

**CHINESE COTTON COMPETITION.**

JUDGING from recent advices from China, the cotton manufacturers here will soon have a formidable rival. The area suitable for the cultivation of cotton is almost unlimited. This, together with the cheapness of labor, will make the large production of cotton in China only a matter of time till the mills get in shape to turn out an article to compete against American and European goods. In Shanghai alone 45 new manufacturing plants have been started in the last six years.

**THE HON. SENATOR THIBAUDEAU.**

The following notice appeared in The Canada Gazette on August 29: His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to summon to the Senate, by letters patent under the Great Seal,— Alfred A. Thibau-deau, Esq., of the city of Montreal, for the electoral division of de la Valliere, in the province of Quebec, vice the Honorable Auguste Real Angers, who has resigned.

Mr. Thibau-deau, of whom a picture is given here, is the head of the firm of Thibau-deau Bros. & Co., of Montreal, and Thibau-deau Freres & Cie., of Quebec. This firm is one of the oldest firms in the dry goods line in Canada, having been formed in Quebec about three-quarters of a century ago by the grandfather of Senator Thibau-deau.

Mr. Thibau-deau was once a member of the Council of the Board of Trade, and is at present a director of the Great Western Life Assurance Co., and president of the Dry Goods Association of Montreal. The appointment is looked on generally with much favor as one of the proper kind. The men who are carrying on extensive enterprises are surely the men to look after the business of the country.

**CHANGES IN SLEEVES AND SKIRTS.**

I wonder if any of my readers remember, says Jeanne, the Paris correspondent, what a fashionable lady looked like a few months back. Her waist had all the effect of a tiny

ring, tying two enormous ballons. One of these ballons was the skirt, the other the two sleeves. This silhouette no longer exists.

When the fashion of godets and ballon sleeves came in every one made fun of them. For a very long time they afforded scope for the caricaturists to exercise their talents; then one became accustomed to them, as in former days one became accustomed to the crinoline. Intelligent women borrowed from the fashion that which suited them, but foolish ones exaggerated the style, and became the laughing stock of many.

And the skirts? Many were 22 metres round the bottom! Regular Loie Fullers. And what a weight they were to carry! But n'importe, every lady would have her little Loie Fuller. It

was so chic. A week or so back skirts were full; still, the figure of almost every woman was lost in her skirts and sleeves, and at one time it was even thought that crinolines would come in again. We have only to thank the Parisian ladies that this is not the case. And now see what has happened in consequence of so much exaggeration. We are going just the other way. Ladies are diminishing in size to a most alarming extent, and if this new fashion continues, women will very soon have all the appearance of walking out of the sea in a long bathing dress, or of posing for their picture in the salon in the new style au.

Yes, the godets which gave so much volume to the skirts are over, as are also the gigot sleeves, and those sleeves

more voluminous still, which almost hid the neck. They are all things of the past. Skirts are one half the size they were. The new skirt fits tightly on the hips, and is very narrow, in a word, it outlines all that which was before entirely hidden from view. The sleeves fit tightly over the arm, whether that arm be fat or thin, well or badly shaped. There is a little trimming at the top in the form of two small bird's wings, but this is only for the sake of form, and will very soon disappear. Nor does this revolution in fashions pertain to dresses only. Hats have undergone a similar change. The new shapes are low, and the trimming is low also.



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