

COTTON NEWS.

ADVICES to Canadian buyers point to higher prices for raw cotton despite the slump which took place during the month of October. The drop is attributed to certain large operators in New York hastening to liquidate under the impression that prices could not long be maintained at recent figures, which show an advance during the last three months of about 30 per cent. from the lowest point. Since then the market has partially recovered, the closing quotations on the New York market November 2 being: November, 8.63; January, 8.73; February, 8.78; May, 8.82. The total visible supply for the week ending Nov. 1, as given by The Commercial and Financial Chronicle, is as follows: 3,261,549 bales, compared with 3,283,548 bales in 1894 and 3,267,477 in 1893. Owing to the large orders contracted ahead by manufacturers for goods up to July next, both in Europe and America, the situation is thought to point to the maintenance of prices. Early in December the cotton crop of the South can be accurately estimated, and by that time, or sooner, the exact prospects for the future will be definitely known.

THE PRINT AGREEMENT.

THE Print Agreement is still a live subject of discussion in the dry goods trade. All the wholesale houses but W. R. Brock & Co. and John Macdonald & Co. have signed it. The latter have for years made a feature of imported prints and will probably take advantage of the agreement to push the department to a still greater extent this year. Mr. Brock has always been strongly in favor of some agreement on Canadian goods to prevent cutting, but objects to a list which permits certain retailers to buy at the same price as wholesale houses. His firm has sent a circular to the trade announcing that they refused to sign the agreement, and that they will import largely from Great Britain and the United States. This circular has had its effect, for travelers have complained the past week or two that it is harder to make sales and buyers are putting off. In fact, the tendency is to wait until the last moment before placing orders. To counteract Brock & Co.'s circular, Gault Bros. & Co. have sent one to a few of their own customers praising the quality of the Magog goods, of which they offer a greater number of patterns than ever before.

The retailers who were told they could buy at wholesale prices if they signed the agreement are not showing any great anxiety to do so. In fact, as far as we can learn, only one house has bought so far, and that order was only a small one.

Whether by accident or intentionally, the framers of the agreement have put the big department stores who cut prices in a predicament. The Carsley Co., Montreal, and the Eaton Co., Toronto, dare not sign the agreement. If they did they would find their competitors underselling them. If the Eaton Co. took advantage of the agreement they could not sell at less than any retail house could buy. Robert Simpson or Murray & Co. would instantly fill their windows with, say, indigo prints, at a cent a yard less than the combination price, and use them as a leader against the Eaton Co. The latter, of course,

refuse to sign, and will buy from the jobbers. We presume, however, that big retail buyers, like Long Bros., of Collingwood, will take advantage of their ability to buy at jobbers' prices.

COTTON PRINTS.

To judge by a circular issued last month by the Magog Mills, it would look as if there was to be no jobbing of big lots by the end of the season, as they have already cancelled 112 patterns in their fancy weaves and piques, declining to take any further orders this season for them.

Prices in the cotton print list continue unchanged this month, as follows:

H. Cloth	4 1/2 cts.
1 "	6 "
2 "	7 1/2 "
3 " Anilines, Black and Whites	7 1/2 "
4 " Pompadour Styles	7 1/2 "
D. "	8 1/2 "
3 "	8 1/2 "
C. "	9 1/2 "
C. " Anilines, Black and Whites	9 1/2 "
C. " Pompadour Styles	9 1/2 "
Solid Black No. 1	5 "
2 "	6 "
3 "	8 "
C. "	8 1/2 "
Indigoes—	
P.C. "	6 1/2 "
S.C. "	7 1/2 "
D.C. "	9 1/2 "
G.C. "	11 1/2 "

SPECIALS.

Challies—Light	4 1/2 cts.
" Dark	5 "
Delaineites	6 1/2 "
Cretonnes	7 1/2 "
Summer Suitings	7 1/2 "
Salisbury	7 1/2 "
Fancy Piques	8 "
A. Duck, 25 inches	7 1/2 "
AA. " Indigo	9 "
C. "	10 "
Outing Cloth, 25 inches	10 "
Skirting, 37 inches	10 "
Ladies Tweeds	10 "
Printed Molekins	12 1/2 "

ADVANCES IN COTTON GOODS.

Since the last issue of THE REVIEW the Canadian Colored Cotton Mills have issued four circulars making advances of 5 per cent. in shirtings, galateas, tickings, flannelettes, ginghams, cottonades, skirtings and denims.

The Merchants' Cotton Co. issued their revised prices on October 23rd, advancing 3-4, 9-4 and 10-4 in grey, plain and twills from 2 1/4 c. to 2 1/2 c. per yard. Butter cloths are also 1/4 c. higher. A further advance of 1c. per yard is recorded in pillow cottons. Grey cottons, extra fine grades, have been advanced from 3/4 c. to 1c. per yard.

The Parks Cotton Co., of New Brunswick, on October 10th advanced warps, also single and double yarns, 1c. per lb. D. Morrice & Co. also announced an advance of 1c. per lb. in their yarns and warps.

A POPULAR LINE.

No article in children's underwear has met with more appreciation than the infant's vest with open front offered by S. Lennard & Sons, Dundas. Parents know the difficulty of using a close vest for infants. They are apt to be difficult to put on or get off, and the open front makes adjustment perfectly simple. The "Elysian" is consequently a favorite with the trade.