

FOREIGN MARKETS.

REPORTS from Dundee show that the recent rise in jute goods is being well maintained. Jute yarns are firm and Hessians are firmer.

Linens are in only fair request, and the much-looked-for improvement is not yet apparent. Linen yarn is firm, but the movement is small. The flax trade is quiet.

NOTTINGHAM LACES.

The Textile Mercury says of the Nottingham lace trade that it is without improvement.

"In the plain net branch the present state of business compares unfavorably with what it was earlier in the year. Fewer bobbin nets are being exported for embroidery purposes, and there is not much doing in mosquito and corset nets. Stiff Paris and Paisley nets are also dull of sale, and the demand for Mechlin, Brussels and zephyr tulle is quiet. Silk tulle is slow, but a steady business is being done in veilings and hair nets. The demand for silk fancy laces remains dull. No change is apparent in the cotton millinery lace department. Moderate orders are on hand for the more fashionable goods, but in no case is there any real animation, and it is only in exceptional cases that machinery is profitably employed. The lace curtain trade is quiet, the supply of goods being fully equal to the demand, and neither makers nor finishers are fully employed. The hosiery trade is in a better condition than the lace industry."

THE LINEN TRADE.

The Irish Textile Journal says: "Comparing the linen industry with the other leading exporting industries of Great Britain shows that it occupied a fairly good position in 1894 in showing a decrease of 5.6 per cent., for, although cotton manufactures improved by 4.7 per cent., jute manufactures fell off 12.4 per cent., woolen and worsted manufactures 14.4 per cent., and silk manufactures 10.3 per cent."

The Irish Flax Supply Association estimates that this year there are 101,081 acres of flax in Ulster, as compared with 67,478 acres last year, or an increase of 49.7 per cent.

THE COTTON MARKET.

To give an idea how the raw cotton market is viewed in England, we quote the Manchester correspondent of *The Drapers' Record*. Writing on June 5th, he says:

"Business is practically at a standstill. The Liverpool holidays are this year longer than usual, there being only two days for business between May 31 and June 10. The cotton market is strong but not active, still there is a very general opinion that the raw material will yet advance, and a most determined effort to put up prices will probably be made when business is resumed.

"It is now thought that nine and three-quarter millions will be about the size of the last crop instead of ten and a quarter millions, Neill's estimate, and the new crop conditions are said to be unfavorable, so there is a prospect of $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the near future for American cotton. Egyptian cotton has receded about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb., and is in very slow demand."

EXTENDED USE OF BUTTONS.

Buttons being now so extensively used, says the Paris correspondent of *The Economist*, it is not surprising to find them applied to collets. Some of the new cloth capes are fastened down the front with olive-shaped buttons in horn, of the same

tint as the cloth. This new form of button will probably be much used next season for all kinds of outer garments. It is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and not much thicker in the middle than at the extremities. It is made of a smaller size for trimming dresses.

This is only one form of an infinite variety of buttons, large and small; there is a perfect rage for them. Button manufacturers are looking forward to a splendid winter season, for if they may be introduced with some effect into summer and autumn toilettes they are still better adapted to winter costumes.

Fashion is eclectic in respect to them, favoring them equally, whether they are made of horn, bone, mother-of-pearl, gilt metal, Rhine pebbles, ivory, imitation gems, cut steel, jet, painted enamel or porcelain. Some are no bigger than peas, others are the size of a silver dollar.

Rhine pebbles and cut glass, mounted in gilt metal, are the favorites among the former (with those who cannot afford diamonds) to trim the front folds of blouse waists and shirts; but large buttons are also used for the same purpose, principally those in cut steel. Some of the latest novelties are in painted china, in imitation of old Dresden ware; others are miniatures, painted on ivory or metal.

Many of the new dresses absolutely bristle with buttons. More often than not they are merely used as a decoration, and they will crop up in the most unlikely places, though frequently they have the appearance of fastening something down, as a fold or a band, the cuff of a sleeve, the lapel of a bodice, the extremity of a belt (they have begun to oust buckles from the field) or the folds of a skirt.

It is impossible to insist too strongly on the button question, which bids fair to be even more important in the future than it is in the present.

CREPONS FOR SPRING.

The Berlin correspondent of *The Economist* writes: "Some very elegant novelties in dress fabrics have been shown. Crepon stripes half an inch wide, flanked by narrow and wide stripes of silk, are shown in the most varied combinations of colors.

"Sapphire blue crepon stripes are bordered by orange, heliotrope and sea-green silk stripes.

"Crepons with small and large check patterns are also very tasteful. The checks are formed by the peculiar, raised crepon effect, and the single squares are bordered by fine silk stripes in the most varied colors. Crepe checks look well, however, even without these silk stripes.

"New crepons are seen with deep embossed patterns of flowers and blossoms. Crepons with pressed patterns of lilies, roses, etc., are seen.

"Crepons with large rings formed by silk threads are also new. A tobacco-colored crepon shows these rings in light-blue silk.

"Other novelties are crepons with covering of lace-like patterns formed with fine silk threads. A heliotrope-colored crepon

BUSINESS CHANCE.

CAUDWELL'S FANCY DRY GOODS STORE TO rent, Brantford. Splendid chance for Millinery, Fancy Goods, Stationery, or Boots and Shoes. Two iron doors through side wall to Caudwell's dry goods business, which would bring over an average of 300 each day and 1,000 customers on Saturday. GEO. CAUDWELL, Brantford.