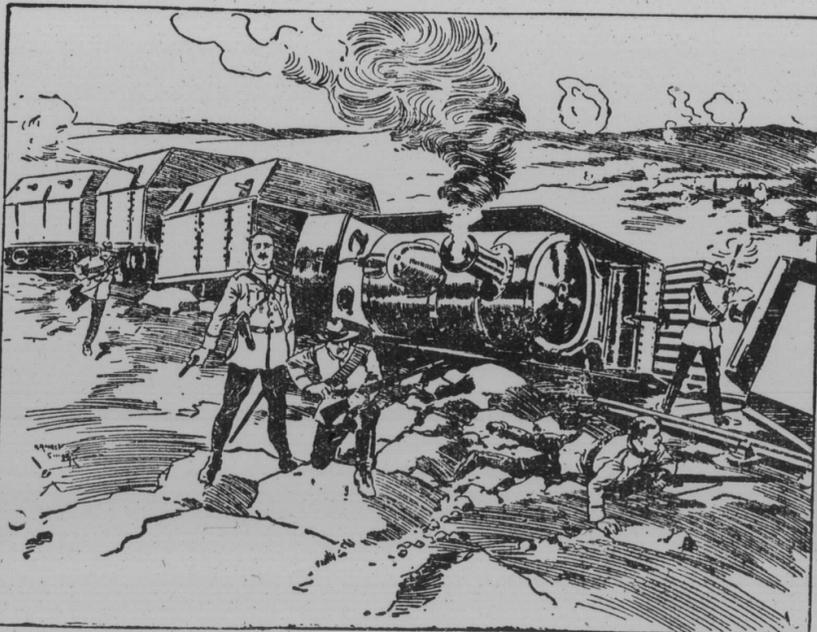
What a beautiful lounge!

Yes. That's a birthday present from my husband. He always gives me a present that costs him as many dollars as I am years old.

That's nice of him. It reconciles one to growing old. By the way, I have a lounge at home like that, but not nearly as fine, and we paid \$38 for it.

Is that all? This—this didn't cost nearly as much as that.

THE ATTACK ON THE ARMOURD TRAIN AT KRAAIPAN.



For hours Capt. Nesbitt and his men in charge of the armored train which was wrecked by the Boers near Kraaipan, kept the enemy at bay. It was only when the Boers opened on them with shell that they surrendered.