

them, is sufficient to dissolve out their more soluble ingredients, which are thus apt to run into the neighboring brook. And the larger quantity, which Mr. Spoon would apply artificially, would necessarily possess this injurious property in a greater degree. We are inclined to recommend the sulphate of iron as the cheapest mode of fixing the ammonia in dung-heaps; 10 to 20 lbs. of it to every ton would furnish acid enough for all the ammonia likely to be present.

European News.

From the London Times,  
DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

Blackburn, Nov. 16.—Some idea of the extent of the distress now experienced by the manufacturing operatives of Lancashire may be formed from a glance at statistics of the district bearing on the subject; and the present position, numerically considered, of the mills and operatives employed in the cotton manufacture of Lancashire. The number of cotton mills in the county may be stated from official returns, as far as attainable at 920, employing about 170,000 hands. Of the mills above set down, nearly 200 are at present entirely closed, this number including, in a great majority of instances, mills employing above the average of the whole number. Of the 17,000 hands employed in Lancashire in this important manufacture, the number in full work is only about 48,000 the number on short time, from two to four days a week, about 87,000; and the number unemployed, about 35,000. Many of those unemployed and working short time (earning a fourth, a third, or a half of their usual wages) have been so for many months, and many of those fully employed at present have been subjected to partial cessation of labour and short time during portions of the past six months; so that the resources of all have been more or less restricted, or annihilated. Of the mills and operatives of the county the higher and lower divisions of the Blackburn Hundred embrace 245 mills; of which about 50 are stopped, and about 50,000 hands, of whom about 8,000 are now out of employment, and above 30,000 working short time. The town of Blackburn contains about 30 mills, of which nine or ten, employing nearly 4,000 hands, are now closed, some of them having been stopped for months, and 15 or 16 working short time, not more than half a dozen running the full eleven hours now allowed by law. In Manchester the number of mills is about 175, of which about 20 were closed at the end of August, about 35 closed now. In Manchester the number of hands thrown out in August by the closing of mills was about 6,000; it has now increased to about 12,000. The number of hands working short time has increased during the time specified from about 4,500 to nearly 15,000. At Oldham 17 mills are closed, and nearly 3,000 hands out of employment, and about 9,000 working short time. In Rochdale and Middleton, 1,200 are unemployed, 13,000 working short time, and 9,600 working full time. These are fair indications of the state of trade in various other districts. The distress consequent on such a seriously diminished amount of money in circulation cannot fail to be severe. The operatives are absolutely starving; the middle classes, shopkeepers, and wholesale dealers, are without income; beggars more numerous than customers; taxes for the relief of the destitute doubled. In Blackburn the point at which endurance fails appears to have been now attained. A procession numbering from 1,500 to 2,000 of the unemployed commenced to-day a canvass of the town for subscriptions in money or provisions, two parties of men and women on either side of the street applying at every door on behalf of the starving members of the train of misery they headed. The town was partly canvassed to-day, and will be finished during the remainder of the week.

The movement of to-day has been quite as successful as was anticipated, expressions of sympathy by the parties applied to being in almost every instance given readily and heartily. The contributions, which are in money, bread, bacon, hams, butcher's meat, flour, cheese, &c., will be distributed by tickets furnished by the committee appointed by the unemployed. A large portion of the procession consisted of hands formerly employed at the mills of Sir W. Feilden (late M.P. for Blackburn) and Sons, which have been closed for some time, and continue closed without any notice of re-opening. The circumstance of Sir W. Feilden's mills being closed has excited some surprise, and, whether well-grounded or not, dissatisfaction in the town. The firm has

not been associated even by rumour as in any degree involved in the suspension of any of the recent great failures by which several others of our manufacturers have been serious losers.

We received yesterday files of Cape papers to the 1st of September. The preparations for an inroad upon the Kafirs have been silently but steadily going forward, but actual hostilities had not commenced. It is stated that the Orator had conveyed out an amount of £100,000, from England for the use of the Commissariat Department, and her Majesty's ship Nimrod, then lately arrived in Simon's Bay from the Mauritius additional supply of £12,000.

With reference to the distress in Ireland, we are enabled to mention that the present supply of Indian corn meal in the United Kingdom, under government control, is 400,000 quarters, of which one-half is in Ireland, and the other here. 300,000 quarters more are on the way, making together 700,000 quarters, which is estimated to serve until the beginning of the year.

A joint report has been made by the united committee of the Stratford Shakespearean Club, and that of London, formed in conjunction therewith, that having purchased Shakespeare's house and the adjoining property for £3823, the public subscriptions received are deficient by £1400, leaving the committee liable for that amount.

The daily accounts which we receive from Ireland, of increasing destitution, are truly appalling, and will, no doubt, be the subject matter of immediate discussion in Parliament. Another Irish loan will have to be proposed, and English tax-payers will then discover that "political economy" has cost, and is likely to cost them enormous sums in Ireland. Against the popular Times cry of "Don't spend another farthing on Ireland," Ministers will be compelled either to spend money, in keeping the people alive, or spend it in maintaining 100,000 soldiers to coerce them, or repeal the Union. Lord George BENTINCK's proposition last session would have made Ireland comparatively independent of English support, by a wise expenditure; whereas the measures of Government sunk ten millions last year, in keeping one million of the Irish people alive, and demoralising five millions, leaving the country in a worse state of destitution and anarchy than before.

Floating Mattresses.—A public trial on a larger scale, and in a more efficient manner than that which took place early in the morning on the Serpentine river, a few days ago, took place on Thursday at Blackwall, off the Brunswick pier, in the presence of many scientific persons connected with navigation and shipping; Captain Knowliff, of the Russian navy, Mr. Beardmore, Captain Teuten, of the East India Company's service, and Messrs. Taylors of Great Dover-street, steam-ship fitters and Manufacturers, being on the river. The mattresses were thrown from a boat in the middle of the stream, a strong tide running at the time. The persons threw themselves overboard, and having reached them stood upright upon them, reclined at full length, and floated upon them down to Blackwall stairs, to the astonishment of the spectators on the banks of the river and on board the steamers and other craft.—Times.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

St. John Newbrunswick, Dec. 14.  
The Custom House to be Abolished in New-Brunswick!—Our commercial friends, and the public generally, will rejoice to hear that measures are in progress for abolishing the present Custom House staff in this Province, after the 1st of April next, when the collection of all Imperial duties ceases, and such as are levied by the Legislature only will be received at the provincial Treasury. A Bill is now in preparation for settling all the details of this most important measure, which will be hailed with joy by every mercantile man in New-Brunswick, and by all others who value the prosperity and progress of the Country.

Melancholy Accident.—On Thursday the 2nd instant while Mr. William Taylor, Jr., and Mr. David Gouger, both residing at the French Lake, in the Parish of Sheffield, were returning home from the House of Henry Treadwell, on the River St. John, they skated into an air hole in the Lake, in sight of their homes, and were both drowned. The accident was seen from the shore and search was immediately made for the bo-

dies, which were recovered in about an hour after the accident happened. An inquest was held before Enoch Barker, Esq., Coroner.—Verdict, accidental death by drowning.

We understand both the deceased were members of the Methodist Church, and have each left a widow and seven children to deplore their loss. Mr. Taylor was 45 years of age, and Mr. Gouger 40 on the day of his melancholy death. Both were buried at Sheffield, side by side, in one grave, on the following Sunday.

WEST INDIES.

H. M. brig *Pantolon*, Commander Douglas, arrived at Jamaica from Vera Cruz on the 20th Oct. Several persons died on board during the passage, of yellow fever. Surgeon Graham was one of the number. The survivors were sent to hospital at Port Royal.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

This mail, due yesterday afternoon, arrived this morning about nine o'clock. The roads are reported to be in a most wretched condition—not fit for sleighs or wheel carriages. The duties of the Couriers have been unusually arduous during the last two months.

The papers are extremely barren of news; we glean from them, however, a few paragraphs which we copy below.

The Steamer *Conqueror* has arrived at Saint John.

The papers state that Bowes has not yet been apprehended.

Two failures, the papers state, have occurred at St. John. The parties are not named.

The Canada Assembly has been dissolved. The returns of the new elections are to be made, on or before the 24th January.

Last night's western mail only brings us New York and Boston papers of Saturday last. They contain no intelligence of importance from Mexico. Gen. Taylor arrived below New Orleans on the 1st instant, and was to make a triumphal entry into the city next day. Saint John Courier, Dec. 18.

Carrying Letters.—A crown action brought against Mr. William Lawson, Jr., for sending letters by private hand aboard one of the Cunard Steamers, was tried in Court on Wednesday. The crown was defeated, not being able to prove that Mr Lawson put the letters on board. The pro-ecutor for the crown might have known as much—perhaps he did. Halifax Sun, Dec. 17.

The Weather for the last fortnight has been exceedingly mild—in fact, it looks as if we were going to have no winter at all. The warm air is good for the poor people in the saving of fuel, but it has its disadvantages in promoting disease. 'A green Christmas fills the graveyards.'—Halifax Courier, Dec. 18.

Heavy Failure.—A Telegraphic despatch to the Philadelphia papers says, the proprietors of Covington Iron Works, in Baltimore have failed, throwing about 1,000 hands out of employ.—St. John New Brunswicker, Dec. 18.

The Weather.—The mildness of the season here is almost unprecedented. For the past two or three days we have had heavy rains, the snow has nearly disappeared from our streets, and again wheel vehicles are coming into requisition. The ice, on the St. Charles river has given way, and it and the St. Lawrence, opposite the city, are perfectly clear, the steam ferry-boats continuing to ply between Quebec and Point Levi. The navigation between here and Montreal is now more practicable than it was some two or three days before the boats were in quarters. The river intercourse between the latter city and Kingston, continues open also; the last Montreal papers mentioning the arrival of six barges, deeply laden with flour, in addition to three others previously noticed.

Post Office Commission.—We are much gratified in having it in our power to state, that the Commissioners appointed by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to examine into and report upon, the existing order of our postal arrangements, with a view to the adoption of a system and rates of postage, more in accordance with the times in which we live, than now prevails, have, with the Hon. Mr. Caylay—the Commissioner appointed for Canada—unanimously adopted a report, which, if acted upon, will give the inhabitants of the British North American Colonies, the advantage of a uniform rate of inland postage; and that each rate will not, at all events, be higher than

that now in force in the neighbouring republic.—Quebec Chronicle, Dec. 13.

The weather has been unusually mild for the season since the snow storm of the night of the 3rd instant, the thermometer rarely below freezing. Last night there was a heavy fall of rain, which has laid bare of snow some spots in the fields and injured the roads and travelling. The St. Lawrence opposite Quebec is quite free from ice; but it still holds fast on the river St. Charles. The Point-Levi steamers continue to cross regularly, and the navigation is no doubt open to Montreal.—Quebec Gazette, Dec. 12.

Mr Simond's Resignation.—On Tuesday last, Mr Simonds, after informing the Sessions that he had resigned his commission as Justice of the Peace, retired from the Magisterial Bench. We understand that the cause of this resignation was the dissatisfaction of Mr Simonds with his Excellency's instructions to the Portland magistrates to "sleeve and arm, without respect to persons, one hundred and fifty special constables, to be ready in case of need, to assist the Watch in protecting the peace in that turbulent portion of our Suburbs.—St. John Albion, Dec. 18.

From the Boston Evening Traveller January 6, 1847.

It is perhaps but an act of justice to the proprietors of Wister's Balsam of Wild Cherry for us to say that our personal experience in the use of the article has impressed us most favourably. One of the proprietors of the Traveller was entirely cured of a severe cough of four months continuance, by the use of this Balsam; and several of our friends and acquaintance, who have tried the article, have found it of great service in relieving them of severe coughs and shortness of breathing, with which they had been afflicted. Mr Seth W. Fowle, No 138 Washington street, is the general agent.

Be not deceived, remember that spurious imitations and other preparations of Wild Cherry abound throughout the land, but it is Dr. Wister's that has performed so many powerful cures, therefore buy no other but the genuine, original Balsam of Wild Cherry, signed I Butts on the wrapper. For sale by K. B. & W. FORBES.

And by Druggists generally throughout the United States.

The Secret Revealed!

Many persons wonder how CURTIS & PERKINS have managed to sell over thirty thousand bottles of the *Cramp and Pain Killer* within the last six months, and that too, without advertising it to the amount of fifteen dollars. The secret of its unparalleled popularity is, that it positively will and does cure cholera cholice, cramp in the limbs and stomach, rheumatism, inflammatory sore throat, stitches in the back or side, spinal complaints, chapped hands, tooth ache and sore lips. It will extract the fire from a burn or scald in ten minutes, and if applied in season, prevent its blistering, and is the best article in the world for the cure of the piles. In short, it is all vegetable and oil-healing matter. Unlike most other Pain Killers, it does not contain one particle of opium or camphor.

Every family should keep a bottle in the house, as it is exceedingly useful in case of accident. An external application will at once relieve children who are afflicted with cholera.

The above valuable medicine is for sale by K. B. and W. Forbes, Chatham, price 2s. for large bottles, and 1s 3d for small. Messrs Forbes have circulars containing certificates of almost miraculous cures performed by this medicine.

The Stated Quarterly meeting of the Board of Education for the County of Northumberland, will be held at the Office of the Clerk of the Peace, on Tuesday, the 28th instant, at 12 o'clock, noon.  
JOHN McCURDY, Secretary  
December 20, 1847.

List of Letters

Received at the Newcastle Post Office during the month of November, and remaining for delivery

Barry Patrick	McGrath Francis
Barnaby's River	McKay Ebenezer, sen.
Cassandine Robt	North Esk
Cromwell Asa	Murray Alex. care of
North Esk	E Whitney
Connell W	McKay Mary, care of
Barnaby's River	J Oxford
Donovan Timothy	Robinson Richard
North Esk	Rigan J North Esk
Donit John	Staigreen David
Schoolmistre	North Esk
Esson Peter Nelson	Taylor Robt
Goodan John F	North Esk
Griffith Elizabeth	Joole Capt John
Nelson	bark Forristale
Griffith Charles	North Esk

P. S. Persons asking for advertised Letters, will please say *Advertised*  
H MORELL, P. M.

"Steamer Conqueror."

The above Steamer has discontinued running between Shediac & Charlotte Town for the present season  
W. H. & R. C. SCOVILL.