

The flax was very favorably spoken of by Belfast and other Northern linen men, and compared very well in length and fineness of fibre with many of the specimens grown on Irish soil. The oils also came in for very favorable notice. The fine display was greatly admired. The Canadian tweeds exhibited attracted a great many inquirers, and persons interested in manufacture of Scotch tweeds admitted that they could not undersell us in our own market, while the qualities shown were very superior. An enormous stride has been taken by Canada in this respect of late, and we may soon be able to compete with the British manufacturer on equal terms, duty or not duty. The Canadian woods were a source of astonishment to many who had only previously seen our pines and other rough, cheap woods, and were the finest collection on the ground. An exposition of the solar system was looked upon as a very interesting and ingenious work, and was not the least attractive feature in the collection. Our informant had a good opportunity to note the effect the Canadian collection had on the visitors; and expressed as his belief that, apart from the collections of England, France, and other European countries, it proved the most impressive and complete in the building. He also states that Ireland is in a very prosperous condition; that many new manufactories were springing up in the northern towns, and that the country was evidently entering on a new area of wealth and contentment.

#### Processes of Disinfection.

The following memoranda on disinfection have just been issued by the Privy Council; and, considering the circumstances under which they are published, we feel bound to assist in giving them all publicity:—

"1. For purposes of artificial disinfection, the agents which most commonly prove useful are—chloride of lime, quicklime, and Condry's manganic compounds. Metallic salts—especially perchloride of iron, sulphate of iron, and chloride of zinc, are, under some circumstances, applicable. In certain cases chlorine gas or sulphurous acid gas may advantageously be used; and, in certain other cases, powdered charcoal or fresh earth.

"2. If perchloride of iron or chloride of zinc be used, the common concentrated solution may be diluted with eight or ten times its bulk of water. Sulphate of iron or chloride of lime may be used in the proportion of a pound to a gallon of water, taking care that the water completely dissolves the sulphate of iron, or has the chloride of lime thoroughly mixed with it. Condry's stronger fluid (red) may be diluted with fifty times its bulk of water; his weaker fluid (green) with thirty times its bulk of water. Where the matters requiring to be disinfected are matters having an offensive smell, the disinfectant should be used till this smell has entirely ceased.

"3. In the ordinary emptying of privies or cess-pools, use may be made of perchloride of iron or chloride of zinc, or of sulphate of iron. But where disease is present, it is best to use chloride of lime or Condry's fluid. Where it is desirable to disinfect, before throwing away, the evacuations from the bowels of persons suffering from certain

diseases, the disinfectant should be put into the night stool or bed-pan when about to be used by the patient.

"4. Heaps of manure or of other filth, if it be impossible or inexpedient to remove them, should be covered to the depth of two or three inches with a layer of freshly burnt vegetable charcoal in powder. Freshly burnt lime may be used in the same way, but is less effectual than charcoal. If neither charcoal nor lime be at hand, the filth should be covered with a layer some inches thick of clean earth.

"5. Earth, near dwellings, if it has become offensive or foul by the soakage of decaying animal or vegetable matter, should be treated on the same plan.

"6. Drains and ditches are best treated with chloride of lime, or with Condry's fluid, or with perchloride of iron. A pound of good chloride of lime will generally well suffice to disinfect 1,000 gallons of running sewage; but, of course, the quantity of disinfectant required will depend upon the amount of filth in the fluid to be disinfected.

"7. Linen and washing apparel requiring to be disinfected should without delay be set to soak in water containing per gallon about an ounce either of chloride of lime or of Condry's red fluid. The latter, as not being corrosive, is preferable. Or the articles in question may be plunged at once into boiling water, and afterwards when at wash be actually boiled in the washing water.

"8. Woollens, bedding, or clothing which cannot be washed, may be disinfected by exposure for two or more hours in chambers constructed for the purpose to a temperature of 210 to 250 degrees Fahrenheit.

"9. For the disinfection of interiors of houses, the ceilings and walls should be washed with quicklime water. The wood-work should be well cleansed with soap and water, and subsequently washed with a solution of chloride of lime, about two ounces to the gallon.

"10. A room, no longer occupied, may be disinfected by sulphurous acid gas or chlorine gas—the first—by burning in the room an ounce or two of flowers of sulphur in a pipkin; the second, by setting in the room a dish containing a quarter of a pound of finely-powdered black oxyd of manganese, over which is poured half-a-pint of muriatic acid, previously mixed with a quarter of a pint of water. In either case the doors, chimney, and windows of the room must be kept carefully closed during the process, which lasts for several hours."

—*Chemical News.*

#### New Combustible.

I see the mention of a new combustible, invented by a gentleman who very appropriately bears the name of Stoker. It appears to be very pure charcoal, finely ground and made into a paste with starch. The paste is molded into cakes or balls of different sizes, and then dried. When perfectly dry these may be lighted with a lucifer match, and will continue to burn steadily, like German tinder, without giving flame or smoke. The combustible is intended for heating urns, chafferettes, etc.—*Paris Correspondent of Chemical News.*