

# Statistical Information.

## CORN RETURNS OF UNITED KINGDOM.

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

Of the Corn Returns of the United Kingdom, for the last five years, each ending 31st August. (Compiled by James Watt, Glasgow.)

PERIOD.	WHEAT—Qrs.			Average Prices of British.	BARLEY—Qrs.	OATS—Qrs.	BEANS—Qrs.	PEASE—Qrs.	MAIZE—Qrs.
	Imports of Foreign Wheat and Flour.	Computed Deliveries of British.*	Total.						
Year ended 31 Aug. 1862	9,347,374	14,272,231	23,619,605	58 2	1,411,560	1,551,200	492,323	185,093	2,988,378
" " 1863	9,283,443	13,850,981	23,134,424	47 7	2,083,617	2,488,563	490,126	336,927	5,174,148
" " 1864	7,012,727	17,601,793	24,614,520	40 11	1,638,568	1,658,363	301,897	219,718	1,431,062
" " 1865	5,576,097	16,282,125	21,858,222	40 2	1,971,463	2,708,104	219,975	184,817	1,657,346
" " 1866	7,405,409	14,320,622	21,726,032	46 6	2,088,975	3,016,074	176,626	312,444	3,312,666
Averages of the above five years.....	7,725,010	15,265,550	22,990,560	46 8	1,838,836	2,284,461	336,190	247,780	2,512,720

\* Computed from the official weekly returns from 160 of the principal market towns in England and Wales; the quantities so returned being taken as typical (in a certain ratio) of the aggregate deliveries throughout the Kingdom.

### Remarks.

WHEAT.—It will be seen from the above returns that our imports of foreign wheat and flour during the twelve months ended 31st August last, amounted to 7,405,409 qrs., of which France contributed nearly two-and-a-half million of qrs., being about

one-third of our entire receipts; the actual quantities received from the various countries, during the period stated, being as follow:—Wheat, from Russia (southern and northern) 1,968,010 qrs., Prussia 1,220,918, Denmark and the Duchies 205,547, Mecklenburg 194,453, Hanse Towns 189,011, France 1,098,869, Turkey and the Danubian Principalities 104,273, Egypt 5,094, United States 201,930, British North America 21,945, other Countries 640,031. Flour (stated also in qrs.), from Hanse Towns 79,356 qrs., France 1,310,449, United States 74,677, British North America 19,212, other Countries 71,634.

## Miscellaneous.

### DISINFECTANTS.

#### Polytechnic Association of the American Institute.

Prof. Tilman introduced this subject, the regular topic for the evening's discussion, in an article defining the signification of the term, and enumerating all the more valuable disinfectants now in use. This class of substances should not be regarded as synonymous with those chemical agents known as deodorizers, for the difference is essential; the latter may act as a palliative, or simply overpower, dissipate, or disguise the gaseous products arising from that which constitutes the cause of disease, while true disinfectants attack and destroy the very roots of the evil. Taking the four elements of the ancients as the type of division under which to rank the generally received disinfectants, we note, under the first, that the soil is capable of absorbing indefinitely, injurious vapors. This property, possessed by porous bodies in general, is held by charcoal in a remarkable degree; for not only does this absorb, but also, by bringing the particles into close contact, it hastens decomposition. Second, water, as a solvent, removes the source of disease, and, in connection with the soil and the air, constitutes the grand disinfectant of nature. Third, no better purifying agent exists than a plentiful supply of pure air. Among the gases, chlorine is the best known, which, chemically combined with lime, has been extensively employed. All the bleaching agents are also disinfectants; among these ozone is said to be the best. Sulphurous acid has, in all ages, been used and highly valued; it acts as a deodorizer, and by its antiseptic qualities impedes fermentation. Fire, lastly, is acknowledged as one of the best disinfecting agents known.

The generally received theory assuming the presence of some specific poison or deleterious matters in the atmosphere, was disputed by Dr. Bradley, who advanced a hypothesis, supposing that malarious diseases are produced not by any specific poison in the atmosphere, generated from decomposition of vegetable matter or miasmatic emanations of any kind, but from a cause negative in its character, viz., the want of the normal depuration of the animal organism. The matters in the human body which have served their purpose and have become effete, must be regularly expelled, or they act as a virulent poison within the system. Free perspiration under the stimulus of heat or ex-