

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.

Galt will spend \$10,000 in street improvements.

London has already received \$243,621 in taxes for this year.

Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere has returned to Ottawa from his trip to the Old Country.

The Hamilton Bricklayers' Labourers Union has been organized, with John Asbury, president.

Col. Hutton has been appointed commandant of the Canadian forces to succeed Major-General Gascoigne.

Jas. Day, a logger, stepped off a boom of logs at Gimber Island, B. C., on Sunday and was drowned.

A British Columbia pioneer died on Sunday in the person of James Reid, a poundkeeper of Vancouver.

The Ontario Government has selected the Mackenzie property, South London, as the site for a Normal school.

It is reported that the Ottawa Street Railway Company has bought the Ottawa and Gatineau Valley railway.

George Meyers and A. A. Coe are charged at Hamilton with burning three G.T.R. freight cars there July 10th.

Arrangements are being made for the trip of a team from the Canadian Lacrosse League to Port Arthur, Fort William, Rat Portage and Winnipeg.

The check of the United States for \$478,000, the amount of damages adjudged by the Bering Sea claims commission, has been received by the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

The Canadian Gold Fields Company, is erecting a new plant at their works near Belleville, to take the place of the plant destroyed by fire some months ago.

Vancouver people suggest that the imperial authorities instead of increasing the dry dock accommodation at Esquimalt that they build a dry dock at Vancouver.

The new People's Telephone Company in London threaten to cease operations unless the city guarantees an extension of the company's franchise at the end of fifteen years.

James Fitzgerald was struck by a train and killed on the Canadian Pacific Railway while crossing a bridge between Keewatin and Rat Portage on Monday. He was a prominent lawyer.

Owing to the action of the London, Ont., City Council in granting the People's Telephone Company a franchise, the Bell Company have met the prices of the new comers, and reduced their rates nearly one-third.

Rev. Dr. Hackett, former principal of St. Paul's Divinity College, Allahabad, India, at present secretary of the Hibernian Church Missionary Society, has been appointed principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

Chas. Schmidt, who robbed his room mate, A. Wright, in the Avenue Hotel, Vancouver, B.C., of \$75 and evaded the police, attempted to steal a ride on the Atlantic express leaving there Monday. He fell and was mangled under the wheels.

There is a movement on foot in Toronto to appoint a special inspector of dry goods imported under the new preferential law, in order that there may be no evasion of the law through British exporters passing foreign goods through their hands and affixing a different label.

GREAT BRITAIN.

It is announced that penny postage will go into force on the Prince of Wales' birthday, November 9.

It is reported in London that Mr. George N. Curzon has accepted the office of Viceroy of India in succession to Earl Elgin.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales left for Copenhagen on Tuesday, owing to the serious illness of her mother, the Queen of Denmark.

In the Parliamentary bye-election held at Grimsby, England, Mr. George Doughty, Unionist, who had resigned owing to a change of political faith, was re-elected with a plurality of 1,751.

Mr. Chamberlain stated in the House of Commons that her Majesty's Government wished to establish direct communication between Canada, Jamaica and London in order to foster the fruit trade.

UNITED STATES.

A number of stores at Escabana, Mich., were destroyed by fire on Sunday night. The losses will amount to \$100,000.

Employees of the American Wire Co. and the H. P. Nail Co., Chicago, are on strike against a reduction in wages.

Mr. Bartlett, an old man aged 82, of Albion, Mich., was killed by his grand-nephew, aged ten, on Sunday. The boy was fooling with a gun, and aimed at a door near the old man's head. The gun missed fire, and blew the old man's head off.

As a result of a conference between ex-Senator Eerner Miller, president of the Nicaraguan Canal Commission, and President McKinley, it is stated the latter intends to make a strong recommendation to Congress for legislation making immediate provision for completing the canal and for making it the direct property of the Government.

GENERAL.

Signor Turati, one of the leaders of the riots at Milan, was sentenced at Rome on Tuesday to twelve years' imprisonment.

Newfoundland fishermen are to be organized as naval reserves, and to be drilled by special instructors sent from England.

It is reported at Yokohama that Hawaii has agreed to pay Japan \$40,000 sterling in settlement of the dispute which arose out of the exclusion of Japanese emigrants from the Hawaiian islands.

MEN FOR GARRISON DUTY.

The Force in Cuba Will be Partially Made Up of Volunteers, According to Washington Advice.

A despatch from Washington, says—In the event of peace not less than 30,000 troops will be stationed in Cuba for garrison duty.

This is the minimum given to me by an officer of the Government high in authority. This official thinks quite probable that as many as 50,000 troops will be needed to garrison the main seaports of Cuba. They will, he thinks, not be needed in large numbers at other points. The plan, moreover, is that all Spanish troops now in Cuba shall be sent back to Spain. When I spoke to Adjutant-General Corbin today on this subject he intimated strongly that the United States would probably have to share in the expense of transporting these troops back to the mother country.

The situation in Cuba is being studied now somewhat from the standpoint of peace. Official figures, to which I have had access, show that there are 180,000 effective troops in Cuba. There will be nothing left for them to do but to lay down their arms and become pensioners upon the United States Government, or be sent back to their country, partially at least, at the expense of the United States. The latter, it is believed, will be the wiser course.

With these probabilities in mind there is no serious intent on the part of the Administration that the volunteer army shall be dispersed. This army will be kept intact for at least one year, I was told to-day by an official who more than any other person had to do with the drafting of the Act to provide for temporarily increasing the military establishment in time of war. Some erroneous conclusions have been reached from the reading of this Act. For example, the opening sentence of section four of the Act provides that "the volunteer army shall be maintained only during the existence of the war." But the closing sentence says that the "encompassing said army shall be discharged from the services of the United States when the purposes for which they were called into service shall have been accomplished, or on the conclusion of hostilities." Thus, it is insisted by this high authority, the President may at any time during the two years for which the volunteers are enlisted call them into service for garrison duty or otherwise. Congress will not be called upon or authorized to disband the volunteer army, as efficient work is expected to be found for it pending the adjustments following peace. It is safe to say that not less than 75,000 men will be left in Manila, Cuba, and Porto Rico to uphold American interests in those islands.

QUEER CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Odd Mixtures of Nationalities—Adherence to Old Customs.

During the last five years many tourists, aroused by the vivid descriptions of Victor Hugo, have visited the famous Channel Islands, of which Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney, are the largest. These are between England and France, and their inhabitants are an odd mixture of the two nationalities. They are very conservative and keep up many of the customs of ancient times. Some of them are quite pretty, and have been reproduced in England and America by returned travellers.

One is to have the bedrooms look into the garden and not the street. When this cannot be done a glass partition with a door is built across the room, and the half by the window is made into a conservatory. Another useful idea is a little clay-lined iron brazier used for broiling meat over a charcoal fire. It makes no smoke and can be extinguished quickly. For rapid and comfortable cooking in summer it is invaluable. The islands are warm and fertile, and are famous for lettuce, chicory, salsify, radishes, sorrel, cress and other delicate vegetables. These are made into mixed salads and also into omelets like the so-called Spanish omelets. The latter are tasty and very wholesome. The islanders excel in pastry. Fruits are the favourite food. They are served raw, sliced, with the famous Jersey cream, baked with custard, stewed with a little wine and sugar. The Guernsey mince pie has no meat or suet in its composition. It is made of apple, pear, peach, plum, berries, raisins, grapes, citron, sugar, butter, spices, wine and brandy, and is reported to be exceedingly fascinating. A "jersey luncheon," as now given by experts, consists of bouillon a mixed salad, a sardine pastry, a Guernsey mince pie, then wine and coffee, which is not bad for Jersey.

TUBING.

The lightest tubing ever made is of nickel aluminium. Three thousand feet of this tubing weighs only one pound avoirdupois.



THE LATE PRINCE BISMARCK.

MORE TROOPS FOR MERRITT.

The Hostile Attitude of the Philippine Insurgents Necessitates a Strong American Force.

A despatch from Washington, D. C., says—Although the War Department officials will not admit that they have any intention of reinforcing further General Merritt's forces at Cavite, there is reason to believe that some of the troops now in Eastern camps, who desire to see active service, will soon find the opportunity unless the Government shall change its present plans with respect to the Philippines. It is believed to be necessary even if America's claim is limited to the claims stated in the conditions submitted to Spain, namely, to the military occupation and government of the territory on the shores of the bay of Manila, to furnish to General Merritt a larger force than he has now at his command. It is realized that 20,000 soldiers can scarcely be expected to maintain United States possession and protect the inhabitants of a territory of this extent, for it must be remembered that the bay of Manila is 25 miles from the entrance at Corregidor island to the city of Manila at its head. It will also be necessary to possess and protect a zone extending some distance back of the city, in order to make sure of the preservation of the water works.

FEAR AN OUTBREAK.

The officials here make no concealment of their apprehension of serious trouble to follow the execution of the war programme in regard to the Philippines. The reports of the military and naval commanders have contained warnings of expected conflicts with the insurgents, and no surprise will be felt at the receipt of news of an outbreak at almost any moment. The United States Government feels that it has assumed a moral obligation towards not only the foreign residents at Manila, but toward the unprotected classes of the Spanish community, women, children, nuns, and priests. Therefore, when intimation came that the insurgents were threatening the lives of some helpless monks, orders were sent to the American military commander to look into the matter, and to act in the interest of civilization and humanity. As, according to report, the insurgents have shown particular hostility toward the monks, it is a reasonable expectation that a collision will have occurred between themselves and the American troops if the latter undertake to interfere in the execution of the vengeance of the insurgents.

CURZON HAS ACCEPTED.

Will Become Viceroy of India, Succeeding the Earl of Elgin.

A despatch from London, says—It is reported that Mr. George N. Curzon, the Parliamentary Secretary for the Foreign Office, has accepted the office of Viceroy of India, in succession to the Earl of Elgin. He was formerly Parliamentary Under-Secretary for India, and is the author of a number of prize essays, including "Russia in Central Asia," "Persia and the Persian Question," and "Problems of the Far East." He is the eldest son of Lord Scarsdale, was educated at Oxford, and is a gold medalist of the Royal Geographical Society.

Mr. Curzon married Miss Mary Leiter, the daughter of Mr. L. Z. Leiter, of Chicago.

THE CITY OF HONG KONG.

Hongkong is both city and island. It is about 29 square miles in area, separated from the mainland of China by a narrow stream, and was ceded to Great Britain in 1861 as indemnity for what is known as "the opium war."

FIGURES AND FACTS.

Mrs. Baldwin (reading)—An eminent scientist says that the common household can make 600 strokes with its wing second.

Mr. Baldwin—Well, perhaps it can; but the pesky thing never does it when it has a chance to loaf around a man's bald spot and tickle him.

MANY ACTS OF BRUTALITY

SPANISH TROOPS WREAK VENGEANCE ON THE PORTO RICANS.

Flames and Rust Mark Their Retreat—After Firing the Villages and Maltreating the Women and Children as the Army Falls Back.

A despatch from Ponce, Porto Rico, says—The Spanish troops formerly stationed in this part of Porto Rico are rapidly retreating to the interior, leaving behind them a broad path of burning plantations and desolated villages.

Porto Rican refugees, who are coming into Ponce in great numbers, report that unparalleled outrages have been perpetrated by the Spanish soldiers in the villages of Juan Diaz, Coamo, and Adjuntas.

Wild with rage over the American invasion, the Spaniards are reported to be wreaking vengeance upon inoffensive non-combatants, firing their houses, and maltreating the women and children. Some of the acts of brutality reported here are shocking beyond description.

SOLDIERS MALTREAT WOMEN.

The steady stream of terror-stricken refugees that began to pour into Ponce on Saturday night has continued. They are appealing to the United States military authorities for protection. All tell the same stories of brutality and violence by the retreating Spaniards.

It seems probable that the situation is worse at Adjuntas than at any other point. This is a small but important town, twenty miles in the interior. A messenger who arrived, said that many women had been maltreated and killed, and their bodies cremated in the burning houses. He also reported that the Spanish garrison at Adjuntas, comprising two hundred men, had abandoned the place after twenty-four hours of unbridled license.

It is impossible to verify these reports, but reputable merchants here profess to know the messengers who bring the news, and declare that they are worthy of credit.

General Wilson, the American military Governor, has questioned the refugees closely, but he cannot send any aid to the suffering Porto Ricans at present. He believes that it would be unwise to scatter the troops at his command until reinforcements arrive here.

Alarming reports that the Spaniards intended to attack this city on Friday night were calculated, and two lines of pickets were sent out, but the night passed without incident, and the city still is quiet and orderly. A great majority of the citizens are unfeignedly delighted with the American occupation of the city. Spanish sympathizers apparently are confined to native Spaniards and a few German and French residents. These are keeping very quiet.

SPANIARDS ARRESTED.

Considerable excitement was caused on Saturday by the arrest of several Spanish volunteers. The bitterness engendered by the rebellion of 1867 still exists, and Friday, when political prisoners were set at liberty, they immediately sought revenge upon their former persecutors. They reported that their old enemies were actively engaged in spying, and in otherwise promoting the Spanish interests.

Half a dozen Spanish residents of this city, arrested upon the representations of Porto Ricans, were taken to the City hall, followed by a hooting native rabble. When General Wilson learned what was being done he ordered that the Spaniards be released, and he assured them that protection would be granted to all. Guards have been stationed about the homes of several residents, and strict orders have been issued for the provost guard to prevent any annoyance by the rabble.

THE CAMERON MEN.

Origin of the Famous Regiment, and Their Bravery in Battle.

The Cameron men, the praises of whose action at the battle of Abbara are still ringing in the public ear can lay claim to a heroic ancestry. The Camerons had their origin from a tribe of Caledonians inhabiting the district of Lochaber, and anciently known as the MacOchtre. Their chief, John MacOchtre, was a friend of the Bruce, and, joining the Scottish chiefs, led the clan in the Highland Division of the patriotic army at the battle of Bannockburn. In that division, led by the Lord of the Isles, the gallantry of the Camerons was conspicuous, and materially contributed to win the victory which secured the national liberty. The Cameron regiment was raised in 1689, amongst the Cameronians in the West of Scotland to support William III; while the regiment of the Cameron Highlanders was formed in 1793 by Allan Cameron, of Erroch. When the latter regiment was at Gibraltar in 1822, it was ordered to join the British army in Egypt, and there, with the 42nd and 74th Campbell Highlanders, constituted the Highland Brigade. In the night attack upon the Egyptian rebels at Tel-el-Kebir, Private Donald Cameron, who was the first to scale the ramparts, was shot dead, but his fall was avenged by his comrades, in a battle, the issue of which Sir Archibald Alison characterized as the "greatest of modern victories." In the subsequent defence of Kosheh and the battle of Ginnis, the gallant conduct of the regiment, and the conspicuous ability of Col. Everett who directed it, were of public notoriety, deserving the highest compliment. The Cameron Highlanders were once described by a Lord Provost, of Edinburgh, as "lions in the field and lambs at home."

HOW LONG DO THEY LIVE.

What Statistics Show About the Average Life of a Railroadman.

If there is one subject that interests a railroad man more than another it is how long he will live. Whenever you meet a railroad man or a group of them, the subject you will find them discussing, or the first question they will put to you in conversation is: "What is the average life of a trainman?" Railway records dispel the popular idea that the average life of a trainman actively engaged in the railway service is about seven years. One of the principal roads entering Louisville has compiled statistics on the subject only recently. On that road during the last three years there were only two men killed and 158 injured. Of these men all but two were brakemen, and these two, who were freight conductors, were at the time of the accidents acting as brakemen.

It might be supposed that inexperienced men would be most apt to get injured, but the records show differently. A correspondent of the Railroad Gazette contributes the following table of percentages of injured men according to their term of service: Number of trainmen injured during their first year of service, 12.16 per cent.; in service two years, 11.11 per cent.; in service three years, 16.35 per cent.; in service four years, 20 per cent.; in service five years, 21.77 per cent.; in service six years, 3.97 per cent.; in service seven years, 3.97 per cent.; in service eight years, 2.47 per cent.; in service nine years, 4.16 per cent.; in service ten years, 4.16 per cent. The remaining 8.89 per cent. has been in the service over ten years, and in some instances, 15, 18 and 22 years.

AFTER SIX YEARS' SERVICE.

It will be seen that the largest average of injuries occurred after the employee had been in service six years, and the figures given would indicate that the employee as a general rule are careful up to the time when they have been in the service three or four years, and then become more careless until about their eighth year of service, when the figures show that they again become more careful, as those who had worked over ten years have a smaller comparative percentage of injuries than those who worked six years.

With the completion of the equipment of box cars with automatic couplers and air brakes the liability of trainmen being injured will be reduced to a minimum, the records showing that at least two-thirds of the accidents were caused by men attempting to couple automatic drawbars with a link and pin to the old-fashioned solid or skeleton drawbar. Other accidents were caused by uneven drawbars, some of which vary as much as three inches in height. Many men were injured by stepping on stones or a link in jumping off to throw switches, and several were jerked off the ice-covered tops of cars. A few men were injured while engaged in coupling cars loaded with long lumber or bridge iron extending over the ends of the cars. This danger will soon be a thing of the past, since most of the companies require two cars to be used whenever there is long timber to be loaded.

SEE THE WORDS.

According to an eminent professor some persons see mentally in print every word they hear uttered.

LETTERS BY DICKENS.

A collection of 136 letters written by Charles Dickens to various correspondents was sold in London lately for \$745.

SPANISH BULL FIGHTS.

The average number of horses killed in Spanish bull fights every year exceeds 5,000, while from 1,000 to 1,200 bulls are sacrificed.