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THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures 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 now in hand.

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REVIEW OF TRADE.

The wholesale dry goods trade of the past month has been of a spasmodic character. Of course little is expected of December, but the cold snap by which the month was ushered in gave indications of a brisker retail trade, and consequently more sorting up of heavy goods than usual. The mild spells which succeeded somewhat dissipated this hope; though holiday trade throughout the country is reported very fair.

On the whole it is likely that the general results of stock taking will show that the year 1894 has not been nearly so bad as many feared, and certainly at the present moment the outlook for the New Year is not discouraging. Paper maturing in December has been met fairly well, while there is a growing tendency among retail houses to approach more nearly to the

cash basis of doing business, a great many having found by experience the advantages of getting the discounts for cash payments, instead of being "carried" by their wholesale friends. The far-seeing retailer is beginning to see that to be "carried" means generally to fall. This tendency to a cash basis of trade, though slow, is at least an encouraging sign of the times.

Among the woolen mills—who have been, of all the textile manufacturers, most in the dumps—there is now, we are glad to note, a more improved feeling, for not only is wool very low in price, but enquiries among the trade show there is a better prospect for orders for the coming year. Those who have made special efforts to bring out novelties have been rewarded with success, while the mills who acted on the advice given in this journal, and identified their name with standard lines of goods they were not ashamed to own, have not regretted the step. The result of such a large production of anonymous goods has been that goods of really fine texture and of good wearing qualities have been sold to the consumer as foreign, while no doubt a considerable amount of poor foreign goods have been palmed off as Canadian. Thus the home manufacturer who makes a good standard quality of goods has appeared under a double disadvantage before the consumer, and many are beginning to see their position, and some are now having their name or trade-mark put on every piece of goods at intervals of three or four yards, so that it cannot be taken off.

SILK WEAVING TRADE OF FRANCE.

According to a report of the United States consul in Lyons, the centres of silk weaving in France have changed very considerably since the introduction of the industry. New centres have sprung up and attained greater or less prosperity, while at the same time cities in which silk weaving was once of the highest importance have turned their attention to other industries. In the 15th century, Rouen contained several looms, but now there is hardly a loom in the whole city, and the same may be said of Orleans. Shortly after the Popes established the silk industry in Avignon, its brocades, brocatelles and damasks acquired a great reputation, and were sought from all parts of the world. This culminated in 1715, when there were 5,000 looms in operation, and the total production was valued at \$3,000,000.