

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF Fabrics

THE JOURNAL OF THE
Textile Trades of Canada.

Vol. XVII.

TORONTO AND MONTREAL, JANUARY, 1900

No. 1.

Canadian Journal of Fabrics

Journal devoted to Textile manufactures and the Dry Goods and kindred trades.

Subscription Canada and United States \$1.00 per year Great Britain, 5' Advertising rates on application.

Offices 62 Church Street, Toronto, and the Fraser Building, Montreal

E. B. BIGGAR } BIGGAR, SAMUEL & CO. } R. R. SAMUEL
PUBLISHERS

UNITED STATES AGENT

H. E. BURNETTE, Cor Fourth and Locust Sts., Philadelphia.

Toronto Telephone. 1392 | Montreal Telephone 2589

Business correspondence should be addressed to Montreal, but cuts, news items and editorial correspondence to Toronto, cuts from abroad should be sent by post wherever possible, not by express, changes of advertisements should be in our hands not later than the 10th of each month to ensure insertion.

THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufacture of Canada, with lists of manufacturers agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion, to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades Fourth edition Price, \$3.00

BIGGAR, SAMUEL & CO., Publishers,
Fraser Building, Montreal

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER :

	PAGE		PAGE
Among the Mills	14	Pulp, Japanese Market for Wood	10
Dyestuffs New	11	Silk Industry in 1899	16
Fabric Items	23	South Africa, Its People and Trade	6
Foreign Textile Centres	8	Textile Imports from Great Britain	15
Fireproofing Fabrics	21	Textile Design	9
Knitting Syndicate, The People's Limited.	3	Tools in the Mill	12
Literary Notes	13	Wool Market, The	12
Mill Ventilation, The Principles of Ontario and Lake Superior Co., The	4	Wool Drying and Carbonizing	12
	13	Woolen Industry, The Canadian	1

THE CANADIAN WOOLEN INDUSTRY.

In our last issue we pointed out some glaring errors and misleading figures in the last Canadian census returns, dealing more particularly with the textile trades, and we expressed the hope that so intelligent an officer as our chief statistician is will see to it that when the next census is compiled the Canadian Government will be persuaded to get out of the rut of the past, and not only give us more correct returns, but give us details that mean something, instead of the piles of useless figures that have appeared for the last three or four decades. The authorities have not realized that in the last half century manufacturing systems and processes have been completely revolutionized, so that statistical tables which would have been fairly comprehensive in the census of 1851 will be meaningless

for the census of 1901. The old hand processes are fast disappearing and in some branches of the textile trades have already disappeared. In some branches of the cotton and woolen industry the "number of hands employed" and the "annual value of raw material used" may mean something, or they may mean nothing, whereas a statement of the spinning and weaving capacity means exactly what the figures show. But these two items of information, which are at once the easiest got at and the most important, are precisely the information which our census returns do not give. The same criticism applies to the other branches of the textile trades, to the paper and pulp mills, the boot and shoe factories and other industries. These are not the only reforms needed. The grouping and arrangement of certain industries should be supervised by someone who has a technical knowledge of the trade. As an instance of what the absence of such knowledge may lead to, we find the census of 1891 reports 22 cotton mills. This, as we pointed out when the returns were published, was wrong, but the inaccuracy is partly explained in other divisions, where we find one mill put under the head of "Cotton bag factories" and another under the head of "Duck and yarn factories." But these items, while they partly account for the mistakes under the head of "cotton mills," are still misleading, inasmuch as any enquirer is naturally led to suppose that there is only one factory in Canada making cotton bags and one making duck and yarn.

When we come to the woolen industry the misclassifications above referred to are still more misleading, as the extent of the industry involved is greater. For instance, according to the census of 1891 there is only one blanket mill in Canada, only one felt factory, and but one factory where woolen yarn is made. Yet we have 377 establishments enumerated under the head of "woolen mills," 223 under the head of "knitting factories," 26 under the head of "underwear factories," and 58 under the head of "hosiery factories." One naturally wonders on what plan the census takers make a distinction between "hosiery" mills, "knitting" mills, and "underwear" factories. Whether the underwear factories referred to are makers of knitted underwear or of cotton night shirts or such other garments the returns are equally astray. And what "hosiery mills" in Canada are not "knitting mills?" But one of the most remarkable features of the census returns dealing with textiles is the statement that there are in Canada 557 "carpet factories." It will hardly