

of the boiling for at least 15 minutes, no matter if the paste is sufficiently thick sooner, and others advising to stop the boiling as soon as the starch begins to thicken. For cloths intended to be calendered heavily without becoming too limp, the starch has been boiled by the writer for some time; but for other cloths that were to be filled largely, the boiling was shortened.

The finishing mass may be boiled in wooden or copper kettles, either with direct or indirect steam. A mass composed of several ingredients—for instance, different fats, wax, china-clay, etc.—is to be boiled as follows: First mix the china-clay in luke-warm water; add the fat, soap, wax, etc.; pour the mixture into the kettle, and boil until you see that the different substances are entirely amalgamated. Then reduce the temperature of the mixture to 122° F. by adding cold water. The starch is to be prepared meanwhile by dissolving in it lukewarm water and passing it through a sieve, after which it is poured into the mixture in the kettle; then the mass is brought to a boil, and stirred diligently. Many finishers boil the china-clay separately and then incorporate it with the starch, heat the mixture to 122° F., add the proper quantity of fat, and boil the whole thoroughly.

For grey and black linings, especially of light quality, for which a good filling is the principal requisite, it is not necessary to use starch of first quality; but if it is used, it is to be mixed with a little china-clay. A few establishments in Northern Bohemia finish black and grey mollinoes handsomely by using for the purpose the best wheat starch or prime potato starch, without any addition of china-clay, or only a trifle—at the most 10 lbs. china clay per 80 lbs. starch. This procedure requires larger quantities of fat and soap for toning down the stiffness, and largely increases the cost of finishing.

Excellent starching machines for light goods that require a great amount of filling may be purchased, two and three cylinder machines being used for the better grades of cloth. Friction and various other kinds of machines invariably cause the fabric to shrink in breadth, and it is therefore well to place the cloth in the tentering machine before dyeing it, so as to force the breadth, after which the goods are starched. During use the finishes are to be always kept in a thick, viscid, fluid condition, and the fabrics must invariably be starched only on one side.

CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND.

Up to the time of writing the members of the Dominion Government have refrained from saying much about taking Newfoundland into the Canadian union. If this is because they desire to keep the question as far as possible out of party politics, their reticence is very wise, but we trust their silence may not be because they are opposed to the union. If Newfoundland joined Canada it would be a good thing for Canada, and a better thing still for Newfoundland. We do not suppose the union would prove to be immediately profitable from a commercial standpoint, although

the transference to us of so large an amount of trade as the Island can give us, coupled with the development of enterprises that would naturally follow the incorporation, might soon make up for any loss of revenue from carrying on the Government of the colony. It is in the value of the latent mineral and other natural resources—large sections of which have remained to this day unexplored—that its chief value to us would be. The advantages of the union from the standpoint of the Newfoundlanders would be both directly and indirectly of the first importance. The island would still be a part of the British Empire and its national continuity would be maintained—indeed, it would be more essentially a part of the Empire than at present. Canada would make the interests of the Island its own, and there is nothing at present visible in which the true interests of the Dominion would not also be the interests of the Island. The union would instil into the Islanders better ideas of self-government, of commerce, of education, and let us hope of public life; while it would result in the development of sources of wealth as yet undiscovered in the Island, and the establishment of new manufactures and industries which would give a much better and much to be desired distribution of comfort and wealth among the population. The people of Newfoundland are an honest and hardy race, and their maritime instincts fit in with the genius of Canadians. They are the “hardy Norsemen” of the American continent, and in the future evolution of the American nationalities will give us the maritime supremacy for which nature has fitted us. Geographically, as well as ethnologically, Newfoundland should be one with us. Such a union, while desirable for its own sake, would be an important step towards that larger federation of the Anglo-Saxon peoples which will include the American Union.

The manufacturers of light woollen goods, including flannels, are reported to be very busy just now, though there is a general complaint about prices. Reports from the markets of heavy Canadian goods are not so encouraging. The cotton mills are busy.

The textile interests in the Old Country appear to have a good deal of power. The Lancashire members of Parliament have made arrangements whereby the question of duties on cotton goods imported into India will become one of the crucial tests as to whether they will support or whether they will vote against the Government. In Lancashire the feeling on the subject is naturally very strong, as the county has such immense interests at stake, and it is a simple question of bread and butter for the mill hands. Upon the attitude, therefore, of the local members of Parliament and candidates for election depends the safety or the obtaining of their seats, as the case may be. This is why many apparently well informed people are of the opinion that this question of Indian duties may easily lead to a severe political crisis in which the Government may easily be ousted from power.