

# 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.

Seeding is about to begin in Manitoba.

Ex-Mayor Little has presented a new ambulance to the City of London.

The Grand Opera House at St. Thomas was gutted by fire, believed to be incendiary.

The Grand Trunk is moving its auditor's and paymaster's offices from Detroit to Montreal.

Merchants of western Ontario have complained to Ottawa of the Great increase of smuggling from Detroit.

John Glassford, a prisoner at the London jail, was shot and seriously wounded by a turnkey while trying to escape.

The Manitoba public accounts were brought down in the Legislature on Tuesday. There is a cash balance on hand of \$546,488.

Frank Clark, son of D. W. Clark, of St. John, West Side, mining at Dawson City, writes that he has sold one claim for twenty thousand dollars.

The C. P. R. will erect a thirty thousand dollar stone and brick station at MacAdam Junction, and will light the work shops and yard by electricity.

Capt. Bernier, governor of the jail at Quebec, has been dismissed, and will likely be succeeded by Mr. Bernatchez, ex-member for Montmagny.

At Wolsley Barracks, London, Drill Sergeant Davis is giving a course of instruction in the handling of a Maxim rapid-firing gun received from Ottawa.

Snow in the woods at Madawaska Co., N. B., and Aroostook, Maine, was from seven to nine feet deep, the winter's fall being the greatest known in 60 years.

The act of the Manitoba Legislature compelling all companies incorporated in the Province to register in Manitoba has been disallowed at Ottawa.

Messrs. Coste and Lafontaine, of the Public Works Department, Ottawa, have left on an exploration tour in Northern British Columbia, and may go to Dawson City.

The celebration of St. Jean Baptiste day in Quebec this year, will be postponed until September, in order to coincide with the unveiling of the Champlain Monument.

The opinion of Hon. S. H. Blake, Q. C., that the Legislature has no jurisdiction to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale within the Province of intoxicating liquors has been received by the Manitoba Legislature.

M. Raoul Rinfret, C.E., of Montreal, who leaves shortly for the Yukon with the Slavin-Boyle party, has been commissioned by Mr. Sifton to organize a meteorological service in the Yukon country, as well as to make certain surveys for the Interior Department.

M. Kleczkowski, Consul-General for France in Canada, has officially informed Sir Wilfrid Laurier that the French Government is ready to give an annual subsidy of \$80,000 to a line of steamships between France and Canada on condition that Canada does the same.

The Canadian Pacific Railway expects at an early date to build three big ocean liners about the size of the Teutonic and place them on the route between Vancouver and Yokohama. The Empress vessels will then be used for the purpose of a passenger and freight service between Vancouver and Australia.

The Minister of Customs on Saturday night received a telegram asking him to authorize the passing in of several car loads of nursery stock that had arrived at the border just after the signing of the act excluding American nursery stock from Canada because of the San Jose scale. As the act is in force the stock could not be admitted.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Salisbury has gone to the south of France for a visit.

Right Hon. Thomas Ball, Lord Chancellor of Ireland from 1875 to 1880, is dead at Dublin.

Lord Salisbury's brother, Lord Sackville Cecil left £250,000, almost entirely of his own earnings.

The London Daily Mail is publishing letters from women, demanding ladies' smoking carriages.

Cables from London advise English tobacco merchants in Havana to leave Cuba as war is inevitable.

The Birmingham Gazette states that a Russian spy in the guise of a footman has been discovered at the Marquis of Salisbury's residence.

Bishop Hartzell, of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Africa, has reached London bringing letters from President Coleman of Liberia, to Lord Salisbury and President McKinley, requesting closer relations with Great Britain and the United States. It is understood that this step is prompted by fear of French and German encroachments threatening the integrity of the Republic.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom have passed this resolution at their meeting in London:—That these Chambers regard the absorption of Chinese territory by Russia, France, or Germany with great concern, as injurious to the interests of British commerce, seeing these powers exact the prohibitive duties of their respective countries in all their colonies and dependencies.

## UNITED STATES.

Hon. Blanche K. Bruce, registrar of

the U.S. Treasury, is dead at Washington.

The price paid by the United States for the two new Brazil warships was \$2,500,000.

The United States Government is being urged to pass a bill to deepen the Erie canal.

Speaker Reed is quoted by the New York Evening World as saying that Congress will complete its work and adjourn in April.

Parry Gardiner enticed Will Rogers into an unoccupied building at Pulaski, Ill., and beat his brains out with a club. Gardiner and Rogers were playmates, aged 16.

The project for the construction of a deep water canal between the Great Lakes and the Hudson River was before the House River and Harbor Committee at Washington on Tuesday.

A fine auroral display was witnessed in Boston on Tuesday night. Great waves of light swept over the heavens for more than an hour. It was also seen throughout New England.

Thomas Young, manager of the M. A. Hanna Coal Company, is quoted as follows regarding the possibility of another strike: "A strike involving about 20,000 miners will probably soon be in full swing in Central Pennsylvania. The operators declare they will not pay the Chicago scale, and the miners announce their intention to strike."

## GENERAL.

Yellow fever is epidemic in Rio Janeiro.

France has adopted the postal arrangements signed last June at Washington.

Troops have been ordered to the scene of the rioting among the miners at Somorostro, near Bilbao, Spain.

The Portuguese War Department has decided to complete the defences of the port of Lisbon as speedily as possible.

Italy has sold to Spain the armoured cruiser Varese and the cruiser Carlo Alberto, it is said, to the United States.

Spain has requested the United States to transfer the United States fleet to a greater distance from the Cuban coast.

The Spanish torpedo flotilla, consisting of the Phuton, Terror, Furor, Azor, Ariete and Rayo, and two transports, have arrived at Las Palmas.

A despatch from Cairo says a detachment of friendly natives from Kassa has captured another Dervish post killing twenty of the enemy.

The Transvaal Government has issued a green book relating to the Supreme Court difficulty. The dismissed Chief Justice is appealing to the people.

Continental newspapers generally regard Germany's withdrawal from Crete as heralding the installation of Prince George of Greece as Governor of the island.

A rebellion has broken out at Battambang, where the people have refused to pay taxes. A Siamese expedition has defeated the rebels, but fighting continues.

The agrarian revolt in Hungary is spreading. In a conflict between the peasants and gendarmerie on Sunday at Duna Foldvar two peasants were killed and forty wounded.

Senor Sandoval, the Spanish Agent in Berlin, is negotiating for the purchase of a number of old and slow steamers of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company.

Mme. Dreyfus, wife of ex-Captain Dreyfus, has petitioned M. Lebon, French Minister of the Colonies, for permission to share her husband's exile. The permission was refused.

The Italian Government has sold the armored cruiser Varese to Spain. Admiral Brin in the Chamber of Deputies gave the impression that the United States had purchased the armored cruiser Carlo Alberto.

Russia has notified China that the latter's delay in replying to the Russian demands will be construed as an acquiescence in the Russian occupation of Port Arthur. The British Minister at Peking is said to be urging China to resist.

The Premier of New South Wales states that he will at the next general elections introduce the referendum into Australian politics. After the Swiss fashion, all important questions will be referred back to the people in the form of plebiscites.

## TAXING DEPARTMENT STORES.

Bill Prepared by the Single Line Dealers' Association of Buffalo — \$100,000 the Limit.

A despatch from Buffalo says:—The Board of Supervisors on Monday afternoon adopted a bill prepared by the "Single Line Dealers' Association," which proposes to govern and restrict the departmental stores. The bill, which is to be introduced in the State Senate this week, classifies business in groups and grades, numbering eighty classes and 36 groups, including from one to several classes of business. The license fees are fixed as follows:—For first group, \$1; for the second group, \$100; for the third group, \$5,000; for the fourth group, \$10,000; for the fifth group, \$20,000; for the sixth group, \$40,000; for the seventh group, \$80,000; for the eighth and every group thereafter, \$100,000 per annum. Thus a firm dealing in one class or group of merchandise would pay a license of \$1; adding other classes of merchandise or departments would require the payment of fees from \$100 for one additional group or department to \$100,000 for eight additional groups or departments. The bill specifically provides that \$100,000 shall be the limit collected as license for conducting business under any number of groups.

Natural History.—Teacher—"What do you tell me about the rabbit?" Pupil—"Its left hind-foot is lucky."

## ILLNESS OF LORD SALISBURY.

The Condition of the British Premier More Serious Than Admitted.

A despatch from London, says:—Lord Salisbury's illness is more serious than is officially admitted, but how serious cannot be known until the effect of his rest is noted. Occasional, but not severe, diabetic symptoms have, according to medical information, manifested themselves for nearly two years. These have been seriously aggravated by recent illness and overwork, and hence the peremptory orders of Dr. Broadbent that he drop everything, notwithstanding the gravity of the national crisis and seek rest. It was only by pointing out the hopeless result of disregarding this advice that the eminent physician succeeded in inducing his patient to obey his orders.

Medical authorities who have been consulted in Lord Salisbury's case emphasize the fact that diabetic symptoms are an only too common complication of influenza this season, but they add that careful treatment in most cases results in their complete disappearance. Moreover, diabetes by no means the hopeless disease was considered a few years ago.

Lord Salisbury's chief point of regret for his compulsory retirement at the present moment is the fear that difficulties may arise in the plan which he has been carefully developing for a better understanding with Germany, especially in far Eastern matters. The negotiations have made some progress, and it is understood that the Premier has set his heart upon interposing a check of this nature to the Franco-Russian plans. The move, if successful, will not prove popular in England, for the anti-German sentiment here is stronger than in other foreign lands, but Lord Salisbury is convinced that it is the strongest card to play.

Rumours of a reconstruction of the Cabinet are freely bruited, but there is nothing definite yet on which to base these reports. It is the impression in Parliamentary circles that M. Balfour, who is temporarily in charge of the Foreign Office, will be subject to Colonial Secretary Chamberlain's influence to a greater degree than Lord Salisbury, which will mean a bold and more impressive foreign policy.

## EMERY IN MANITOBA.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—The emery found on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg has been pronounced by experts to be of the very finest quality. The deposits are known to extend over an area of twenty-five square miles. About 50 claims have been taken up, principally by Winnipeg parties. Deposits of aluminum and quicksilver have also been found.

FEDERATION IN AUSTRALIA. A despatch from Melbourne, Victoria, says:—The colonial convention has adopted the Federation bill, and dissolved. The bill now goes to the various Legislatures of Australia.

## PLAGUE RIOTS IN INDIA.

Mohammedans at Hubli Will Resist Sanitary Precautions.

A despatch from Bombay says:—Two hundred and fifty new cases and 216 deaths from the plague were reported Friday. Five Europeans have been attacked. The Mohammedans at Hubli, on the south Mahratta railway, hearing of the riots in this city, have decided to resist the plague precautions and operations over the line. The volunteers have been mobilized and the infantry has been summoned, but as yet there has been no conflict.

Edna Wallace Hopper has brought suit in San Francisco for a divorce from De Wolf Hopper, the well-known opera star. She has also begun similar proceedings in New York. Her attorney says the causes of action are willful desertion, and failure to provide.

## ARTILLERY FOR KLONDIKE.

Preparations for the Expedition Going on Apace at Kingston.

A despatch from Kingston, Ont., says:—It is generally expected that "A" Battery will provide the artillerymen for the Klondike expedition. The men are all anxious to go. Likely two of the new twelve-pounders will be taken from here, and four or more light guns for manning the mountain battery, and located at Sault Ste. Marie, will complete the equipment. Surgeon-Lieut. Foster, 68th King's County Battalion of Infantry, of which Hon. Dr. Borden is surgeon-major, has been called upon to look after the medical equipment. He is at present, attached to "A" Field Battery, performing the medical duties in connection with that corps and the Royal Military College in the absence of Surgeon-Major Neilson, who is now at Ottawa. Dr. Foster is a tall, well-built, able-bodied young man, enthusiastic over his duties, and one likely to do himself credit and his calling honour and possessing a constitution likely to withstand the rigours of the Klondike. He is busily engaged in making preparations for the trip northward, and finds his time fully occupied in the task.

Major Evans, commanding "B" Squadron Royal Canadian Dragoons, Winnipeg, will command the corps. He will be assisted by Captain Burdett, "A" Field Battery. These three officers, intended for this duty were summoned to attend last week for consultation with the Minister of Militia, and, returning to their posts, at once began active preparations for the voyage, which is as good as announced for the second week in April.

## KILLED IN HIS OFFICE.

Woolf Joel, the Associate of Barney Barnato, Assassinated at Johannesburg.

A despatch from London says:—Woolf Joel, one of the most prominent men in South Africa was shot in his office in Johannesburg on Monday morning, and died a short time afterwards. Mr. Joel was the associate of Barney Barnato, the South African Diamond King, and was trustee of the estate of the late millionaire. He had taken an active part in the politics of the Transvaal, and was a warm supporter of Cecil Rhodes. His assassination was at one time a soldier, and the cause of the shooting is said to have arisen over the pending elections. The city of Johannesburg is greatly excited over the shooting, as deceased was very popular with all classes of citizens. The murderer, a man named Feldthein, has been arrested.

Feldthein entered Mr. Joel's office and demanded £2,500. Being refused, he snatched a revolver from a desk

and shot Mr. Joel. He then fled, but was captured by the police.

The London Times publishes a military article showing that Russia's strength on the Manchurian frontier is considerably less than is generally supposed and is certainly inadequate to meet a well-equipped adversary.

## THIS ARTICLE REMOVED

of Corea — The Bear's Strength Stated.

The London Times publishes a military article showing that Russia's strength on the Manchurian frontier is considerably less than is generally supposed and is certainly inadequate to meet a well-equipped adversary. Commenting editorially upon the conclusions drawn by its contributor, The Times says:—"Japan evidently has taken the measure of Russia's strength and the result is seen in Russia's withdrawal from Corea. Japan has made no fuss, but she has acted, and she has acted so quietly that her action stands revealed for the first time by its results. It forms an admirable object lesson for the British Government."

A despatch from Seoul says:—Russia, it is reported here, consents to the recall of M. Kuril Alexieff, the Russian representative in the customs department, and the Russian drill instructors. It is also reported that Corea has offered to send an envoy to thank Russia for her kindness, but that Russia has replied that such a step would be profitless.

## VAN HORNE TO RETIRE.

Reported to Have Said He Will Resign After the Year 1900.

The Montreal Herald to-day publishes a special dated New York, which says:—"In view of the repeated denials which have been made by Sir William Van Horne of any intention of retiring from the presidency of the C. P. R., it is interesting to note a statement made by him to the Washington correspondent of a leading New York paper on Monday, announcing his intention of laying aside the reins of power after the year 1900, and outlining plans for improving the facilities of the transcontinental line before making way for his successor. He said:—"The C. P. R. expects at an early date to build three big ocean liners, about the size of the Teutonic, and place them on the route between Vancouver and Yokohama, when they are ready. It is their intention to utilize the boats now running between those ports for passenger and freight service between Vancouver and Australia. When this is done a fast line will be established between Quebec and Halifax and Liverpool, reducing the time of passage to three and a half days. The C. P. R. will then be able to take a passenger at Euston and land him at Yokohama without transferring him to any other line." This, Sir William says, it will be able to do by 1900."

## GREEK LOAN OF \$50,000,000.

It is announced in London that a Greek loan of \$50,000,000 will be issued within a few days. The loan will be floated simultaneously in St. Petersburg, London and Paris.

## MODERN METHODS.

Diggs—I just finished reading an account of how they burned heretics at the stakes in ancient times. Such barbarism would not be tolerated in this enlightened age.

Biggs—No, indeed! The modern heretic is let off with a roast in the religious journals.

## ARMY ON A WAR FOOTING.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PREPARING FOR WAR.

The Largest Measure Yet Taken by the U. S. War Department—The Strength of the Army to be Raised to 104,000 Men—Naval Preparations.

A despatch from Washington says:—The event of the day in official circles was the issue of an order for the formation of a new squadron of naval vessels to be stationed at Hampton Roads. The squadron in the beginning will consist of five ships, all the best of their types. Two of them, the battleships Massachusetts and Texas, are withdrawn from the present North Atlantic fleet at Key West and Tortugas. It would be a mistake to suppose, the officials of the Navy Department say, that in ordering this movement the department is animated by any purpose of yielding to representations or imitations that may have come from the Spanish Minister as to the mischief caused by the gathering of so large a naval force as Admiral Sicard's fleet in the vicinity of Cuba. On the contrary, the formation of the new squadron was brought about by purely strategic considerations, although it appears from the nature of the force now under orders to rendezvous at Hampton Roads that this strategy is of the defensive nature.

## THE NEW SQUADRON

Cannot be called a "flying squadron" because the association of heavy battleships with fleet cruisers like the Brooklyn, Columbia, and Minneapolis, reduces the available speed of the whole to the speed of the lowest vessel, and the squadron could not do much "flying" in the naval sense. The indications rather are that when reinforced by some smaller cruisers the squadron will constitute an ideal naval defence. Although the other ships to be added to the squadron have not yet been definitely selected it is surmised that they will include some of the battleships at Key West and the armed cruiser New York, in which case Admiral Sicard, it is believed, will command the new force. In place of the cruiser New York the people of Key West will look upon the grim outlines of the big monitor Puritan. She will have to assist her on guard the double turreted monitor Miantonomah and the monitor Amphitrite. So the order will in the end result in the gathering of the pick of the North Atlantic squadron at Hampton Roads. The point is said to be the best, strategically, on the Atlantic coast. It is almost centrally located and the ships from that point can reach any portion of the coast in short order.

## UNITED STATES ARMY.

The largest measure of preparation yet made by the War Department to meet the contingencies of the future probably has just been completed. It is the preparation of a bill providing, among other sections, for the placing of the regular army on a war footing with the full strength of 104,000 men. The bill has been carefully gone over by the War Department and will be introduced in the House by Mr. Hull, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs.

## GENERAL CABLE NEWS.

Advance in Price of Copper — Due to War Possibilities — Froudest Man in the Kingdom — A Big Surplus — Dastardly Crime.

A despatch from London says:—There is extraordinary activity in the copper market, especially at Birmingham. Authorities agree that the supplies are manifestly scarce, and that the stocks are unprecedentedly low. Good brands have advanced £2 per ton since January 1. The activity is largely attributed to the projected expenditure of the United States for war material, and a possible rupture with the principal copper countries.

John Meakin, an old weaver of Derby, is the proudest man in the Kingdom. He has just received from Queen Victoria her autograph portrait, in recognition of the fact that he has made her Majesty's stockings for forty years. She desired him to send her his portrait in return.

The huge surplus of the present financial year and the high price of consols find the Government of Great Britain with more money on its hands than it needs, and it has been decided to spend £2,600,000 in buying sites and erecting buildings for the great public departments, including a new War Office.

On the Cork, Baidon & South Coast Railway, where a strike is in progress the line patrol discovered on Sunday evening that the rails had been torn up at the approach to a viaduct seventy feet high, a few miles from Cork. The patrol was just able to stop the express.

## WIDOWS FOR THE KLONDIKE.

Twenty of Them Leave in a Batch for the Land of Gold.

A despatch from San Francisco says:—The little fishing steamer New England put into this port for a supply of coal and provisions sufficient to carry her to Vancouver. Captain Small says he passed the steamship City of Columbia. She had on board twenty New England widows and six male passengers. The widows are bound for Alaska, where it is their intention to open shops for the sale of groceries, dry goods, and hardware. Sixty widows were to have sailed in the steamer, but all but twenty lost courage at the last moment.