The Irish Textile Journal, with which is incorporated The Belfast Linen Trade Circular.

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Notices.

Correspondence and items of interest bearing upon the Textile Industries, Technical Education, or other questions treated in this Journal, are solicited. Market reports, or notes respecting the position and prospects of our Irish industries, will be specially acceptable. Correspondence should be written briefly and on one side of the paper. Foreign readers are invited to send reports, and to point out any facilities which may exist for promoting the interests of Irish manufacturers.

The Irish Textile Journal is published on the 15th of each month. Yearly subscription, including postage, 11s. Subscriptions payable in advance. Free sample copy sent to any address. Advertisers will find the Journal an excellent medium for announcements suitable to its pages. Terms may be known on application.

All remittances to be made payable to the Proprietor, W. F. Water, T. Donegall Square East, Belfast.

The Linen Market, published every Saturday, at the above address, deals exclusively with the Irish linen trade in all its branches. Annual subscription, £1 1s. The Irish Textile Journal and The Linen Market, if ordered at the same time, will be supplied by post for £1 6s., or if within the City delivery for £1 2s. 6d., per annum.

The Home and Foreign Linen Trade Directory. Published at 2s. 6d. Price reduced to 1s., for the few remaining copies.

A Souvenir of the Irish Linen Trade, being a series of 12 Views, illustrating the Cultivation of Flax, the spinning, dyeing, stretching (by hand and power), and preparation of it for market. The spinning of Flax by hand on the old spinning-wheel, the reeling, winding, and warping of the Yarn. Weaving of Linen by hand, the bleaching and finishing of the Cloth, and the subsequent examination, leaping, and making up of the goods in the Warehouse, together with a view of the old Irish Linen Hall or Market in Dublin for the sale of the Linens. Original engravings in the possession of Messrs. J. N. Richardson, Sons & Geddes, Ltd., Belfast—dated 1871.

Carefully printed Bronzine Photographs (4 x 6), on India-lined card mount 10 x 14 £1 5s. per set, or consigned, £1 1s. for the set of 12. Published at the office of this Journal.

Cultivation of Flax in the South.

Here has not been during the last half-century a more favourable opportunity than the present for urging the question of flax cultivation in the South. It is true the acreage for many years past has been very small; at the same time, we believe it only needs a little effort on the part of the provincial Agricultural Associations, and others interested in the prosperity of the country, to give the industry a fresh start; and under new conditions it could not fail to be satisfactory. We show by further extracts from this month from the records of the past, that the Continental system was tried for a short period in Ireland, and with gratifying results. Unfortunately it was not followed up and directed by the establishment of a flax body until it became established, consequently we have to begin afresh. Cereal crops have paid so badly of late years that farmers will now more readily adopt any change that offers reasonable prospects of success. Flax this year has paid the farmer well, and even on an average of seasons, and under our and the straw held over and more carefully treated, would be a welcome departure from the present one, and this, as we have shown, could best be started in the South. We trust our friends there will move in the matter, and not let the approaching season pass over without making an effort to extend the flax area next spring.

The Langdale Linen Industry.

We have received the following interesting communication from Mr. Albert Fleming, of Ambleside, in regard to this industry—"When I started this little industrial experiment in 1883, I was frankly warned that it could only be the craze of the moment. People did not want material that would last a generation, although it might be all that Mr. Ruskin described, when he called it "the soundest and finest linen fabric that care could weave and field-dew bleach." The trade itself viewed it from another standpoint, and ventured an opinion that five shillings and sixpence a-yard might fairly be described as a tall quotation for 40-inch unbleached cloth. Well, the craze continues, and so does the industry. Ten years have gone by, and not only is the original Langdale industry still flourishing, but it has two offshoots in the Lake district, and several in Ireland. We have now more than a hundred workers on our books, and the sales this year in Langdale have been larger than in any past year. The goods exhibited at Chicago, at Leeds, and in London, have been sold at a premium in pure hand-spun and hand-woven linens. Silk-spinning has added its tints of cut and ornamental flax, and now produces a cream-coloured silk fabric soft in texture and wonderfully glossy, also a composite material of which the warp is flax and the weft silk. The coarser linens are in great demand for bookbinding. We now have our flax dyed by Austin in all the old colours, and we produce linens in various permanent tints ranging from the old indigo down to the more modern rust colours and amethysts. The recent introduction of the Swedish looms has enabled us to have the narrower linens woven by women."}

The Industries of St. Etienne.

From a recent report by the United States Consul at St. Etienne, we learn that the ribbon manufacture is the most important industry of the town, and gives employment to about 70,000 persons, and that "in spite of foreign competition its production is at present four times greater than when it held undisputed possession of the markets of the world, but the manufacturers are obliged to content themselves with much smaller profits. The total production for the year 1892 exceeded 92,000,000 francs. The number of looms in St. Etienne and vicinity is 22,000, of which 18,000 belong to the weavers themselves and those worked in their own homes, the remainder being owned by the large manufacturers. The total value of the weaving plant exceeds 39,000,000 francs, of which two-thirds represent the savings and investments of the weavers."}

The Industrial Condition of Germany.

The United States Consul at Cologne, in his official report on industrial progress in Germany, states that "in 1880 the excess of the exports over the imports of manufactures was 867,000,000 marks, and in 1891 the excess was 1,150,000,000 marks. These figures (he says) show plainly how rapidly the industrial development in Germany has progressed, and how important it is for a country to hold fast to its foreign trade in order to maintain its stand. The Germans are keen in observing this condition of affairs, and they are leaving nothing undone to impress the Government with the great importance of rendering the manufacturing interests all possible help."

Russian Customs Regulations.

H. M. Chargé d’Affaires at St. Petersburgh draws attention to some recent regulations with reference to foreign goods sent to Russia. It is not sufficient to say that the goods are of British origin, but the firm must declare that they are the manufacturers of them, or, if not, a local authority must certify as to the origin of the goods. The Russian Customs Department have issued several circulars lately in reference to adaptations which it is well that shippers should conform to, to avoid trouble and expense. In the Board of Trade Journal for October these circulars are referred to.

United States Customs Decisions.

The following decisions (the Board of Trade Journal states) have recently been given by the Customs authorities—
and warp, and not as coarse in texture as burlaps, and not commercially known as burlaps among importers and traders, is dutiable at 50 per cent. ad valorem under paragraph 374 as a manufacture of flax.

"Line padding," containing to the square inch, counting weft and warp, about 60 threads, and made of jute and flax, the value of the jute being in the ratio of about 64 per cent., to about 40 per cent., as compared with that of the flax, jute being the component material of chief value, is dutiable at 40 per cent. ad valorem under paragraph 374 as a manufacture of which jute is the component material of chief value.

Flax, scins," made of flax, about 29 inches wide, and chiefly used for upholstery purposes in the carriage business, are dutiable under paragraph 374 at 50 per cent. ad valorem.

Linen Weaving at Skibbereen.

Referring to the note in last month's Journal respecting the handloom linen industry established at Skibbereen, we give an illustration of the loom-room at the Convent, taken from a photograph by W. Lawrence, of Dublin. What has been accomplished at Skibbereen, and also at Langdale, might be repeated elsewhere; for though by far the greater part of all our linen goods is now made by power, there will always be a demand for high-class hand-work, and in this connection a good deal of employment may be found for willing hands in many parts of Ireland.

Elementary Schools. They should be so constituted as to offer facilities to scholars leaving the Day Elementary Schools of their respective localities for continuing their education, and should not, either as regards the age or social class of the scholars or the subject of instruction, be divided from these day schools by any palpable barrier or interval. They should not consist of mere isolated classes, nor should the instruction given in them be of too advanced or too highly specialised a character." Following strictly on these lines, it will be seen that classes can now be formed of both a recreative and practical character, earning a substantial grant from the State, and open to all persons over the age of 14; for it must be noted that the Code, while giving perfect liberty of choice as to subjects, within certain limits, proceeds on the old maxim that it is never too late to learn, and recognises as scholars full-grown men and women up to any age, as well as boys and girls just emancipated from the schoolroom proper.

The vista which is thus opened out to the contemplation of those interested in the educational advancement of their fellow-countrymen and women is so wide, so extensive, and so far-reaching, that at first it seems impossible to take in and recognise all the possibilities. Here we have a State-aided scheme—the aid amounts to from 1d. per hour per scholar to 2d. or 2½d., under varying circumstances—under which a sterling and practical educational side may be added to institutes, clubs, associations, etc., now too often given over to pleasure, and recreation, and amusement only. Educational classes which at present exist, but are from the nature of things restricted to the few, may be made popular and thrown open to the many. The enormous waste, due to the forgetfulness of early education, which is continually going on may be prevented; and last, but not least, these Recreative Evening Continuation Schools will afford the very best and most successful means of rescuing our young people from the perils of the streets at night; will give them a wise and pleasant occupation for their leisure hours; will prepare them for the responsibilities of home at an early age; and to many of the able-bodied sons of priests...
Managers of the Evening Continuation Schools of Nottingham. "It will," says these working men, "interest the working men of England to know that since the Board accepted the co-operation of the working men of the town as managers, the attendance of the schools has been raised from 244 in average attendance to 4,006—a marvellous increase, which has been steadily marked since the Evening Schools were made free; and further, that whilst at first the scholars took principally the "three Rs." with some recreation, there are now hundreds of them taking commercial and other high subjects." A jump in average attendance of from 244 to over 4,000 speaks for itself; and who can gauge the benefits accruing through such an instrumentality to the town of Nottingham! But this is not the only hopeful sign. The fact that the study of the "three Rs." at the Evening Schools is giving place to that of more advanced subjects, shows that these schools are being now used in every sense of the word as Continuation Schools—supplementing and finishing the work begun in the day schools. What has been done in Nottingham can be done elsewhere; it only requires that the facilities afforded under the laws should be energetically and intelligently applied. The duties of the managers divide themselves into what has to be done before a school session begins, and what has to be done after one has started. In the first place, general interest in the movement has to be aroused; and in the second, absencees must be looked up, and influence brought to bear upon young people and their parents—this not in an officious way, but by kindly persuasion to induce them not to lose the opportunity which is offered.

We have already said that the Code of Regulations issued by the Committee of Council for National Education, under which these Evening Recreative Continuation Schools are started and worked, does not apply, and cannot be made to apply, to Ireland. It therefore behoves those in this country who would see the youth and manhood of Ireland placed upon equally advantageous educational terms as their British brethren, to look around for any means that may be at hand by which the desired object can be accomplished. These means we, believe, to be found in the Technical Education Acts, which do apply to Ireland. Under these Acts we see no reason why almost everything which is to be done under the Evening School Code cannot be attempted and carried out. There is, indeed, one main difference, which might become a difficulty and a stumbling-block, but which we firmly believe can be easily overcome. This difference consists in the fact that while under the Code the "three Rs." are permisssible subjects of instruction, they are, as such, immissible under the Technical Education Acts. But it is obvious there are other methods of teaching these necessary preliminaries to general education. To quote from an article, "The New Code and How to Use it," by the editor of the Evening School Chronicle:—

"The "three Rs." should be taught (as the foundation of all education) to those that need them; but this may often be done best indirectly, except for very backward scholars,—e.g., Writing, by taking notes of lessons, or preparing short letters or essays; Arithmetic, in connection with mechanics, or, indeed, any subject treated arithmetically; and Reading, in the same style." Further, the same editor authority writes:—"Instead of a Reading Class, try the delights of a Reading Circle under the National Home Reading Union," and, he adds, "it has been sustained on the highest authority, that a Reading Circle under the N.H.R.U. would not be regarded by the Science and Art Department as disqualifying a scholar for aid under the Technical Instruction Act, 1889, unless such instruction in Reading be given (which ought never to be the case) as would infringe what is required under the Standards of the Education Department."

There is much for the indirect teaching of the prohibited "three Rs.", but, as a matter of fact, in what percentage of cases would it be necessary to resort to tactics of circumvention? These Evening Schools are, and should be, essentially Continuation Schools. Though open to all, and available by all, it is quite safe to assume that the proportion of scholars, adult or young, making use of them, would be much less than if they were either under the Code in England, or, if started, under the Technical Instruction Acts in Ireland, and would be so small as hardly to count. We fear it must be admitted that, granted the formation of such schools as proposed, the number of scholars requiring instruction in the "three Rs." would be proportionately far larger in Ireland than in England. But this of itself proves equally the greater necessity which exists in this country for educational facilities. The subject is a very large one. We have only here, to speak, the basic element of education to take into consideration—training the minds of future citizens in the accomplishment of our co-operative ends.

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Practical Instructions in Linen Weaving.

(Specially written for this Journal, and all rights reserved.)

Successful Running.

The loom must be perfectly level, and on a good foundation, well secured to the floor; a loom that is not level, or not properly fastened down, cannot be relied upon. The shed must have a good roller behind the driver, so that it will not catch behind the Shuttle-strap, which, if neglected, will throw a shuttle with a great degree of destructive force than any other known to the art. The picking straps must be of sufficient length to allow the driver to work freely in conjunction with the picking stick. If too long, the driver would be unable to catch the Shuttle-strap either over or under the point of the stick, when the boxes are rising and falling; so that the Shuttle-strap is thrown or the picking stick smashed.

Carefully notice the reed when gaeting a warp; in fact, this ought to be seen to before the warp is put into the loom; dents or wires might be standing out, or it may not be true. This is one of the economical in connection with a weaving department. All healds and reeds should be thoroughly examined, and, if necessary, repaired, before putting them into the loom, or they may become out of order. The back warp must be extended, and the shuttle must be passed through the back of the reed; the true line is found, be sure to fasten the setting of the reed at the ends of the bar or reed cap, so that there will be no necessity, when fresh warp is put in, to be looking up and down for the setting of the picking stick. Keep the shuttle box free from any stoppage, and the shuttle becomes if it is drawn up, or thrown out, or when the shuttle box is drawn up; this is also to be noticed.

The crane straps and bearings require more than passing notice. The crane arm should fit so that it can be drawn up without bis collision with the side of the bearing; so that in this condition, if it is tightened as it ought to be, the crane will become bound, and the loom movement hard. The bearing must be made to fit the round of the crane, and the bearing must be drawn up without binding in the right place. It is only to make the mistake of confusing one's efforts with the picking motion itself in trying to obtain a good pick. It is known to tenters that certain remedies will give satisfactory results, but on other occasions they are marvellous. Making a decision and true, is simply getting the pick of the pick locations. The pick slot must not be too long or too short, and the pick slot must be successfully controlled by the power. The work of a loom becomes double if the routine of the business is performed perfunctorily manner.

The rod which supports the boxes of a check-loom is a means, and which the position of the shuttle-box is kept on a level with the back of the lay. If it is found desirable to tip the box up a little back, it must be understood that there is no necessity for bungling the shute with a heavy piece of iron; the bearing must be done in a proper manner, the object sought for. Generally, the back of a box ought to be nearly three-eighths of an inch higher than the front, the reason being that it has a tendency to point the Shuttle-strap slightly downwards in the box, and it secures this result the more, that is to say, raising the end of the box, or that the point or tip of the shuttle is in the driver's little higher up, than would be on the level plane. The picking motion really does not interfere with the entering point up, so that the least obstruction would cause the Shuttle-strap to fly out; therefore, when the box a little is a good preventive against such mishaps. The point of the shuttle should strike and weave in the centre of the driver's eye, the shuttle does not at the first strike in the right place, the driver must be so to show the dress of educational tendencies.

The Reel.
of the boxen will change the position or the relation of the shuttle-tip to the worm hole in the driver, and the same with a new set of shuttles, thus turning them over, or causing them to fly out. All back lash, by belts being too slack, should be remedied at once. In speaking of shuttles, there is a great weight necessary for the drag would hang in position by the weight of the lever, and thus be required to be kept in position by a light chain, governed by a guide or feeder above six inches long, arranged to rest upon the yarm of the beam below the threads in the act of unwinding. The diameter of the beam decreases with the weight forming cloth, the guide or feeder also having its position altered upon the yarm, with the chain, thus driving the chain in the act of unwinding, carrying the weight of it until in time the base circumference of the beam would be reached; this would give a simple constant tension, without tightening like a drum, or allowing the shifting of the weight to be in any way neglected. There is one essential condition in connection with all I like, and as far as I can say: however good the machinery and materials, without the efficient tenders and weavers the prime element of success will be in turning out proper productions.

Importance of Good Management.

The defects for which weavers are in the main responsible would silently pass over, bring any manufacturing firm into disrepute; broken warp threads, uneven widths, slack and tight, cohesion, cracks, improper chain wheels, changing the counts of the yarm, etc., are all only too prominent if due supervision is not used all through. Men who are capable of making good cloth examiners are only numerous, and, when found, are frequently over worked as the men are tired out by the heavy load of work in weaving and assisting to build up a prosperous and substantial trade. No person can know too much about textile manufacturing; and because a weaver sometimes by mere force of circumstances, gets the position of tender manager, he ought not to think all is over when he has reached the point; it is not necessary, nor is it the only way to his own betterment. The same principle is in government departments in a mill, the better able he will be to cope with cut and difficulties which may arise from time to time.

MONTHLY REPORTS.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Irish.

Dublin.—The markets are all distinctly dull and featureless, Linens show no change from late reports, and there seems but little expectation of activity in the near future. Woollens are much in the same condition. The almost entire absence of demand from America and very moderate that of the rest of the home trade affecting manufacturers. The home demand continues more or less unsatisfactory, though there are not the depression felt. The latest quotations I can give for the woolen material are:—With limited supplies on offer from farmers, there is little open test in value of wool; the same is reported still, 8d. to 9d. per lb. Downs, 10d. to 10½d.; hogget, 9d. to 10½d.; ewe or wether, 8½d. to 9d.; sides, 8d. to 9½d.; mountain, 7½d. to 8½d.; Scotch, 6d. to 7d. The unadjusted value of the Sherman Sheep Act in America may have a beneficial effect upon our markets, but nothing of this kind has yet reached the United Kingdom. In regard to the various other things, the cotton goods market, especially large and increasing one, as was the American, may be largely felt, and is not a matter easily replaced nor rapidly carried out. It is quite natural that all after all are not in a very dismally, and a firm trust in the future shows that the trade is by no means despondent. In silks and poplins I have nothing new to emit upon.

Irish Laces.

The announcement that Lady Aberdeen has acquired the business carried on by the late Mr. Ben Lindsey, the "Irish Lace Depot in Grafton Street, will be good news to our lace producers and to schools. The Depot will be worked in future by a Committee of Manchester under the Irish Industries Association, now the Committee consisting of Mr. A. T. Finlay, Mr. J. Breton, R.H.A., and Mr. R. A. Adams, of Cork, names which speak at once for the efficiency of the control, will be exercised. Considerable structural alterations have been made.
November 15th, 1893.

THE IRISH TEXTILE JOURNAL.

Departments—the outer, as hitherto, devoted solely to laces, and the inner will be given off to a new branch in hand-woven lingerie and embroideries, all, needless to say, of Irish workmanship. Had the late lamented death of Mr. Lindsey resulted in the closing of the lace department, a severe blow would have been sustained by Irish lace-workers. From one lace-school it is well known Mr. Lindsey used to buy practically everything it could produce, and what the closing of such an outlet would have meant can easily be imagined. Under the new arrangements, far from any such disastrous consequences ensuing, the trade will be extended, and ever-increasing quantities of lace and embroidery will be required to supply the demands. The energy and intelligence which has from the first been displayed in the conduct of the affairs of the Irish Industries Association will now find a new outlet, and I feel sure that the Depot under the new management will continue as prosperous as ever—probably become more prosperous.

The Irish Industries Association aim at maintaining a high standard of excellence in design and workmanship by the circulation of good designs, by encouraging the production of thoroughly good work, and by uniting supervisors so that the workers cannot keep pace with the fashionable requirements of the day. They take a special interest in the improvement of Irish crochet, which they hope to render as popular in England as it already is in France and Belgium, and even distant America bids fair to become a good customer, notwithstanding the McKinley Tariff. It may not be out of place to refer to some ridiculous remarks which appeared the other day in a Manchester paper, and which display a gross ignorance of everything concerning the Irish Industries Association. Says this self-appointed authority on Irish Industries: "By the influence of the Irish Industries Association, Ireland, Ireland, Ireland, the country has been given, are being given, are to be given, for the purpose of reviving an old industry. This is lace-making, which was formerly practised to a large extent by the country-women of the South and West. Old Limerick lace is now worth fabulous sums, and as many of the historic patterns have been preserved the art should have a great chance, especially as the desire to wear distinctly Irish materials." If it were possible for anything to dishearten those who for years have laboured, and laboured successfully, to re-establish the lace industry, it would be such idiotic and ignorant comments disseminated through the medium of an influential provincial newspaper. Where ignorance is regal wisdom consists in science. There is as little about the history of the Industries Association as he does about Irish laces. "Historic patterns" are, sooth, still extant, and will give "a good chance" to the "revival" of the industry. Did the writer hear of our schools of design, re-established by such labour and so much money, and how we have made an "historic pattern"—visited, blured, with every original fault exaggerated by the process of continual re-copying—and one made from an original design side by side? It is preposterous that such ridiculous and detrimental ideas should be allowed to be disseminated. I beg the writer of this article to see how he has treated our innocent and beguiled readers, "a start is being made at Cork, where the local branch of the Association, with Lady Anthor as its president, has established classes for poor women, a grant of £100 having been forwarded from Dublin. The attempt is avowedly experimental, but if it succeeds much energy will have been devoted to it. At least it has this in its favour, that the manufacturer of Honiton lace has been revived from an equable morbid condition!" Comment would only spoil the deliciousness of this quotation.

Irish Home-Spun.

Feeling certain that there is great popularity in store for Irish homespun, the Irish Industries Association have lately devoted much attention to the improvement of the texture and width of the webs, and one result of their efforts has been the production of some webs of 36 inches—a much more convenient width than that of 28 inches, which is the prevalent and more suitable for costumes. On her voyage to Canada the Consul-general wore a dress of this material presented to her by Mr. Neil M'Nels, of Ardnam. It was of the "herring-bone" pattern, dyed with hether and "crottle," and suggested great possibilities in the application of these materials for ladies' costumes.

Awards at the World's Fair.

The "Donegal Industrial Fund," of Donegal House, Wigmore Street, London, is to be right of any announcement of awards at the Chicago Exhibition to Irish exhibits. The same error has, it is stated, appeared in the publication of previous awards of medals, now six in all, awarded to Mrs. Ernest Hart, for the exhibits at the Donegal Irish Village, World's Fair. In each case the award has been announced as being to the "Unter Hart. But there are many kinds there in Donegal, business being affected by the unsettled state of affairs in South America, and especially is this the case with Brazil, a large quantity of this class of goods is generally exported to that country. In sheetings and bed linens a decided improvement has place, and the production and sales have been fully up to the average. In carpet and stair coverings only a moderate business has been done. In both common and better kinds of towels, bordered, fringed, a fair business is still being done, the higher qualities having been in favour, and in domestic clothes generally trade is fairly satisfactory. In hand-loom linen there is no improvement to note. Prices. No alteration in any class of goods.

Barnsley.

The linen industry of this district has improved slightly during the month, still a large number of looms are on strike, but mostly due to the coal strike. In damask table fabrics a quirt feeling has been experienced, and there seems no sign of improvement in this line. In linen the trade is now falling, demand, business being affected by the unsettled state of affairs in South America, and especially is this the case with Brazil, a large quantity of this class of goods is generally exported to that country. In sheetings and bed linens a decided improvement has place, and the production and sales have been fully up to the average. In carpet and stair coverings only a moderate business has been done. In both common and better kinds of towels, bordered, fringed, a fair business is still being done, the higher qualities having been in favour, and in domestic clothes generally trade is fairly satisfactory. In hand-loom linen there is no improvement to note. Prices. No alteration in any class of goods.
BROWN POWER AND HAND-LOOM LINENS.

Though the number of new orders for light power-loom bleaching cloth has been small, manufacturers are very stiff to deal with, and will hardly accept the same price now which they sold at two or three weeks ago. Medium and heavy grades are in quiet demand at prices ruling firm. Ballymena moves off regularly in the lower lots at late rates, which are very remunerative to manufacturers for fine sets neglected, but supplies are in small compass. For light, medium and heavy makes of Co. Down linen demands is very quiet, but prices are firm. In cloth for printing and dyeing a moderate business is doing at prices ruling of late. For roughs there has been a considerable demand for narrow widths, stocks of which are much in a small supply; prices very steady. For linen handkerchiefs, both power and hand-loom, a very limited demand exists, but cambric makes an active demand, and cloth for hemstitching are in moderate request, and prices without change. Damasks are still very slow in moving, power-loom making now more plentiful, but rates are maintained. Glass- and towelling, and similar goods are all more or less in very dull demand. Union goods are probably a little brisker of late, but trade is far from active. Drills, tailors' linens, and other descriptions of coarse goods have had a little more attention lately, but the turnover is still considerably smaller than some months ago.

BLEACHED AND FINISHED LINENS.

Home Trade.—Throughout this branch the dulness previously reported has been intensified, owing to the continuance of the coal war, so that all classes of goods are bought in the most limited way, and so slowly for immediate wants.

Continental.—With Spain, France, Germany and the shipments for October were considerably larger than in same month last year, but the ten months' trade with France, Spain, and Italy is much less than in 1892, Germany alone being larger.

United States.—The shrinkage in shipments for October is very marked, the quantity being upwards of 41 per cent, less than for October 1892. The settlement of the Sliver question may stimulate business activity, and a little more is now doing, but until that tariff question is settled the uncertain situation will more or less affect trade with this market.

Other Markets.—With the Foreign West Indian market there is a fair business doing, and a few more orders are coming in on an Australian account, but with most of the other countries the shipping demand shows a falling off compared with same month last year.

On the whole the decrease in quantity of linen piece goods shipped from the United Kingdom for the ten months ended October 31st is equal to 32 per cent, and values to 4 per cent.

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**Prices Current for ordinary Line and Tow Wefts. November 18th, 1893.**

| LEA NO. | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 25 | 28 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 50 | 55 | 60 | 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 | 85 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 | 150 | 160 |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|

These prices are per bundle of 60,000 yards of grey Yarn, subject to the usual discount for cash.

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**LEEDS.—** A very quiet feeling has pervaded the various branches of the woollen industry of this district, and the prospects of any satisfactory improvement before next year seems out of the question. The continuance of the coal strike has curtailed business, both as regards new orders and the getting out of old, to an alarming degree, and especially has affected the manufacturers of the lower classes of goods. Much show and order are better in the absence of cases through lack of fuel, and orders, from their dearness, as those who are not bound to deliver goods to their preference to have their looms standing, to using dear coal. In worsted those engaged in fancy goods make in good qualities have most orders on hand and makers of sergees are working full time but for the rest, stated. In mantles an improvement has taken place, new patterns making very firm prices. In tweeds and cheviots only the better classes meet with any encouragement, and even in these, orders come in very slowly. The ready-made clothing branch has been very quiet, and no new orders have been received. Among the non-suit fabrics all prices are very steady, and are expected to remain so.

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**BRADFORD.—** On the whole, business in the woollen markets during the month has been fairly cheerful, although the demand has been of a consummate character. English wools have kept very firmly, especially in coarsegoods, both 40's and fine qualities. Colonial wools have been in a slightly better demand, merinos having shown an upward tendency in the market. Mohair and silk have been rather quieter at unchanged prices. In the yarn branches, spinners are moderately well off as regards orders, but new ones are mostly in small and miscellaneous lots. Braid and genappe yarns are in demand at very firm rates. Super-lustres have been quieter at rather weaker rates. In mohair yarns there has been a falling off, and prices in consequence are somewhat irregular. Spinners of all classes of yarns are very firm in their quotations, and are confident that, with a settlement of the coal dispute, a much improved state of trade would result. In the piece branches there is little new; orders for the spring come in slowly, being later than usual. The coating department is very quiet. As regards prices there is no

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**THE IRISH TEXTILE JOURNAL.**

**NOVEMBER 15TH, 1893.**

**THE BENGAL LINEN TRADE REPORT.**

DRAWS UP BY THE LINEN TRADE BOARD, APPOINTED UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
### Exports of Linen Yarns and Linens from the United Kingdom for the Month ended 31st October, 1893; and in the Ten Months ended 31st October, 1893, compared with the corresponding periods of the Years 1891 and 1892.

#### MONTH ENDED 31st OCTOBER.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
<th>Quauntities.</th>
<th>Declared Value.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LINEN YARN.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Germany</td>
<td>301,200</td>
<td>199,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>293,200</td>
<td>154,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>194,500</td>
<td>110,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>145,500</td>
<td>109,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain and Canaries</td>
<td>245,500</td>
<td>194,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>31,700</td>
<td>22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>16,800</td>
<td>42,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Countries</td>
<td>189,200</td>
<td>222,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,317,100</td>
<td>1,055,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LINEN MANUFACTURES.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Germany</td>
<td>242,400</td>
<td>281,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>109,800</td>
<td>137,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain and Canaries</td>
<td>91,000</td>
<td>19,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>59,700</td>
<td>54,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippine Islands</td>
<td>39,000</td>
<td>37,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>6,860,300</td>
<td>6,450,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign West Indies</td>
<td>2,176,000</td>
<td>1,521,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>353,100</td>
<td>259,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republic of Colombia</td>
<td>314,000</td>
<td>201,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>258,900</td>
<td>375,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentine Republic</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>22,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British East Indies</td>
<td>280,800</td>
<td>183,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British North America</td>
<td>1,035,000</td>
<td>457,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do. West India</td>
<td>324,000</td>
<td>410,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islands &amp; Guiana</td>
<td>149,100</td>
<td>197,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Countries</td>
<td>1,674,200</td>
<td>1,078,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Plain, Un-bleached, or Bleached.</strong></td>
<td>11,996,300</td>
<td>10,352,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Checkd., Printed, or Dyed, and Damasks or Diapers</strong></td>
<td>809,200</td>
<td>1,051,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Textile</strong></td>
<td>3,382,000</td>
<td>2,604,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of Piece Goods.</strong></td>
<td>13,158,000</td>
<td>11,610,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### IMPORTATIONS OF FLAX—DRESSED, UNDRESSED, AND TOW OR CODILLA OF:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
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<th>Value of Imports.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Russia</td>
<td>2,088</td>
<td>3,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Countries</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,592</td>
<td>4,345</td>
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MANCHESTER.—There has been no marked change in the position this week. Business everywhere has been dull, the shrinkage having extended to every department. There is, in fact, little that is interesting to report of the four weeks' business. The trade generally has been assured by Ship Canal officials that the Canal will be filled with water in a fortnight, and that the first steamer will be able to "pick its way"—a fact which Manchester buyers realize. This has relieved the termination of the great undertaking very near; and when it is in working order the boats of the Belfast Steam Ship Company, and other lines carrying Manchester cargo largely between Liverpool and Belfast, will, no doubt, proceed right up to this city. The freight at present quoted between Liverpool and Belfast is 3s. 6d. per ton, which is much less than the charges from Liverpool to Manchester by rail. There are three powerful lines running between the two cities whose combined opposition to the Canal may bring about remarkable results for facilitating trade between the North of England and the North of Ireland. It is, in fact, the idea that Liverpool will be the nearest point of the American market which will reduce the lowest workable point before long; and that will be shillings per ton less than is now charged.

The Australian orders coming to hand of late have not been large, but as far as linens are concerned there has been much less cause for complaint, or, at least, for causing the message received on the subject has been received with dismay by those sorely tried firms dependent largely upon the American trade, such as local shippers of velveteens, and, more still, Bradford houses. It is too early, as yet, to gauge the full significance of the news; but the fact as it is stands, looks upon its face very serious. The action of the eastern states is characteristic of the reaction that has swept across the United States and broken upon the activities of the English manufacturers, who are retailed at 3s. 3d. a-yard. The English manufacturers have been prompt to meet this competition by offering new goods, one of which, to compete with the American, is being retailed at 3s. 9d. Moquette, velvet, and Wilton are retailing at 1s. a-yard. The quality of the goods is a yard for Royal Axminsters (which represent the highest grade of Englands carpets, the chain being of linen yarn) is 4s. 11d. per yard, the wholesale price being 4s. 3d. The backing of the American goods is, we believe, cotton instead of linen yarn.

The stock of jute, sea, and hemp carpet yarns, in a few agents' stocks, has naturally suffered from the effects of the depression in the carpet trade itself. Travellers calling upon the shipping houses have had a most unsatisfactory time, for, with the exception of the Canadian, no market has equalled last year's purchases thus far.

I am now revisiting my visit to the woollen manufacturing districts of the West of England, where trade just now is in a very depressed condition, many mills running of short time, while some are actually closed. The trade is not confined to the two counties of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, but it is well known that although the quality of the goods produced is still up to the high standard for which the West of England is famous, the industry itself is retarding. Its principal markets are fancy flours (including silk material, and worsted also), English flannels, and worsteds, and some in the cloth and dress goods trade. The West of England, it is said, is the finest in England, as its wool is the finest. For example, it has been said that the West of England has been pressed to the ground and that its wool is the finest, and that even in the coarsest branches, such as rope, twine, net, and mat manufacturing, that the

LONDON.—There is practically no change to chronicle since last I wrote you. Business all round is in a most depressed state, with little likelihood of altering much for the better this year. All the city houses are complaining that customers are few compared to what they ought to be, and that this is as a result of what is going on in the flax and linen branches ; Devonshire with about 280 ; and Somerset with about 474. These are figures which in the West will be regarded as very insignificant, and they are only given here to complete this hastily sketched picture of the textile decadence of the West. It will be interesting to see to what extent the West of England and the connections which that district now finds gradually slipping from its grasp.

The news of Mr. McKinley's sweeping victory came here as a great surprise. It is said that the message reached this place some 10 days before the event took place.

The woolen trade is in a positively depressed condition. A good deal has been said during the past few weeks regarding the condition of the carpet trade, but there seems to be a general opinion that the markets for carpet and Axminster goods are not as bad as has been reported, and that the depression is due to the slackness of late in the textile trade generally.

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Although the textile manufacture has been depressed throughout the past few months, and fresh orders are both few and small, there is a perceptible growth in the manufacture of all classes of union goods in this locality. This is of course speaking comparatively, for altogether there is a considerable activity throughout the entire trade. However, owing probably to the lowness of rates as well as to the slight appearance of the goods, there is an increasing demand for most descriptions of union goods, and this in spite of the well-known fact that unions are far less durable and in the end less advantageous than the plain goods. The present is a week of intense activity, and the wishes of the public must be met, even though it be against their interests; so that a much larger portion of union goods are now turned off than was the case some time past. Since last report cotton yarns have not only remained firm, but have gained slightly, the price now standing 6d. per lb. higher than the last report. The prices on the coarser numbers suitable for the heavy makes of goods. There is still a fair demand for cheap union covers for export, but the shipments, which have fallen off considerably, are only absorbing a small proportion of the production, so large quantities remain in stock awaiting instructions. Unions, as the consumers are largely made of this, are being confronted by a good deal of attention, and a fair proportion of the machinery is working on these goods. The demand for union interlinings although not brisk, has been moderate, and the stocks on manufacturers' hands are keeping within reasonable limits. Union cloths and goods are very quiet, but their manufacture continues, as an increased demand for unions is anticipated in the near future. Although no great activity has been apparent in shirt unions, a quiet and steady trade has been done, and prices have kept firm for all sets; but as stocks are moderately large, fractional concessions in the case of consignment lots might be quoted. Union goods are being only produced in very small quantities, as the good weavers required for this article are becoming more and more difficult to secure.

The imports of cotton cambrics have been small during the past month, as the printing and hemming business has been quiet and inactive for the past. Any improvements there have been made are more to keep the workers employed, or better to assort stocks, than to satisfy the demand. The heavier make of cotton cloth for interlining purposes is selling in moderate quantities, but even of this article the turnover continues limited. Once the United States business opens up further, it is likely to be a big trade for this season. In printed handkerchiefs, as the stocks are now large and well assorted with new designs.

The Making-up Traders.

The Apron and Pinfao Trade.

During the past few weeks there has been a slightly better tone in this branch of the industry, with rather more doing. The improvement, however, is by no means steady, and the sales small and sluggish, are not disposed to purchase more than is absolutely necessary to satisfy the present demand. The coal strike has affected the sale of these goods more seriously than that of most other articles, as they are largely used up by operators, who, owing to the scarcity of money among them for the necessities of life, have left to spare to expend on articles of dress. Besides, some orders which were placed here could not be executed, as the Lancashire factories which manufacture the cloth were closed for want of coal. At the present time the pinfao makers are busy preparing their samples for the spring trade, and this, together with the few orders forthcoming, enables them to keep their workers employed. Only a few local firms make the fancy goods, which being composed of light cotton fabrics, are better suited for the Manchester makers-up, and the present time of the year is the brisk season for this description of work. The goods produced here are not entirely, of the more substantial makes of linen and union holland articles, for which the demand at present is dull and weak. The demand from the Colonies has not yet revived, so that shipments to these quarters have been keeping within the narrowest limits. It is to be hoped that the season will prove one of good business between these and general trade will so far improve that a stimulus will be given to this gradually increasing industry.

The Collar and Cuff Trade.

Like most other branches of the linen trade this one is feeling acutely the effects of general stagnation of business. The demand fell off suddenly and unexpectedly, so much so that employers have no alternative left but to either reduce the number of workpeople hours or lay off. The demand for these goods would appear to be least affected by any decline in the general trade, and the fact that it is so to such a degree speaks eloquently of the state of business throughout the British Isles. Any demand at present existing is chiefly for gentlemen's wear, there being but little inquiry for those for ladies. This demand is also extremely weak, as is usual at this season of the year, when the white article is laid aside in favour of light woolen goods.
Trade matters are about the same in the state of muddle reported four weeks ago. Demand comes in fitful periods, and conservative purchasing prevails. There has been some placing of orders for spring in the way of housekeeping linens and ladies' cheap and medium cotton handkerchiefs. The "revivals" reported from time to time in some of our newspapers have not all been represented by successful purchases as represented. In linen piece-goods prices remain firm, comparatively speaking; there is no demand strong enough to arouse the spirit of competition. The Silver Repeal matter will have been settled before this writing reaches Belfast.

Then will come the Tariff Bill, and it will drag its slow length along into the summer months with a long face, no doubt, for this date under which it will become operative. In the matter of the failure of the James H. Walker Co., Chicago, the following is the last statement at hand:—Assets, $5,011,358; liabilities, $2,485,164; surplus, $2,566,194.

Advertising in the United States.

(Our New York Correspondent.)

Advertising is a fine art in any country it has attained that prominence in the United States, where men distinguish their "bunners," and where the newspapers are so numerous that the individual is necessarily impressed with the necessity of advertising his wares. The result is that the advertising columns of the newspapers are a veritable "bunners" department," and that the prices charged for this privilege are as high as $1,000 per year for doing nothing else than the preparing, daily, weekly, and monthly, of fetching advertisements for the newspaper press, and the numerous trade journals that have become institutions in the land. In certain exceptional cases men have been known to pay as much as $3,000 per annum for this privilege, and this is not an unusual price for their products to the "firms" more than ten times the amounts expended for their salaries.

Robert Bonner, a North of Ireland man, and a printer by trade, who established his famous weekly story paper, the "American Weekly," in 1854, was the first to commence what is known as stupendous advertising. His "Bonners," as they were called, he published every week for an entire column of a daily newspaper in which to tell of his leading articles and those who wrote them, he engaged entire first pages, and paid $100 per issue—thinking nothing of the expenditure, for the money came to him in hundreds of dollars. And he paid his writers on this basis.

And the sums he paid to his writers were enormous; Henry Ward Beecher receiving as high as $300 for a single column. His writers made his paper, and his advertising sold it to the people.

About the same period Smith, Brothers, retail cloth men of what is now the acknowledged "down-town" district, Bonner's lead in columns, displayed and issued as well a weekly monthly circular that sold so easily for as eagerly by young and old as one might look for a favourite magazine to-day. It was distributed gratuitously, of course; but what gave general interest to it was to interpolate humorous anecdotes and amusing stories, all written by the famous clothiers, and not advertising goods. They were originators, and that was what brought them success. Imitators sprung up, and the novelty wore off, but Smith Brothers' successors, A. Raymond & Co., continue the circular to-day, and have a regular mailing list of patrons, among them many provincial and remote. It is a useful and attractive little work, from the point of view of fashion and patterns, and sends their orders to New York for execution.

Passing by manufacturers and wholesalers for the moment—all manufacturers and wholesalers in the United States advertise, be they ever so long "established"—and going to the retail dry-goods trade, which has its story, and its doings, as well as any other trade in the land, and marked that John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, who held the position of Postmaster-General under President Harrison, was the first to establish the something-of-everything "bazaar" system in the United States. In this he was an imitator, for the Bon Marché of Paris, and Whiteley's of London, were early and where to say it. Originality is the soul of their work. The man assistant as well. He followed the lines laid down by his master; but the master was quickly eclipsed by his subordinate, and people read the emblems from his pen as regularly every morning in the Philadelphia newspapers, as they did the news from home and abroad. A strong story was written, the advertising matter was written, and, as far as they were printed, they were couched in a quaint phraseology that interested the curiosity of reading people, and they made them talk about in every household.

Advertising made John Wanamaker a dry-goods prince, and he became so well known that his name became synonymous with success, and to depend upon the name is inviting red-rot.

That name is that of the country soon recognized this American axiom, and began to follow this example years ago. An advertising solicitor no longer thinks of looking up the "head of the house." If he did, he would be turned over to his subordinate, where he would be a little lord in his kingdom. Advertising has become a "department" business, just as important in the buying of linens, silks, or other textiles. And these advertising managers are men, it might be said, who are born to their profession. They know the value and place for every word they use, or, just what to say and where to say it. Revision is an every-day task, for what attracts to-day will be atatitude to-morrow.

They have to keep watchful eyes upon what their competitors tell the public, and then revamp upon the same lines of goods in new and fetching sentences and phrases, putting the public "on" to the fact that their wares are better goods at lower prices. As well as the public who do the buying, they have to please the buyers of their establishments, and not exploit one department at the expense of another. They have to give audiences to advertising solicitors without number, through personal interviews and through correspondence; and the man who seeks their patronage must be able to show that one can say the "right" thing at the "right" price and "right" time, and be as "effective" in his way as the managers are in theirs. Verily, these advertising managers shoot folly as it flies, and dish it up for public delectation.

One of these—he served his time in a warehouse at Belfast, by the way—was sent over to show off his wonderful productions. "I can't just tell you," he replied, "but I am reminded whenever I sit down at my desk of an old tailor, who in my father's days worked for the country people about the Hapenny Gate, near the Maze. He never began to cut a piece of cloth without first spitting on his hands, and an extensive delusion that I may hit it, it's colder I miss it, 'ay may 'thapie guide th' shears!' I perform no such invocation, but the old line still runs through my mind—and I just hit it." Speaking of established concerns, every linen goods house in Belfast knows James M'Cutcheon. New York business consists almost solely of retailing all sorts of linen piece goods made in a variety of materials, and he has one of the most liberal customers of his specialty; yet his famous spinning-wheel and accompanying advertisements appear in the leading daily newspapers and the best monthly magazines.

And he has been a successful business for over thirty years! And it has been able to offer the American consumer good advertising and effective advertising, and the public has taken note of it. And the reader will understand that these present remarks, devoted to retail interests, are merely leaders to the methods employed by the great wholesaling and manufacturing American houses, who, with scarcely any exceptions, have an abiding faith in advertising as an ever-present stimulus.

Notes from the South.

(Continued.)

HE revived interest in lace-making, which at one time held such prominence in Limerick, has had the effect of giving an impetus to the industry, which leaves hope for much future development. Practical instruction in the art was given at the Municipal School of Lace-making, where attention, and the forms of distinguished teachers. And the reader will understand that these present remarks, devoted to retail interests, are merely leaders to the methods employed by the great wholesaling and manufacturing American houses, who, with scarcely any exceptions, have an abiding faith in advertising as an ever-present stimulus.

He had been in Limerick to effect a revival of lace-making, which, though it dwindled very low, never became an extinct industry, private efforts, despite the changing circumstances, contriving amongst many women workers to keep alive the knowledge of the technique, if even the coarser industry showed the little richness of design. Just now steps are also being taken to develop the industry in Cork. Not many days ago a practical meeting of citizens was held to devise means to put lace-making on a more secure basis, and the next meeting is to be held at the Municipal School of Art, under the presidency of Lady Arnott, and had for its object the initiation of some system to teach the manufacture of lace and crocheted-work. Lady Arnott, in the course of an address containing much that was suggestive, urged that a class should be opened to the ladies who keep house, and conducted a practical class in lace-making. Her Ladyship was pleased to be able to say that the Committee were in a position to launch the scheme, having secured promises from the Crawford School of Art, and a grant of £100 from the Central Committee in Dublin. That was a small beginning, but all beginnings are small beginnings.

The notes are printed by Mr. R. A. Atkins, a member of the Central Committee, who enlarged on the advantage of home employment to the large number of unemployed young people in their midst, and whose industry could be profitably devoted to lamentable employment. The notes are printed by Mr. R. A. Atkins, a member of the Central Committee, who enlarged on the advantage of home employment to the large number of unemployed young people in their midst, and whose industry could be profitably devoted to lamentable employment. The notes are printed by Mr. R. A. Atkins, a member of the Central Committee, who enlarged on the advantage of home employment to the large number of unemployed young people in their midst, and whose industry could be profitably devoted to lamentable employment. The notes are printed by Mr. R. A. Atkins, a member of the Central Committee, who enlarged on the advantage of home employment to the large number of unemployed young people in their midst, and whose industry could be profitably devoted to lamentable employment.
cross, and, of course, they would supply designs for the proposed new school.

Ultimately, a committee with Lady Arrott was formed to arrange the details.

**Technical School for Limerick.**

It is remarkable that up to this Limerick has been the last centre of importance in Ireland to avail itself of the advantages of the Technical Instruction Act. Thanks to a recent visit of that great pioneer of technical education, Mr. Arvoil Graces, steps have been taken to put the Act in operation in the city. A commodious, but hitherto little-used building, the Athenaeum, will be utilised for the classes, towards the organisation of which a very practical scheme has been submitted to the City Corporation by Mr. Graces. It is proposed to levy a special rate of 5s. per cent. on the value of houses for this purpose of technical instruction, which would yield £260. This, with the grant in aid from the Science and Art Department, would be sufficient to support one Technical School, which would include an art school, evening art classes, science classes, laboratories, and workshops. The evening classes would be free and the benefit of the apparatus and workshops would include lessons in Geometrical Drawing, Freehand and Modelling Drawing, and, if possible, Modelling. With regard to science instruction, particular attention will be given to those branches which underlie the industries at present developed in the city, such as冶金, and work, and the other to metal-work—in which it would not be part of the programme to teach any particular trade, but give instruction in work tools and metal-working tools. The cost is apportioned as follows:

- Expenditure on classes to the Corporation, £20 a year;
- Science teaching, £200;
- Workshops, £200;
- Women's classes (cooking, laundry, and dressmaking), £60; to which are to be added maintenance, £100;
- Secretary, who would be one of the teaching staff, £50; or in all, £350.

The premises are to include a lecture-hall, with preparation room, three dining-hall, and science classes, a laboratory, a store-room, board-room and office, and women's class-room in which the Science of the Science and Art Department might contribute £200. A good beginning is here outlined, and the development of the scheme is awaited eagerly by the mechanic classes of the city.

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**Flax Cultivation in the South of Ireland.**

The Linen Trade Board reports for 1824 a letter, dated 1st September of that year, from Robert Hea, of Abbamone, stating that in 1823 he cultivated 12 acres of flax in ground about 3 miles from the town, and grew the flax under cultivation, a remarkably good crop, which he attributed to early sowing.

He saved the seed on the Dutch plan with great success, and without the smallest injury to the flax. In the steeping he followed the Dutch plan also, and the difference he found in covering the flax with mud, which he considered a dark brown mud than when covered with sand and suds; but the flax of the former was in general finer and softer than that covered by the latter; but for the market the brighter colour was preferred. In 1824 he cultivated 14 acres of flax from the seed of previous year's crop, the result being a very superior quality to that grown from foreign seed in Limerick and the vicinity.

In the reports of the County Inspectors for 1825 it will be seen that in many parts of Ireland the Dutch system was tried at this time, and with satisfactory results. The following extracts will show that both in the Northern and as well as the other counties the system had been adopted by a considerable number of farmers.

**Co. Antrim.**—"Many persons who have treated their crops after the manner practised in the Netherlands say they approve highly of the method."

**Monaghan.**—"Many of the farmers have treated their crops in this way, and the crops from the home-sea produced a considerable amount than when covered with mud and placed in the ground and then watered it, intending to ripple it in the spring."

**Louth.**—"Numbers have treated their flax with great success, and the system is becoming more general."

**Westford.**—"Several gentlemen have practised the Dutch system, which has in every instance been successful. The farmers have saved a part of their seed to their old system, and some farmers have treated their crops on the Dutch plan, and find the advantage both in quality and quantity."

**Waterford.**—"A considerable part of the crops treated in this way, which answered the expectations of such as strictly followed the instructions."

**Cork.**—"Most of the farmers treated their crops by this plan."

**Kerry.**—"About 13 acres have been treated with success, and the system is more extensively practised."

**Limerick.**—"Several persons treated their flax in this way, and the seed saved was very good."

**Co. Mayo.**—"Some few persons treated their flax by the Dutch method, and are well satisfied with the results."

"Several farmers have treated their crops by this system, and the results were very satisfactory."

"The flax crops were uncommonly fine, and well got in. Many were treated after the manner practised in the Netherlands, and highly approved of."

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**The Irish Lace Trade.**

(Concluded.)

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We have to thank Mr. E. J. Charley, of Seymour Hill, Dunmorey, for kindly lending us the illustrations of the Linen Trade Board from his volumes written in the 1820s, which are now very scarce, and from which we have been enabled to reproduce them.

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**The Linen Trade in Spain.**

The following remarks on the linen trade in Spain occur in a recent report from the Foreign Office by Mr. W. Macpherson, Her Majesty's Consul at Barcelona:

The exportation of British linens into Spain has been slowly but steadily declining for the last 20 years, and the competition of the cotton goods produced in Spain and in Catalonia is small and unprecedented. It is, however, as the stock is select and the management in experienced hands, we do not fear but it will prove prosperous. The Irish Lace Society is doing its own work (altogether wholesale). Mrs. Donaldson, the secretary of the society, has had her name applied to the Youghal handkerchief which is remarkable for the beauty and variety of its stitches, and it is to be hoped that Mr. A. Cole will not object to the "profusion of ornamental filling" in this specimen. The other handkerchief in the same class was made at the Convent of the Poor Clares in Kilkenny for the sake of filling the Youghal merits of his design, and though the labour spent on each is nearly equal, yet we understand the public generally take to the Youghal point in preference.

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**The Linen Trade in Spain.**

This extraordinary decrease of importation is, however, more apparent than real. The first is an importation of French linen, and in the beginning of 1829, in anticipation of the then increasing rise in the duties on those articles manufactured in Belgium, and chiefly to the gradually improving quality of Spanish cloth.

In the first six months of the year 1855, 1,095,600 yards of British linens were imported into Spain; and in the first six months of the present year only 277,400 yards have been sent from Great Britain to this country.

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FLAX CULTIVATION IN MINNESOTA.

Flax is largely cultivated, but almost entirely for the seed. In this connection it will be astounding to learn that 300,000 tons of flax straw is annually turned into feed for the stock in the Northern states. The Western railways purchase this straw in large quantities, and are thus enabled to feed their stock plentifully. A number of the most important railroads have been cốing almost annually a large number of these flaxstraw fields, and the number of these fields is increasing yearly.

Irish Agricultural Produce.

We beg to thank Mr. Richard M. Burton, L.L.B., of Fassaroy, for sending us a copy of his notes on the prices of Irish agricultural produce, in reference to a paper which he read before the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland. With this view in view, we refer the public to his paper still more interesting to the reader, as it has carefully prepared a series of 11 excellent diagrams, which supply at a glance a very accurate idea of the fluctuations in prices of cattle, sheep, pork, beef and mutton, wool, flax, butter, wheat, barley, oats, extending over periods varying from 50 to 100 years.

Chemicals and Dyes.

(Special Report by Messrs. Sadler & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.)

The month has been marked by a complete collapse of prices in the Ammonia market. Sulphate, after touching £15, has gone down to a shade above £10. Maritza and Carbonate of Ammonia have participated in the fall. There is a belief that the leading producers are on the verge of bankruptcy. There is a remarkable scarcity of Common Tar Oils, a position which has not been true in the Tar market. Carbolic Acid and other disinfectants, on the other hand, are selling well. An advance in the price of Chlorine is also reported. The prices of all these chemicals have not been maintained. Notwithstanding the lessened production of Alkalis, from lack of fuel, they have not advanced as much as might have been expected; still, both Caustic and Ash are dearer. Only a moderate amount of Baking Soda is on the market. Ammonium Hydroxide is scarce, and the scarcity of Chlorine is also reported. The demand for Sulphates and Agricultural Manures is commanding a good deal of attention, and large business is reported in all of them. Potash Salts are few in commercial demand.

Selected List of Applications for Patients relating to Textile Fabrics.


C. G. BUTTRICK, London, No. 18547.—"Improvements in spinning machines." J. G. BAILEY, Manchester, No. 18,559.—"Improvements in the manufacture of spindles and shuttle bobbin and other textile fabrics." P. AND C. G. BAILEY, Manchester, No. 18,565.—"Improvements in the manufacture of bobbins from their spindles in spinning, twisting, doubling, and analogous operations, and in the means or apparatus employed thereto." A. J. BUTT, London (near Theisen, Germany), No. 19,700.—"Improvements in round hemstitch sewing machines." A. GARNETT, of the firm of J. AND J. Calvert, London, No. 18,738.—"Improvements in the manufacture of flax, twine, and other fibrous materials." A. GARNETT, Manchester, No. 18,939.—"Improvements in apparatus for spinning yarn." A. GARNETT, Manchester, No. 19,267.—"New or improved means of conveying the atmosphere from the cop without the intervention of the winding and bobbins." J. S. GRIMSHAW, Manchester, No. 19,343.—"Improvements in and applying to the "flyers" and spindles of spinning frames." A. J. BUTT, London (near Theisen, Germany), No. 19,700.—"Improvements in shirt collars." Speciflcations Published.

The specifications of the following patents have been printed and published during the month and copies thereof may now be obtained through Messrs. W. P. Trowbridge & Co. at the uniform price of 3d. each.

J. E. ERIKSEN, Belfast, No. 15,222.—"Improvements in machines for feeding flax, tow, or similar fibres, to carding and other like machines." A. W. METCALF AND W. J. HENNESSY, Patents Bridge, York, No. 15,808.—"Improvements in machinery for preparing flax and jute and other fibres." J. R. DAVISON, Ballymena, Antrim, No. 20,258.—"Improvements in machinery for breaking or treating flax and similar textile materials."