TARTAR, LACTIC ACID AND LACTOLINE.

Although lactic acid and lactoline have been recommended for years as substitutes for tartar, and are used as such, we are constantly hearing complaints about them. Many dyers use them, give them up, and then start using them again. Everything new has many difficulties to contend with, and complaints both just and unjust to face, especially as it is usually put forward to replace something which has been long in use and is thoroughly understood, so that the results achieved with it, if not always so good as might be desired, are always certain. The new article is always introduced with a flourish of trumpets, but "without guarantee." Naturally much chaff is found among the wheat, and the recurrence of this has bred a distrust in everything new. Care must be exercised in adopting novelties in the dyeing industry, as weeks or months may be necessary to test fastness, and haste may result in very disagreeable experiences. Besides, changes in dyeing recipes always cause, at least at first, difficulties and slowness of production, circumstances which set people against them. There are also difficulties of what may be called a personal nature, as were seen on the introduction of alizarine, and are seen now in connection with artificial indigo.

Lactic acid and its preparations have all these obstacles to fight against. The acid has suffered from the fact that it was recommended and used for yarn and piece goods before such recommendation had been proved to be justifiable. Experience has shown that pieces mordanted with lactic acid reduce chromic acid so fast as to cause unlevelness. This still makes many dyers nervous at the very mention of the name of lactic acid. This drawback has, however, been avoided by the substitution of lactoline for lactic acid. The expectation that acid potassium lactate would behave similarly to the corresponding tartrate, and fix chrome slowly and uniformly on the fiber was justified, and lactoline won its way as being at least as good as, and certainly cheaper than, tartar for piece-goods and yarn. Lactic acid itself, which is even cheaper than lactoline, is now restricted to loose wool, as unlevelness in that is corrected by the subsequent carding.

Nevertheless, a minority of dyers is still against lactic acid in any form. Some say it hinders the spinning of the wool more than tartar, some that the dyes are not so fast to milling, etc., the test of which it is a question if this article were instituted to set these points at rest in a decisive manner uninfluenced, as is apt to be the case in the dye-house, by differences in the material used, or by inaccurate work. In all the tests to be described exactly the same wool was treated, and the same machines, and all the pieces were washed, milled, and finished together. Besides, to prevent any special effect due to single dyes, a combination was used of three very largely used alizarine dyes, viz., Anthracene Brown, Anthracene Blue and Alizarine Orange. Good Sydney wool was used, and the three following processes were compared:

1. Mordant—Three per cent. bichromate and 2½ per cent. tartar. Entered at 60 deg. C., brought to the boil within half-an-hour, and boiled one and a half hours. The bath was then pumped out, and cold water pumped through for ten minutes. To the bath at 30 deg. C. were then added 2.75 per cent. of Anthracene Brown SW in powder, 0.75 per cent. of Anthracene Blue SWGG in powder, and 0.75 per cent of Alizarine Orange SW in powder (corresponding to a total of about 21 per cent. of the paste-brands). The bath was then brought to the boil inside forty-five minutes, and 10 per cent. of 30 per cent. acetic acid was then slowly added during thirty minutes. The whole was then boiled for an hour and a half. The bath was then pumped out, cold water pumped through for ten minutes, the goods were wrung in the bath, and dried at about 40 deg. C.

2. Mordant—1.25 per cent. bichromate, 1.25 per cent. per cent. lactic acid, and 1.25 per cent. of sulphuric acid deg. B. Starting at 30 deg. C., the bath was raised to the within forty-five minutes, and boiled for fifteen. As the was still slightly yellow an additional 0.25 per cent. of sulp acid was then added, and the boiling continued for another minutes. The bath was then quite colorless. After runn off the bath and pumping cold water through for ten minu the goods were dyed as in 1.

3. Mordant—1½ per cent. bichromate and 3 per cent lactoline. Entering at 60 deg C., the goods were brought boil inside of half-an-hour, and boiled for an hour and a h After the first half-hour's boiling the bath was mixed w about 0.1 per cent. of its own volume of acetic acid. The ba was pumped out at the end of the hour and a half, and co water and dye were used as in 1 and 2.

(To be continued).

TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

The following are the sterling values of the textile imports fro Great Britain, for May and the five months ending May, 1899-190

	Month of May		Five months ending May.	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900
Wool	£2,186	£ 2,004	£ 7,314	£ 23,22
Cotton piece-goods	27,841	32,141	242,310	307,50
Jute piece-goods	12,730	14,512	45,605	64,85
Linen piece-goods	7,512	9,822	73,055	88,67
Silk lace	1,608	964	8,078	8,69
" articles partly of	2,560	3,699	13,255	23,35
Woolen fabrics	10,415	14,351	108,329	170,83
Worsted fabrics	16,703	22,087	220,794	253,204
Carpets	7,209	12,341	95,839	142,105
Writing-paper, &c.	3,988	6,455	11,409	15,725
Other paper	824	1,004	3,235	4,403
Apparel and slops	10,202	13,116	87,856	120,910
Haberdashery	6,723	7,775	72,113	72,661

On July 13th, binder twine, manufactured at the Kingston, Ont., penitentiary, was reduced to 9, 8½ and 8¼ cents in small lots, tons and car-loads, respectively.

The Master-in-Ordinary, Toronto, has given judgment, allowing the Quebec Bank $30,000 of their claim of $50,000 against the Cloak Manufacturing Co., of Toronto, as a preferred creditor. The balance of $20,000 will go as the claim of an ordinary creditor.

WANTED—Two Hand Jack Spinners. Address CARLETON WOOLLEN COMPANY, Woodstock, N.B. 7-1f

POSITION WANTED—As superintendent, designer or boss weaver. Thirty years' experience in some of the best mills in Canada and the States. Of good habits. Temperate and industrious. Address "D. W.," Montreal Office Canadian Journal of Fabrics. 6-3

FOR SALE—$1500 buys the Durham Woollen Mills—quick sale to close estate one set; large custom and wholesale trade; cost $7,500. Estate J. H. HUNTER, Durham. 7-3

WOOL { FOREIGN and NORTH-WEST.

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Sole Canadian Agents for Francis Willey & Co., Bradford, Eng., have on hand and will carry in stock full lines of Foreign and North-West Wools. Samples on application. 7-1