

Sulphate of Alumina, adding an Alkali Sulphate and crystallising the resulting salt.

Domestic records show that through long ages the natural supplies of Copperas and Alum equalled the demands of the dyer and manufacturer. When this source was no longer adequate the chemist showed how the slow operations of nature could be hastened, and now these useful chemicals are produced with readiness, and at a price formerly deemed unattainable.

These minerals, however, are highly interesting from a different stand-point. Hitherto we have regarded them as the source of agents which have become indispensable to our comfort, and literally the foundation of many of the varied hues that man affects in his dress. But the study of their origin and natural transmutations give an instructive insight into some of the changes that are continually going on in the earth. We see them marking several of the alterations which have led to the disintegration of rocks, the formation of soils, of economic ores, etc.

In conclusion I may mention that the manufacture of these commercial Salts has not been undertaken in Canada. The total value of textile fabrics, which may call for various processes of dyeing, manufactured in the Dominion, was according to the last census nearly \$20,000,000.

There would therefore appear to be a field for the manufacture of these Copperas and Alum Salts, in this country, and some of the shales of our coal fields may be found well adapted for the purpose.