

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.

Ottawa building permits to date this year aggregate \$400,000.

Fifty-three thousand pilgrims visited Ste. Anne de Beaupre during July. English capitalists will develop the peat bogs at Eastman's 12 miles from Ottawa.

The will of the late Mr. James Owey of London disposes of an estate valued at \$84,500.

A Winnipeg firm will shortly ship 10,000 head of cattle to Great Britain via Montreal.

It is expected that the Montreal and Ottawa Railway will be opened about September 1st.

Farmer Louis Lambert, of St. Catharines, is mourning the loss of \$82 stolen by a farm hand.

It is reported at Winnipeg that Chief Justice Taylor, who is now in England, may reside there in future.

Hon. Richard Dobbell has been appointed Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the 8th Royal Rifles, Quebec.

Work has been begun on the foundations of the new bridge across the Niagara River at Lewiston.

Captain Francis Joseph Amateur Demers, of Portneuf, Que., has been gazetted an inspector of the Mounted Police.

Three Ottawa firemen have been fined \$35 each for throwing rotten eggs at members of the Maple Leaf baseball team.

A large mail from Dawson City reached Winnipeg Monday morning, letters bearing dates late in July being among the number, received.

W. R. Rockefeller has secured interests near Vancouver, having purchased immense iron deposits on Texada Island, B.C. He will start shipping at once.

The deposits in the Government savings banks during June last were \$771,000, and withdrawals \$826,000, leaving a balance on the 30th of June at credit of depositors of \$35,307,000.

A company has been incorporated under the Ontario Act with a capital stock of \$50,000 to engage in the cold storage and the general produce and provision business in Port Arthur.

Rev. Father Paradis, of Domremy, a new parish in the district of Nipissing, has entered suit for \$5,000 against Rev. Father Langlois, parish priest of Verrier, Ont., for defamation of character.

A valuable seam of anthracite coal has been located at Macadam's Lake, 15 miles from Cape Breton. Dr. Gilpin, Provincial Inspector of Mines, expresses the opinion that there is a large bed of hard coal.

While a gang of McBurney's Crew's Nest workmen were repairing a bridge at the bottom of the loop the upper timbers gave way, resulting in the instant death of two men and serious injuries to several others.

The three-masted American schooner James M. Seaman, which was towed into Halifax upsidown several weeks ago, has been righted after much difficulty. It was expected that the bodies of some of the crew would be found on board, but none were discovered.

Lieut. W. L. Ross, one of the four which represented Hamilton, Ont., on the Canadian Biscuit team, arrived home on Monday. Lieut. Ross is disappointed at the poor showing made by the Canadians this year. He, himself, however, won two valuable cups, and was a big money winner.

Deseronto having been condemned as an artillery range, the officers of the Militia Department are now looking for a new site. A portion of the farm of Mr. John Luck, on the Eardley road, above Aylmer, has been inspected, as also have sites at Chelsea and Ironsides.

A by-law will be submitted to the ratepayers of Cornwall, Ont., at the next municipal elections, asking for their approval of the borrowing of \$35,000, of which \$10,000 will be used to pay off the floating debt, and the remainder to purchase modern road machinery and build good streets.

The Jacques Cartier Water Power Company has been organized with a capital of half a million dollars to develop the falls of the Jacques Cartier River, for electric light and power purposes. The promoters of the company, who are principally Americans, propose to furnish light, heat, and motive power to the city of Quebec, and are preparing already to enter into provisional contracts for such service.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The rumour that efforts are being made to induce the Prince of Wales to visit the United States and Canada is untrue.

J. W. Jago, chief officer of the White Star steamer Britannic, has been arrested at Queenstown on charges of robbing the mails and smuggling.

Sir Henry Irving has decided not to proceed with his libel action against the London Year Book, which recently published an article alleging that the larger part of the audiences in the Lyceum theatre could not hear him.

A firm of solicitors in London, acting on behalf of Senor Du Bose, has addressed a letter to Mr. Chamberlain at the Colonial Office, saying that their client does not claim any compensation but desires an apology for the illegality of his expulsion from Canada.

The Lord Mayor of London, Mr. Horatio David Davis, and his daughter, Miss Davies, will sail for New York

from Liverpool on board the White Star Line steamship Teutonic on August 18, for a short visit to America. Mr. Davies will be the first Lord Mayor to visit America during his incumbency.

In the suit for damages brought by the owners of the British ship Cromartyshire against the La Bourgogne's owners as a result of the collision in July, the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique has asked the Admiralty Court to quash the writ served on their London agent, on the ground that they are a foreign corporation. Sir Francis Henry Jeune, president of the Admiralty division of the High Court of Justice, rules that the service of the writ is good, and that the English court has jurisdiction in the case.

UNITED STATES.

The railway employees' strike at Syracuse continues.

Adolph Entro, an ex-Mayor of San Francisco, is dead.

Governor Briggs, of North Dakota, is dead from consumption.

Ex-President Dole will be the first Governor of Hawaii, and not the United States Minister, Mr. Sewell, as recently reported.

Five men and two women, colored, were lynched at Clarendon, Arkansas, by a mob, being suspected of murder.

It is said that Mr. Hay, American Ambassador in London, will succeed Mr. Day as Secretary of State at Washington.

Charles F. Adam, first secretary of the British Embassy at Washington, has been transferred to Madrid. He will be succeeded by Godfrey D. Bland, secretary of the British Legation with The Hague.

Hon. E. J. Phelps, ex-United States Minister to England, is quite ill at the residence of General G. McCullough, at North Bennington, Vt. though physicians do not anticipate any unfavorable result.

Mr. Frank P. Collins, war correspondent of the Boston Journal, died at Tampa, Fla., of typhoid fever. He was on his way home from the front and was stricken with his fatal illness while on board the transport Arkansas.

Policeman Henry C. Hawley, of New York while in a fit of drunken rage on Thursday shot his wife, his mother, his son, four years old, and his daughter, six years old. He then shot himself in the head. Hawley and most of his victims are dead.

George Sharp, aged 28, crazed by drink, attempted to commit suicide in Ames' Vestibule saloon, Ogdensburg, on Tuesday, by cutting his throat with a huge pocket-knife, inflicting a ghastly wound. He was removed to his home, where he lies in a critical condition.

A mob attempted to rescue three negro teamsters incarcerated in the gaol at Tampa, Fla., Monday, and were fired upon from an upper story of the building, several shots taking effect. The wounded were carried away by their comrades, and the raid was unsuccessful.

Serious trouble in the interior of Alaska is apprehended by the United States Government. Food riots are feared at Fort Yukon and other upriver points, growing out of the failure of the transportation companies to get supplies in there on the prevailing low water. A military Government will be established at Fort Yukon as soon as possible.

Mrs. Margaret Fallon, who has just died at King's Ferry, Cayuga county, N. Y., at the age of 117, is believed to have been the oldest person in America. It has been found from the records that she was born in Lusuff parish, Kings county, Ireland, in 1781. She has been a widow fifty years, and is survived by four sons and five daughters. The oldest daughter is 80 and the oldest son 75. She had two sons in the civil war, one being in the Union and one in the Confederate army. The Confederate survived the war; the other died in Libby prison.

GENERAL.

Cholera is epidemic at Madras. Corea intends to adopt the gold standard.

H.M.S. Mohawk has hoisted the British flag on Santa Cruz and Bluff Islands.

Memorial services for Prince Bismarck were held on Sunday in the Royal Opera House, Berlin.

The Pope's health is said to be worse than at first reported. Weakness and fainting spells are the most prevalent symptoms.

It is announced that Lieut.-Col. Macallum, Governor of Lagos, West Africa, will succeed Sir Herbert Murray as Governor of Newfoundland.

Private Luke of the Second Wisconsin, who shot and killed Private Stafford of the American regulars in Porto Rico, has been court-martialled and shot.

The mine and towers of the great naphtha works at Wischnu, Russian Trans-Caucasia, have been destroyed by fire. Fourteen people were badly burned.

American warships which ran in close to Havana on Friday were peppered with shot from the batteries. The San Francisco was struck and received some damage.

Madame Charles Frederick Worth, widow of the famous Parisian couturier, who died in March, 1895, and his successor in the superintendence of the Worth establishment, is dead.

Vigorous measures have been taken to place the sea forts of Copenhagen in a state of military efficiency. It is supposed that these measures are due to fears of a conflict between Great Britain and Russia.

During the departure from Lisbon of Dr. Campos Salles, president of Brazil, for America by the Trans-Atlantic liner Thames, on Monday, two steamers carrying friends to bid him farewell came into collision, swamping two small boats and drowning twenty persons.

THE AUGUST CROP REPORT.

FALL WHEAT CROP ONE OF THE BEST ON RECORD.

Spring Wheat Excellent—Barley and Oats About Up to the Average—Fruit as a Whole Not Good—Condition of Live Stock Fair—Plenty of Labor.

The following is from the August crop bulletin just issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. The figures of acreage and yield will be published in a few days:—

Fall Wheat.

The crop of fall wheat is one of the best ever harvested in the Province. Both east and west the yields have been large, an occasional smaller yield being more than balanced by a heavy return close by. The crop was out early, and was harvested in a good condition generally, although a few correspondents complain of "lodging," owing to the heavy straw, and of "shelling." The grain is described as being plump, and in many cases goes considerably over standard weight. Occasional reports of rust were received, but little complaint was received regarding insects, except in the case of the midge, which was injurious in Welland, Hamilton and Lincoln, particularly in the last-named county.

Spring Wheat.

Many correspondents in the eastern portion of the Province report a considerable increase in the acreage devoted to spring wheat. This crop, like other cereals, ripened early, owing to the hot weather, which in some neighborhoods prevented the heads from filling well. The yield, as a whole, however, will be considerably above the average, especially in eastern Ontario, where a number of correspondents speak of the crop as the best for many years. The main drawbacks experienced have been frost and drought, and some slight injury from rust and midge is also reported.

Barley.

The crop is generally good, and, with a few exceptions, the grain is bright and in fine condition, though in some places light in weight, owing to the heat and lack of moisture. The frost in July also inflicted some damage on the crop. Slight losses from smut and rust have been observed, but there appears to have been a marked exemption from the ravages of destructive insects.

Oats.

There will be about an average yield of oats as regards quantity, the crop, which promised splendidly during the earlier part of the season, having suffered considerably from the late frost, and to a still greater degree from the hot, dry weather, which caused premature ripening. The straw is consequently short, and the grain apt to be light. The yield is better in the extreme eastern counties, both in quantity and quality, than elsewhere. In a number of localities injuries from rust and the attacks of grasshoppers are mentioned, but smut seems to have entirely disappeared, being mentioned by only one correspondent.

Rye.

The greater part of this crop is fed green, to supplement pasture, and the results this season have been satisfactory. Where the grain for the grain the yield per acre will be slightly above the average, except in the Lake Ontario counties, in some of which there was a small yield.

Beans.

Judging by the remarks of correspondents, beans do not appear to be increasing in popularity as a field crop. The crop was more or less affected by drought and frost, but despite these drawbacks it will be almost up to the average for yield.

Peas.

The yield of peas varies greatly, even in the same county or township. The crop got a good start, but the continued drought checked the growth and caused the vines to ripen too early. The frost of July 10 also did considerable injury to this crop. The straw, though short, is bright, and will make good fodder. The "bug" was frequently complained of in the Lake Erie district, but further east it did not appear to give much trouble. The yield per acre for the Province will fall a little short of the average and runs all the way from 10 to 30 bushels to the acre.

Hay and Clover.

Correspondents are almost unanimous in favorable comments regarding this crop. While old meadows did not do so well, newly sown fields gave large yields. Three tons to the acre are frequently reported, and four and five tons per acre are also mentioned. The average will be about two tons, or say 50 per cent above the average. Many farmers cannot find room in their barns for the surplus crop. In addition to the generous yield the crop generally has been saved in first-class condition. Several correspondents claiming that in this respect it is the best for many years. Cutting was earlier than usual. Alsike did not do so well as red clover or timothy, and there will be a remarkable scarcity of seed in the case of this variety.

Corn.

This promises to be a fair crop in the Lake Erie counties, but in the other districts much injury has been done by the frost of the second week of July. The drought has also told against the crop in every section of the Province. Several Middlesex correspondents refer to large numbers of crows and blackbirds having attacked the young corn.

Potatoes.

The potato crop will be considerably below the average in most localities owing to the late frosts in June and July, which were very destructive in

the northern counties and some low-lying lands elsewhere, and the more recent drought, the effects of which have been generally felt throughout the Province. A good yield is anticipated in the St. Lawrence counties, where the conditions have been more favorable, and timely rains may bring some improvement in the case of late-planted crops. The ravages of the potato beetle are noted by some correspondents as an additional cause of the shortage, and blight has appeared in a few sections.

Roots.

The large majority of reports as to the root crops are encouraging, the only drawback being the excessive and long-continued drought which has retarded development in many localities. With a due amount of moisture during the remainder of the season there will be a good yield, but otherwise the crop will be a light one. Little injury has been done by insects, except that two or three correspondents refer to the ravages of the grasshoppers in Muskoka and Manitoulin.

Flax.

Owing to a number of western flax mills having closed down during the last two years the acreage of flax has fallen off greatly. The crop will be only middling in quality, frost and drought having told upon both seed and stalk.

Hops.

This crop is confined to a few sections and, while having suffered from the drought, appears to be freer than usual from the attacks of the aphid.

Tobacco.

The Counties of Essex and Kent have been experiencing a boom this year in the growing of tobacco. A large area has been given to the crop, and although the early part of the season was too dry for best results the plants in many cases are quite promising. While many of the growers are practically without experience, the general opinion appears to be that the crop will be a fairly successful one in that particular section. Grasshoppers and the "worms" of the sphinx moth are reported to have done injury to the plants. Correspondents also report tobacco as being grown in the County of Prescott and on St. Joseph's Island, Algoma, and other sections are becoming interested in the crop.

Fruit.

The apple harvest will be a light one this season, the yield in most localities being considerably below the average. This is attributable, among other causes, to heavy rain storms occurring while the trees were in blossom, which interfered with fertilization, and to the prevalence in many neighborhoods of the tent caterpillar and other destructive insects, which have wrought much damage where spraying has been neglected. Much of the fruit is small and hard, owing to the drought. Winter apples will be particularly scarce. Plums, while yielding fairly in some parts, have sustained a good deal of injury in many places from the attacks of the curculio, and the yield as a whole will be below the average. Peaches as a rule have done but poorly, and the crop will be small. Peas have been the most successful of the larger fruits, and are likely to be abundant. There was a good yield of cherries, though some losses from black-knot are noted. Grapes will also be plentiful. The drought proved injurious to small fruits, which promised an immense yield. Strawberries yielded fairly, but raspberries were small and dry.

Pasture and Live Stock.

Pasture was excellent during the spring and early summer and the yield of hay was large, and the recent dry, parching weather has been severely felt, many farmers being compelled to feed hay to their stock. The condition of live stock generally is good, though they are inclined to be thin in localities where the pasture is exhausted. There is very little serious disease, among cattle. The attacks of the hornfly are mentioned by only two or three correspondents, and some herds in the County of Grey are affected with inflammation of the eyes, sometimes resulting in blindness. The prospects for fall and winter are highly encouraging as the ample supplies to winter the stock. The general lack of fresh pasture has resulted in a marked temporary falling off in the flow of milk and a consequent slackening in dairy operations. Recent rains have already in some neighborhoods restored the fertility of the pastures.

The Apiary.

The season has been a good one for honey bees swarming early and in some neighborhoods excessively. The supply of nectar was profuse, especially from clover, but basswood yielded little, and latterly there has been a scarcity by reason of the dry weather. The average yield will be nearly fifty pounds per hive, and there has been a good increase in colonies. The bees are said to be in fine condition and very little disease is reported.

Labor and Wages.

The supply of farm labor as a rule has been fully adequate to the demand, the complaints of scarcity in a few localities being inevitable in any condition of the labor market when the temporary nature of harvest work is considered. The tendency to disperse with labor outside of the farmer's family by the increased use of machinery continues, and as less help is needed on the farm the supply adjusts itself to the diminishing requirements. There is a very wide range of difference noticeable in the wages paid for farm labor. Through the greater part of the Province the wages of harvest hands run from 75 cents to \$1.25 or \$1.50 per day with board. Monthly wages vary from \$12 to \$25 per month with board, the larger amounts being where engagements are limited to a month or two in the harvest season. In some eastern localities men are obtainable by the day from 50 to 75 cents and board, or \$1 without. Taking the Province throughout \$1 or \$1.25 with board would probably be a fair average for harvest hands engaged by the day and \$15 per month, for engagements for the season.

AN ELDORADO.

One of the Richest Discoveries Made in Many Years.

3rd Edition.

A despatch from Victoria, B.C., says:—The Cottage City, arriving on Saturday evening, brought news of gold discoveries in Northern British Columbia which have caused a stampede from Dyea and Skagway, and all points along the trail to which news of the discovery has spread. The find is in Pike creek, in the Lake Tagish district. Mounted Policeman French had brought information to Tagish confirming the first news. He said that the bedrock is only five feet from the surface, and the dirt is running six dollars to the pan. From the head of Lake Tagish the route to the find is via Tagu arm to the mouth of the Atlin river 65 miles, seven miles up the river to Atlin lake, and about twelve across the lake to Pike creek. It is about 40 miles from the Stickeen-Teslin lake, where it crosses the Napoleon river. A Skagway letter from a correspondent says:—"The news of the strike reached here Friday from the Tagish lake, but most people took it for a fake of some steamboat company, until Saturday, when some men came in from the diggings with a little sack of nuggets to show for their work, which has been for only a week. They went in with small outfits, not enough to see them through, and are back for more provisions. Some of them have as high as \$1,500. It is reported to be a second Eldorado, from one dollar to six dollars a pan being the average, and some going as high as fifty dollars to the pan. They have fairly set the town crazy, men running around since daylight getting their stuff together. Everybody who can possibly leave is making for Bennett as fast as he can. There will be at least five hundred leaving, and about the same from Dyea. Bennett is deserted; everybody has left there for the diggings, only sixty miles away. The railroad company have lost about six or seven hundred of their men, all making for the goldfields. They can be made in three days from Skagway. If the locations turn out at all extensively they will be very generally popular, being in British Columbia, where the mining laws are more liberal than those of the Dominion, and no royalty is collected, to say nothing of the comparatively mild climate as compared with the Klondike."

The mine was accidentally disclosed by sheep browsing above it.

HOSTILITIES STOPPED.

Instructions Cabled to the American Commanders.

A despatch from Washington says:—Ambassador Cambon and Sec. Thibault drove over to the White House Friday, in a heavy, driving rain. Contrary to all former visits, they drove all the way to the White House and alighted in the broad porte cochere. Both were immediately ushered inside and to the Cabinet room, where President McKinley, Secretary Day and Assistant Secretaries of State Mors, Adams and Crider, had been awaiting them five minutes. There, in the historic Cabinet room, the ceremony of formally agreeing to and signing the protocol of peace took place at 4.32 p.m.

SUBSTANCE OF THE PROTOCOL.

1. That Spain will relinquish all claim of sovereignty over Cuba.
2. That Porto Rico and other Spanish islands in the West Indies and an island in the Ladronez to be selected by the United States shall be ceded to the latter.
3. That the United States will occupy and hold the city, bay and harbor of Manila, pending the conclusion of a treaty of peace, which shall determine the control, disposition and government of the Philippines.
4. That Cuba, Porto Rico and other Spanish islands in the West Indies shall be immediately evacuated, and that commissioners, to be appointed within ten days, shall, within 30 days from the signing of the protocol, meet at Havana and San Juan respectively to arrange and execute the details of the evacuation.
5. That the United States and Spain will each appoint not more than five commissioners to negotiate and conclude a treaty of peace. The commissioners are to meet at Paris not later than the 1st of October.
6. On the signing of the protocol hostilities will be suspended, and notice to that effect will be given as soon as possible by each Government to the commanders of its military and naval forces.

The above is the official statement of the protocol's contents as prepared and given to the press by Secretary Day. The protocol was signed at 4.32 p.m., by Secretary of State Day, representing the United States, and M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, representing the Spanish Government.

HE MIGHT NOT NEED IT.

One of the rules for getting rich is to buy nothing unnecessary. Were you able to sell old Billions a lot? asked the superintendent of the cemetery. The agent shook his head. He was afraid he might not get the full value of it, he explained. But a man has got to die some time exclaimed the superintendent. That's what I told him, but he only answered, Suppose I should be lost at sea.

THE HEAT OF COMETS.

It has been estimated that the heat of comets is about 2,000 times fiercer than red-hot iron.