

Items of General Interest.

America imported from Europe last year 20,642,396 gallons of wine, an increase over the importation of 1878 of nearly 15,000,000 gallons.

English authorities state that out of every five loaves of bread eaten in England in 1880 three must come from the United States and Russia.

Sir C. W. Oakley, of Trinitenden, England, takes the prize for monster cucumbers. He has raised one five feet in length and a foot in diameter.

Italy is now importing foreign cereals at the rate of three hundred and sixty thousand tons per year, its own agricultural products being insufficient.

There are ninety-five lakes in Iowa, covering an area of 62,000 acres. Should these lakes dry up, as some of them are doing, the land will belong to the government.

A business man in Atlanta has purchased Confederate currency once representing over \$1,000,000 which he will use as circulars, printing his advertisement on the back of each bill.

An Iowa woman examined a straw cutter in a hardware store, and she has just recovered \$500 damages for the loss of two fingers, on the ground that the machine was not labeled "dangerous."

Maine lumbermen just from the logging camps report three feet of snow and excellent sledding. They say that this has been the best winter for hauling logs in Maine for a number of years.

The German War department is busy with a plan for the fortification of Berlin after the fashion of Paris. Several of the Continental newspapers are already discussing the details.

Mrs. Clark, of Indiana, was thoughtless enough to present her husband with a petition signed by herself and her seven children praying for a new colored dress. Mr. Clark thereupon threw the petition under the table and his wife out of the window, and now she is a cripple for life.

Some sanitary reforms are really being effected in Memphis. All the rotten wood pavement, which is believed to hold the germs of yellow fever, is being replaced by stone; a new system of sewerage will be completed before hot weather, and the health board possesses greater powers than heretofore.

The annual fair for the hiring of Dorsetshire (England) farm laborers, male and female, took place on a recent Saturday, when in wet and mud above 1,000 "chinds" paraded the streets and stood in groups waiting to be hired by the year.

Car builders of long experience say that such a heavy rise in the price of materials in such a short time is unprecedented. Nevertheless, the demand for cars is very large, and one factory was asked last week to bid on 1,000 cars.

The proposed increase of the German army both in numerical strength and efficiency appears likely to be promptly followed by a similar augmentation on the part of the forces of other Continental powers.

In France a complete reorganization of both the infantry and cavalry of the army is proposed by the minister of war, and in Italy an increase of 10,000 men in the military estimates for 1881 is proposed.

Bernard Bigin went home from a carousal at Vernon Hill, Neb., expressly "to have some fun with the old man," his father.

According to Herr von Puttkammer, the Prussian minister of education, there has been a steady increase of crime and immorality in the great towns of Germany during the last ten years.

The news received from the interior of the Russian empire is heartrending. Famine and diphtheria are decimating the population.

The bells of St. Mark's church, Philadelphia, were silenced by an injunction obtained by annoyed neighbors, and the court of appeals sustained the order.

The bells of St. Mark's church in Philadelphia, where, in St. Louis, a chime in the Congregational church of the Pilgrims has been attacked by two physicians living close by.

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My Annual Catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seed for 1880, rich in engravings, from photographs of the originals, will be sent FREE, to all who apply.

CORN—No. 2 25 1/2 @ 30 Oats—No. 2 20 1/2 @ 20

Live Stock Markets. St. Louis, March 9, 1880. CATTLE—Active for all grades; prices strong and pens cleared before noon.

CHICAGO, March 9, 1880. CATTLE—Market good and active. Shippers, \$4.00 @ 5.40; butchers, \$2.00 @ 4.00.

KANSAS CITY, March 9, 1880. CATTLE—The market opened with a fair supply and moderate demand.

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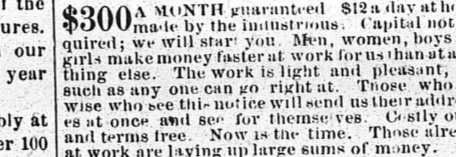
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