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THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion; to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades.

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CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	PAGE		PAGE
Among the Mills	272	Four Days with English Factory Girls	267
Automatic Measuring Motion for Looms	276	Good out of Evil	257
Alizarine as a Substitute	279	Hats, Making of	278
Business Notes	273	Hosiery Dyeing	271
Carpet, A Remarkable	274	Indigo Dyeing, Reserve Process for	280
Clay Diagonals	275	Khaki Dyeing, Process of	262
Card Waste	267	Lighting the Mill	269
Cloth Analysis, A Lesson in	268	Mercerizing Cotton Cloth	268
Cotton Doubling—the Twinner	270	Methods in Modern Mills	270
Cotton in Hawaii	269	Mercerizing Cotton Rovings and Yarns, Improved Method of	275
Cotton, Ancient American	266	Peroxide Vats	269
Cotton Growing in Ceylon	265	Printed Goods, Foreign	267
Chemicals and Dyestuffs	280	Personal	274
Cloth and Yarn, New Method of Treating	274	Price Tags on Clothes	278
Cotton, Producing Lisle Thread	280	Prizes for Neatness	270
Finish on	280	Rubber Scrap, Regenerating	270
Dyestuffs are Named, How	277	Silk, Imitation from Wood	270
Dyeing Compound, A New	260	Silk, Substitute for Native	278
Vegetain	260	Spinning Mules, Improvement in	280
Davison, Industrial Exhibition	261	Shoddy, Early History of	260
Dye Testing	263	Textile Design	263
Delegates to Chambers of Commerce	259	Thread by Mouse Power	263
Congress	259	Weavers, Peculiarities of Some	263
Fabric Items	271	Weaving, An Ancient Craft	263
Flax in Canada	274	Wool Markets	262

GOOD OUT OF EVIL.

'Tis an ill-wind that blows nobody good. The selfish greed of those who have been manipulating the cotton market for months past for the benefit of their own pockets, but to the disorganization of trade and to the misery and suffering of hundreds of thousands of working men forced into idleness by the needless closing of the mills in the United States and Great Britain, will give a timely impetus to cotton growing in the British colonies. The creation of large

cotton growing areas within the British Empire will not only render Great Britain comparatively safe from any future attempt to "starve out" the cotton industry of Great Britain and Canada by cutting off supplies of the raw material, but it will give increased diversity of staple which the world's cotton industry needs, and, incidentally, will render it almost impossible for the callous greed of the ring of cotton sharps to wreak the pain and misery which it has brought to so many victims in the past six months. It is very gratifying to learn that the cotton growing movement has taken firm hold in several of the colonies. The manufacturers of the Old Country at last realize that it is to their best interest to encourage it; but they and the colonies that essay the agricultural branch of the movement must expect to encounter initial discouragements through mistakes and lack of experience, and they must exercise patience and perseverance. The cotton industry was not extended in Egypt, the United States and India without local difficulties and failures, but considering the present magnitude of the business in those countries, a few individual failures and set-backs will be a cheap price to pay for the permanent establishment of an industry of such imperial importance.

By good luck, or let us say good Providence, rather than by any special gift of fore-knowledge, in most cases, the Canadian cotton manufacturers found themselves with a good supply of raw cotton at the beginning of the crisis, and so we in Canada have escaped the woes from which British and United States mill owners and operatives have suffered through the cotton sharks, and now it is comforting to note that reports from the South indicate a larger cotton crop this year than for several years past, the grip on cotton in stock being already loosened by the prospect. Because Canada happens to have escaped the pinch this time, our manufacturers should not be insensible to the lesson of the crisis, but should give every moral and material support to the movement to increase and diversify the area of cotton planting, and so render our manufacturers safer, not merely from dangers arising out of hostile politics, but from the no less real dangers of a cotton famine arising out of drought or pest.