

amity begins, for the well scoured wool comes out of the rinsing machine in a sticky, muddy, and uncomely condition, and the higher the temperature of the water rises the greater the resultant evil. In such a dilemma the following treatment has always been found successful. The temperature of the water of the scouring basin is raised from 50° to 54° R., and the bath itself is kept fairly "strong," only a very small portion of the wool, say a quarter of the quantity to be washed, being soaked in it. After five minutes, at the most, the wool is taken out of the bath and quickly rinsed under a very strong stream of cold water. To put the matter in a nutshell, we may say that the following points should be paid attention to in the hot season: High temperature, a strong bath, short soaking of small quantities of wool, and quick rinsing in plenty of water. Forced as this treatment of wool may appear, its results have never been bad. The wool always dyes well without losing its color, the whole dyeing process remaining unaffected and satisfactory.

GERMAN WOOL TRADE FOR 1894.

We have received Gustav Ebell & Co.'s annual review of the German wool trade of 1894, which is not without interest to many Canadian readers. After commenting on the low prices which prevailed throughout the year, and which they attribute to over-production both of raw wool and manufactured goods, the reviewers go on to express their opinion that the turn of fashion in favor of fine soft goods—which they think not unlikely—will lead to an improvement in prices in merino wools. Glancing over the past of the German trade, it appears that in the fifteen years from 1872 to 1886, the average amount of wool imported was 1,543,000 cwt., and of shoddy 84,000 cwt. annually. In 1887 the imports of wool were 2,217,000 cwt. and of shoddy 120,000 cwt. In 1894 the imports of wool had grown to 3,220,000 cwt. and of shoddy to 257,000 cwt. But Germany also exports both articles, and her exports of wool in 1894 amounted to 195,000 cwt. and of shoddy 310,000 cwt. The amount of home grown wool, as based on the new census, was 450,000 cwt., leaving a net consumption for the German Empire, 3,424,000 cwt. Germany has lately gone into the breeding of coarse and long-wooled sheep, which gives a heavier average weight to the native fleece. The fine clothing wools of Germany are getting scarce, and the importations of foreign merino wools steadily increase. The importation of Cape wools into Germany in 1885, for instance, amounted to 50,000 bales, rising pretty steadily till in 1893 the import reached 103,000 bales. Last year, however, there was a slight falling off, owing no doubt to depressed trade, the figures being 97,000 bales. The exports of German woollen yarns and woollen goods, curiously enough, do not seem to have increased much, the figures for yarns being 121,000 cwt. in 1887, and 172,000 cwt. in 1894; and for woollen goods 571,000 cwt. in 1887, and 520,000 cwt. in 1894, with fluctuations

in the intervening years. This is attributed to falling off in American trade during recent tariff changes.

THE Manchester Ship Canal, for which so much was promised, has so far been somewhat of a disappointment. The half-yearly meeting of the corporation owning the canal was held last month in Manchester, and the chairman acknowledged that the canal had signally failed to secure a fair share of the cotton traffic. Within the last half year the canal carried 13,600 tons, whereas the amount arriving in Liverpool was 800,000 tons. The great difficulty looming up in the near future is the payment of interest on the loan capital. Since the meeting canal shares have experienced a heavy fall. The Manchester Canal is such a huge success from an engineering standpoint, that it will be a pity if it proves a failure commercially. The chief difficulty has been a combination of the steamship people against it, and now it is proposed that the cotton interests shall combine to force the transfer of raw cotton buying from Liverpool to Manchester, and at the same time establish independent lines of steamers from Manchester direct to leading foreign ports. The Lancashire people are certainly displaying magnificent courage and perseverance.

WITHOUT discussing the political bearings of the question, it must be admitted that the products of the Canadian cotton mills stand well in comparison with the same class of goods produced either in the United States or England. Canadian mills have not brought the arts of sizing and adulteration to the perfection of English and other manufacturers, and if the Canadian consumer were to be deprived of the services of the home manufacturer, who now supplies him with goods of the character and quality he wants, he would soon pray for the restoration of the Canadian mills. In regard to the mere question of price, it is interesting to note that a Canadian mill is to-day actually producing goods cheaper than the American mills, which now boast of having reduced the cost of manufacturing to an unprecedentedly low rate. American print cloths are now selling at 2½ cents per yard. As these run 7 yards to the pound, the price per lb. is 17½ cents. In Canada the mills of Wm. Parks & Son, St. John, are selling a special make of grey cloth at 2½ cents per yard, and as these run 5 yards to the pound, the price per lb. is only 13½ cents. Other mills are making lines of goods, four yards to the pound at 4 cents a yard, or 16 cents a pound. Making allowance for the terms given to buyers in Canada, and the difference in the system of freight and shipping in England, the mills of Messrs. Parks & Son are producing goods at as low a price, if not actually lower, than the English mills. When intrinsic quality is concerned the advantage would be in favor of the Canadian mill. Another isolated fact bearing on the case is, that the Montmorency Cotton Mill has declared a dividend for the past year, and this mill is running exclusively on cottons that are shipped to China, in competition with England, the United States and Germany. Statistics regarding this trade are given in a paragraph elsewhere.