

as a corollary, that both corn and corn meal should be cooked before being fed. This will appear the more manifest when we state these facts: Corn by being boiled or steamed, will increase in bulk two hundred per cent.; while corn meal, by the process of boiling is increased three hundred and fifty per cent. To make ourselves more distinctly understood, we will remark, that a bushel of corn, after being cooked, will measure three bushels; and that to cook a bushel of meal, it requires five bushels of water to make it into the consistence of mush, so that every pound of meal in its raw state, will give 4 1-2 pounds of cooked food, with a volume correspondingly increased. These facts should, we think, go far to point out to the observing farmer, the advantages which may be gained by cooking whatever meal he may feed to his cows and hogs.

### News of the Week.

#### EUROPEAN NEWS.

From British Papers to the 4th October, by the Britannia.

From Willmer's News Letter, October 4.

**Dreadful Fire at Liverpool, with Loss of Life**—We have the painful duty to record a calamity which, whether as regards the loss of life or property, is calculated to excite the most painful feelings, and will form a sorrowful page hereafter in the annals of the town. The fire originated in Crompton street, formerly Wood street, at the north end of the town near the docks. The three principal streets affected—namely, Crompton street, Formby street, and Neptune street, all nearly opposite and east of Waterloo Dock, run east and west, between Great Howard street (in which the prison stands,) and Waterloo road, close to the docks. The three streets and boundaries, east and west, occupy an area of from six to seven acres; and the whole of that space is now in a heap of ruins. On the morning of the 23rd ult. a watchman found that the fire had broken out in the engine house of a bone grinder, he immediately gave the alarm, but before the Engines could be had, a timber yard was on fire in Crompton street. The combustible brought up several warehouses in Formby street, and the nature of the premises was such, together with a strong breeze from west north west, that Mrs. Isaac's oil and colour store soon took fire, as well as many small crowded workshops of wheelwrights, smiths, &c., in that immediate locality. The fire next got to Pooles' bonded cotton sheds, in Great Howard street, and finally swept to Formby street. The whole of the warehouses at the top part and centre of that street were successively ignited, and are burnt to the ground, with a vast destruction of property, and we lament to say, several lives. Two of the engines were smashed, and a considerable number of the firemen and others were killed. Several men were carried to the hospital badly burnt or hurt—some of them mortally. From eight to half past nine o'clock the fire in Formby street, and in the adjoining cotton sheds, Pooles' in Great Howard street, raged with an intensity that heated the atmosphere to a great distance round. Great exertions were made to save the top houses in Formby street, but those on the north side, dwelling houses, caught fire, chiefly by the intensity of fire, just below, of the burning warehouses, the ruins, and burning materials of

which, were piled to the height of 80 to 90 feet,—throwing up immense volumes of flame and smoke. From time to time the high walls of the warehouses fell with a thundering crash, and shortly after nine o'clock one man was killed outright by the falling materials at the back of one of them. The wall of a large warehouse in Formby street, which had been on fire some time, and had reached, with the cotton within, almost a white heat, at length fell upon some of the sheds on the south in Neptune street; and the consequence in a short time was, that the whole range of sheds at the top part of that street, used for bonding cotton, and as cooperages, were ignited. A great quantity of staves, poles, hoops, &c., were carried out before and after the ignition, to the neighboring vacant ground in Great Howard street. Several men who were engaged in taking the few remaining bales of cotton from a shed in Neptune street, were burned beneath the ruins of the far end or gable, which was crushed in by the falling of the warehouse close behind, filled with the same material.

The flames during the whole of the fire were most intense, and at intervals terrific. They rose, on some occasions, apparently to the height of 150 feet, or higher. The heat and sparks were such that the eyes of the parties near were so much affected that they were obliged frequently to turn away and procure water to wash before they could distinctly see. The police were so covered with dust, mud, water, flour, and other materials, and their faces so begrimed that could scarcely be recognized by their most intimate friends.

At ten o'clock the sheds and cooperages in Neptune street, some of them new buildings and full of goods, were in a state of rapid combustion, and little of the property was saved from them. Amongst the warehouses sheds, &c., burned down, were Poole's two sheds (before noticed) in Great Howard street, both filled with cotton, the masses of which, in a burning state, and closely compacted, resembled immense broken rocks in a state of red heat at every interstice. In Formby street there were five warehouses belonging to Mr Maw, two to Mr J. H. Rayner, and others belonging to Mr H. Hearsley and Messrs. Waterhouse and Son. In one of the warehouses there was said to be a quantity of saltpetre, and a kind of explosion on the falling of one of the walls favored the supposition. Amidst the destruction in Neptune street, besides the cotton sheds, were the cooperages and timber yards of Messrs. Chapman & Dean, and Mr Lythgoe. The vacant ground between the prison and the canal bridge, on the east side of the street, was covered with staves, wooden hoops, &c., saved from the yards and sheds; but the greater part of the property, as well as the buildings, were nearly all destroyed.

Known and unknown quantities of Merchandize destroyed.

45,908 bales of cotton.  
550 casks of tallow.  
8,500 barrels of turpentine.  
800 sacks of flour.  
2,209 barrels of flour.  
60 tons cod oil.

Rice and sugar the cargo of the ship Bland, from Calcutta. Unknown quantities of flour, India rubber, sperm oil, tallow, bark, Indian corn, fustic, and other foreign produce.

It is impossible to form anything like an accurate estimate of the total loss entailed by this disastrous event. The opinions hazarded on the subject have been various; the greatest amount

being £700,000, and the least £400,000. Perhaps a mean between these two sums, which would give 550,000, may be near the mark. The quantity of cotton destroyed reaches nearly 45,000 bags and bales; in addition to which, much rice, turpentine, and other articles of merchandize have been consumed. The value of the warehouses is estimated at 32,000, exclusive of all small sheds, workshops, and other erections which have been involved in the general ruin.

On Saturday week, a meeting of the agents representing the different Fire Insurances took place in the Underwriters' Committee-room, N. D. Dodd, Esq., in the chair. After 'comparing notes' on the engagements of each office having liabilities in connexion with this destructive event, the following was reported to be the result.

The Sun	£47,000
Globe	40,000
Royal Exchange	30,000
Phoenix	30,000
London Corporation	30,000
Liverpool	25,000
York and London	25,000
Imperial	20,000
Scotch Union	20,000
West of England	20,000
Alliance	13,000
Atlas	12,000
Manchester	10,000
Guardian	7,000
Yorkshire	5,000
Norwich Union	3,600
County	3,300
North British	3,000
London Union	7,000
Total liabilities	£350,900

Some uncertainty, however exists as to whether all the liabilities have been ascertained, the meeting having been called so soon after the conflagration. No doubt, there would be much property uninsured: so that the result of the meeting tends to prove, that the loss cannot be far under what we have stated. In the Manchester office we learn, an insurance was effected on M'Knight's bonded warehouse, Neptune street, on Monday last.

We have received from an intelligent and accurate gentleman an estimate of the quantity of produce destroyed, which, as it is drawn from sources likely to be correct, we are disposed to place more confidence in it than any rumours which we have heard on and off Change. This estimate makes it appear, that 45,908 bales of cotton have been consumed. We also learn, from the same source, that there were in the warehouses 250 sacks of flour, 60 tons of cod oil, 8,500 barrels of turpentine, additional unknown quantities of flour, turpentine and tallow; besides India rubber, Indian corn, sperm oil, fustic, rice, sugar, and bark. Amongst the cotton is a considerable quantity of Sea Island, which is very valuable. It is considered a low estimate to value the cotton at 8l. per bale, all round. This will yield a loss, in that commodity alone, of 362,264. The loss in merchandize of other descriptions with the smaller buildings, is taken to be about 95,000l. Add to this about 32,000l. for the warehouses, and we have an estimated loss of 489,964l. or in round numbers, *Half a Million!*

**Russia.**—The melancholy account of the wreck of a Russian ship of the line on the rocks off Christiansand, with a frightful loss of life are fully confirmed. The Gipsy, of Belfast, which arrived from St. Petersburg on Wednesday week, rescued ten of the Russian sailors, a Danish steam frigate took 90 on board, and the William, of Dundee, picked up 9; but as the crew consisted of at least 600

men, between 400 and 500 sailors must have been engulfed by the waves. A letter in the Hamburg papers of Tuesday says—'The Russian ship of the line lately stranded was the Ingermannland, pierced for 74 guns, commanded by Captain Paul Mickailowitsch Perschin, with a crew of 936 men, and bound from Archangel to Cronstadt. It ran aground on the night of the 11th (after having struck several times) on the cliffs eastward of the lighthouse of Oros; it was so leaky that it soon filled with water, so that it was necessary to cut away the masts, and throw the guns overboard. On the whole it appears that 483 persons have been saved, and it is probable that all the rest have been drowned.'

Letters from Moscow of the 14th inst. and from St. Petersburg of the 16th inst., brings the melancholy information that the wealthy town of Casan has almost entirely fallen a prey to the flames. The fire had raged for four days, when the mail left, and was not then extinguished. About 2,000 houses were burnt, all the warehouses, twelve churches, the university, and all the public buildings. The greater part of the loss will fall on the Second St. Petersburg Insurance Company, and the shares, which stood at 410 to 415 roubles, are now sold at 280 roubles. It is fortunate that the fair had not commenced, or else the calamity would have been much greater, Casan being the chief market town of Eastern Russia.

Willmer's American News Letter, October 4.

#### GENERAL SUMMARY.

Never since the commencement of our publication had we so few materials to compose our General Summary from as on the present occasion. Since the departure of the last steamship nothing of importance has occurred either in the Political or Commercial arena. The event which has attracted more attention than any other from the newspaper editors is a dreadful and most destructive fire which has occurred in this town. Early on the morning of the 23rd ultimo flames were discovered in a bone grinder's shop, in the immediate vicinity of the docks, at the north end of the town. The alarm was immediately given, but before assistance could be procured the flames had spread with such violence and rapidity as to baffle all attempts to subdue the devouring elements. They raged with considerable violence for some hours, destroying a number of large warehouses with the stores contained in them, together with many other description of buildings. The estimated amount of the value of property consumed by this calamity is half a million. In another column will be found full particulars of this dreadful catastrophe.

A second fire occurred in the same vicinity two or three nights after the above, which has excited a good deal of attention from the fact that it is supposed a man named Doran set fire to his own dwelling with the view of getting the money for which he was insured, and who is now in custody on the charge. This second fire did considerable damage.

In the early part of the last fortnight, the London papers were almost wholly engaged in discussing the merits and demerits of the treaty lately concluded between Great Britain and the United States, and the general tendency of what has been written appears to induce the belief that it is generally considered to favour the United States, and of course prejudicial to Great Britain. We believe we are correct in stating that politics have had very little influence in the discussion of the question, and from what we can gather from the leading journals it is considered that England has made many concessions which are not only prejudicial, but actually dishonorable to her. It is argued that Great Britain has given up by this treaty to the Americans, two thirds of an extensive territory, to the whole of which recent surveys prove her justly entitled. Again it is argued that Great Britain has virtually acknowledged the claim of the United States even to the third, which has been retained by England, because it is agreed to purchase that third by giving to the people of Maine a right, freely to navigate the St. John from its source to its mouth through the British province of