

News Summary.

Lord Salisbury started for the Rivera Saturday morning.

The sum of \$10,000 will be spent for new buildings at Queen's University, Kingston.

Holy week processions in most of the cities of Spain have been prohibited.

Knox College, Toronto, graduating class numbers 25, the largest in several years.

The Grand Trunk Railway is erecting a cold storage plant at Portland.

There is a corner in peanuts and prices have lately advanced from 70 to 95 cents a bushel.

Rev. George Mason of Malahide, Ont., dropped dead as he was about to officiate at a wedding.

Sir William Van Horne has returned to Montreal from Cuba, and says the island is tranquil.

A new strike of natural gas has been made at Leamington, the well producing about 1,500,000 feet per day.

Dr. DeGroot, M. P. for Beauce, has been appointed to the Senate to succeed Senator Paquet of Quebec, deceased.

It is expected the last steamer taking exhibits from Canada to the Glasgow exhibition will sail from St. John on April 11th.

The wife and five children of Alex. Terrien of Tadoussac were drowned while coming down the Saguenay River in a boat.

The Dawson Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Dr. Grant, is making arrangements for the erection of a \$20,000 church.

The bill to permit golf playing and certain other sports on Sunday was defeated in the House of Representatives at Boston Friday by a vote of 99 to 55.

Grand Duke Michael, Russian heir apparent, will soon begin a tour of the empire for the purpose of studying administration methods.

Mr. F. H. Clergue will contribute \$1,000 toward a fund of \$50,000 proposed to be raised by the Toronto University Alumni for their alma mater.

Lord Carrington, British Ambassador, was insulted by a Portuguese mob repeatedly while returning from Lisbon, and changed trains to avoid unpleasantness.

Wages of the blast furnace men in York, England, will be reduced 21 per cent, for three months, and the wages of the Northumberland miners will be reduced 13 3/4 per cent.

A fire which started in the Everett Block, Libson Falls, Me., early this morning resulted in the destruction of 28 buildings in the business portion of the town, and it is believed the loss will approximate a quarter of a million dollars.

The Legislature of Nova Scotia was prorogued on Thursday. One of the acts that becomes law is a general subsidy bill, under which any town in the province may give to a steel shipbuilding company a flat subsidy of \$100,000 if the ratepayers approve. No conditions as to payment by results are imposed.

General French continues to press the Boers at Vryheid, Transvaal Colony. The Boers abandoned a pom-pom, which the British found smashed at the bottom of a precipice. The Kroonstadt correspondent of the Times, wiring Thursday, says the preparations are being generally made by the British forces for winter operations.

The Black Bull inn, the last of the ancient hostleries in Holborne, is to be pulled down. It was here that Dickens laid the scene of the Betsy Prig, and where the immortal Sairey Prip rates so many of her historic expressions. After standing for over three hundred years, it is now to make way for modern buildings, which will soon replace all the old haunts so dear to Dickens.

Hon. Robert Bond, now in England, confirms the statement that an understanding has been reached on the French shore question satisfactory to Newfoundland and Great Britain, and which, it is hoped, will prove satisfactory to France. Mr. Bond will bring up the question of imperial ratification of the reciprocity treaty negotiated between the United States and Newfoundland eleven years ago, but which has never been put in force, owing to Canadian objections. Important developments are likely to occur before he ends his mission in London.

According to information that has just reached Paris from a source regarded as of unquestionable authenticity, says the Paris correspondent of the Tribune, Russian has withdrawn the proposed Manchurian treaty with Cuba. This step is attributed to the personal instigation of Emperor Nicholas, and is accepted as evidence of his determination to avoid at the present juncture any conflict with Japan. At the same time the present Russian occupation of Manchuria is regarded in Paris, rightly or wrongly, as a parallel case to the British occupation of Egypt—as defacto—possession that will approach permanency as each year elapses.



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LITERARY NOTES.

The leading article in The Homiletic Review for April is by that well-known archaeologist, Dr. Fritz Hommel, of the University of Munich, Germany. In discussing the "Bearing of Arabian Archeology on Bible History and Literature," he brings out the important fact that at least four new Arabic names of provinces have, through the co-operation of Assyriological and Sabaitic investigations, established themselves in the Old Testament. The first of these, Ashur, often—as in Hosea x. 6 and v. 13—designates, not Assyria, but an Arabian province. The second, Kush, or more correctly, Kosh, as in Numbers xii, where it is used of the Midianitish wife of Moses, and as in Genesis, in the description of the site of the Garden of Eden—designates an Arabian province, and not Ethiopia. The third Mosar—as in Psalm lxxviii. 31 and Isa. xx. 5—is not Mizraim, Egypt, but a province of Arabia. So the fourth, Jareb—mentioned in Hosea v. 13 and x. 6—is identified as Arabian. The investigations of Babylonian cuneiform inscriptions in connection with the South Arabian have led to these results that will aid in solving some knotty old Testament geographical and racial problems.

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Personal. Rev. Isaiah and Mrs. Wallace have returned to their home in Lawrencetown, N. S., after having spent the winter very pleasantly with their sons—Rev. W. R. Wallace of Utica, and Rev. L. F. Wallace of Mechanicville, N. Y. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are enjoying a fair measure of health. Mr. Wallace supplied the Germain St. pulpit on Sunday 1st, preaching with much of his old-time force and ability, and was heard with deep interest. Old friends here were glad of the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with a brother whose praise is in all the churches.

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