

A vessel with a cargo of ostriches arrived recently at Galveston, Texas. This is the second cargo within twelve months. The birds are for ostrich farms in California, and came from Natal.

A wheat corner has been effected by the combined action of several American capitalists. The ring now controls forty million bushels of wheat, and a sharp advance in prices will of necessity follow.

Since the late railroad accidents the number of patents of car-heaters has become so large that a special department has been opened in the Patent Office at Washington for the examination of the new patents.

The American Standard Oil Company are reported to be about constructing for an iron vessel to carry oil in bulk for the coastwise trade. It will be built at one of the ship yards on the Delaware River. The new vessel will have a capacity of 250,000 gallons.

A citizen of Albany, Georgia, who has an ivy-mantled oak in his yard in which English sparrows nest, made a raid on it the other day and captured 200 eggs and two bushels of nests. The pestiferous birds had created such a nuisance in his garden that he determined to exterminate them, but they have gone to work repairing damages as if nothing had happened.

Forest fires in Hungary have destroyed upwards of four hundred houses and rendered two thousand persons homeless.

A despatch from Bucharest says that Roumania is fortifying rapidly under the superintendence of German officers.

Melinite, the new explosive, has been proved by experiments at Berlin to be unsuitable for purposes of war, as it decomposes if kept long.

The Italians rather enjoy warm weather, hence the proposed Italian campaign in Abyssinia during the coming summer, has caused no surprise.

Senor Macido, a member of the Portuguese Government, wishes to resign, because one of the deputies was rude enough to strike him in the face.

The troops of the Ameer of Afghanistan have so far defeated and been defeated by the rebellious Ghilzais. At present both sides are acting on the defensive.

Nordenfeldt is about establishing a factory at Pesh for the manufacture of small arms. The Hungarian Government has given him an order for 100,000 rifles, to be delivered within ten years.

Spain is becoming alarmed at the growth of a sentiment in Cuba favoring annexation with the United States, and the Spanish Government is urged to counteract it by liberal appropriations.

In the General Hospital at Vienna it is stated that there is but one death, that the nurses are frequently intoxicated, and the patients half starved. The Vienna newspapers will now have a hospital scandal to air.

Enormous sums of money are being distributed throughout Germany for the purpose of propagating the Protestant faith. The recent concessions of Bismarck to the Vatican have greatly stimulated this work.

A naphtha fountain recently burst forth at Baku, rising to the height of 300 feet. A petroleum lake has been formed in the vicinity, but all efforts to regulate the gush of oil have so far been unsuccessful.

General Boulanger has asked the French Chamber of Deputies for a credit of \$1,000,000 in order to carry out a mobilization of the entire French army. The movement will take ten days in its carrying out.

Naples is to build a monument to Garibaldi, on the heights of St. Elmo, where it can be seen from far out on the Bay. By the way, Naples has strangely omitted monumental honors to her last Bourbon King, Bomba.

A strike of Belgian miners is rapidly extending. The miners on the Liege coal basin were to go out on Thursday. There are symptoms of disorder at Chatelet. The socialist Ansoelie has gone to the scene to urge the miners to preserve peace.

The American Exhibition has been formally opened. The Indian and Colonial Exhibition was styled by the Londoners the "Colinderies;" the American Exhibition, which is in reality a private enterprise, has been dubbed the "Yankeries."

Russia has adopted a vigorous protective policy, and Germany, in retaliation, is about to increase the duties upon cereals. In view of the latter change, the grain trade in the Black Sea ports is being actively pushed, in order that the German market may be captured before the new corn duties are imposed.

News from the Navigator's Islands has lately been received. From it we gather that a number of Melanesian laborers belonging to the Island of Malaita, in the Solomon Group, being on their way home, have eaten up the entire crew of the ship which was conveying them, and then plundered the vessel. All Apia is in the greatest excitement.

The Queen has expressed to M. Waddington, the French ambassador at London, her gratification at the manner in which she was everywhere received during her recent trip in France. Her Majesty has evidently renewed her youth, and is taking part in all the celebrations of the jubilee year. On the fourth of July next the Queen will lay the corner stone of the new Imperial Institute.

The Colonial Conference has finished its discussions, and the delegates will now return to their homes. No immediate results need be looked for, but indirectly the conference must prove of benefit to the British Empire. The fact that the London Chamber of Commerce convened a special meeting in order that the delegates might have an opportunity of expressing their views upon commercial questions, proves that London business men are wide awake to the importance of such representative conferences.

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