

Stains of which the cause is unknown will frequently disappear if held in a pan of milk boiling on the fire, or by dipping them in sour buttermilk and drying them in the sun. The articles should then be washed in cold water, dried, and the process repeated several times in the day. The following bleaching liquid will effectually remove any trace that may still remain after the garments have been through the laundry. It may be called an instantaneous ink and stain extractor, but requires to be used with care lest the fabric suffer. Put a quarter of a pound of chloride of lime and a quart of soft water in a wide-mouthed bottle and shake it well. Cork tightly for twenty-four hours, then strain through cotton and add one teaspoonful of acetic acid to every ounce of the mixture. Damp the stain, apply the extractor and wash well in clear soft water.

For the removal of stains and spots from colored materials and carpets, ammonia takes the first place. Almost any mark, new or old, will yield to its persevering use, and if dabbed on (not rubbed) it will itself leave no trace of its use. It can be applied to woollens, cottons and silks. It will remove ink spots from marble, paper and wood. Grease flies before its application; and when diluted with water, spots caused by orange or lemon juice or vinegar are removed by it from the most delicate materials. For very nice fabrics some people like to use the old-fashioned javelle water, to be obtained from the chemist, but ammonia, delicately applied, does quite as well. From carpets, curtains and suits of clothing it will remove almost every stain, including that caused by white-wash. Ink spots are always the most difficult to efface. Take up as much of the ink as possible with a spoon and blotting paper, and then use milk or clear water until it disappears, being careful not to extend the area of damage by rubbing the ink into the adjacent material. Benzine will remove paint from delicate fabrics, if it fails, turpentine must be used, and the mark which it leaves effaced by alcohol. If in the process of removing stains, the color departs from the material, it can generally be restored by dabbing with chloroform.—*Dyer and Calico Printer.*

ENGLISH HOSING NOVELTIES.

Silk embroidery is being employed more and more in the hosiery industry. It is already passing over to men's half-hose, the better sorts of which are richly ornamented in this style, but the patterns in this instance, however, consist exclusively of simple strokes, stars and dots, gotten up in light-colored silk. Just now the best-liked colors for these half-hose are steel-grey, grey-brown, brown-red and tan, while black is preferred for the embroidered sorts. Mixtures are exceedingly well liked, and by weaving in threads of white silk that make an attractive appearance in steel-grey and brown, some fine effects are produced. Black silk half-hose, with narrow blue or red length stripes, are a novelty, and they are frequently made so loose in texture that they appear as if perforated.

Coming now to usefulness, it may be stated that several practical novelties in this respect have appeared last spring, and to these belong, for example, the pseudoplex hosiery of cashmere or worsted yarn with double foot, and the Indiana hosiery of finer glossy woolen yarn, so that they appear as of silk. And while on the subject of durability and usefulness, the so-called Knickerbocker hosiery which are principally used for purposes of sport may be mentioned. This hosiery are very popular, not only in England, but their merits are also causing them to be introduced on the Continent. Such hosiery are made of Scotch mountain wool and dyed in practical colors, such as brown, red, yellow, grey and black. The foot part is not ornamented, but the leg portion is generally checkered and ends above with stripes. The patterns vary generally in the ornamentation of the leg, one of the most recent consisting of checkers formed of lines crossing each other and having in their centre another black square with the ground color of brown.

No decided novelties have appeared in tricot underwear. The most elegant material for both men's and women's underwear is white silk, which is occasionally ornamented with a few delicate color effects, or else has fine waves in pale blue, rose or salmon. In men's colored underwear, full sets of the same color are wanted, steel-grey and tan-brown being liked the best. Woven-in white silk threads not only produce nice color effects, but also con-

tribute to the durability of the article. Cross stripes predominate in men's underwear of every kind, socks, drawers, jackets, undershirts, etc. In conclusion, mention may be made of an invention for which an English manufacturer has received a patent, and which to all appearance will meet with much success. Its purpose is to insert a piece of a light porous stuff under the armhole and to make this much wider, whereby perspiration is largely facilitated. It can be used for every kind of knit jacket or shirt. Another novelty are the bathing suits, upon which great expectations are placed this year, and the designs of which mostly consist of broad colored cross stripes upon a white ground. The tennis caps, which are knit of long stapled coarse wool and are worn in playing lawn tennis, are a fairly important article in England, and deserve a final word of mention.

OUR WOOLEN MANUFACTURERS.

"Invertebrates."

This is the term THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF FABRICS applies to our woolen manufacturers. We have several times said strong things about them ourselves. We withdraw all previous expressions and yield up the palm to our competitor,

It seems a waste of time to tell these woolen workers exactly what you think of them, because, as a rule, they are either too penurious or too backwoodsy to take a trade paper. Even if we sent them a free copy, they wouldn't read it.

We like the Canadian woolen manufacturers because we ourselves are Canadians, but we despise the way they do business in most cases. They are slow, dead slow. If we could devise any method whereby they would be led to a proper sense of their own position and their own importance, we would be glad.

Their utter inability to size up a market is seen in their actions during the past four months. With the raw wool market advancing, they have been cutting prices. The wholesale buyers "pulled their legs," "twisted their noses," and did several other funny little things with them. Now the manufacturers are loaded up with orders, and repeats are being sent in at a rapid rate, but they must pay several cents per pound more for their raw material than they figured upon.

And now the manufacturer weeps.

What might have been!

And yet some of the buyers overreached themselves this year. They juggled and haggled, and finally placed contracts at low prices, but deliveries promise to be slow and irregular. One buyer got badly nipped. He had got the price for some fall goods down so low that the manufacturer failed, rather than make them from wool at its present price. This instance may be duplicated several times before the season is over.

Domestic woolen manufacturers are not making money, and it is their own fault. They allow the wholesale buyer to play them off, one against the other. He uses one to beat down the price of the other. And yet there are enough orders to go around if they would wait for them to be placed. The buyers bear the market, and the manufacturers seem to forget that they might play the same game.

We propose a remedy. Let there be a Woolen Manufacturers' Association, to educate the trade and introduce an *esprit de corps* that would help maintain paying prices.—*Canadian Dry Goods Review.*

A NEW METHOD OF FINISHING CLOTH.

An electrical journal gives a new method of finishing cloth and paper by electricity, which is a German invention. In the finishing of certain kinds of woven fabrics, and obtaining moire and figured effects, it has been the practice to use hydraulic presses and heated plates. The plates are heated in furnaces and subjected, after the fabrics or paper have been placed between them, to hydraulic pressure. The difficulty with this system is that during the operation the plates cool, and the action is not regular. The adoption of a form of electric heating gives exactly the required regularity and constancy of temperature, and makes the process