



THE TORONTO MARKET.

THE past week has been a busy one among the wholesale dry goods houses, but buying has certainly been less brisk than usual at the time of the fall millinery openings. This, under the circumstances, is not a surprise. The DRY GOODS REVIEW has been counselling retailers not to stock heavily, claiming that the decreased exports to the United States and the financial stringency in that country must necessarily cause a small sympathetic lessening of trade in this country. Retailers seem to have taken the warning, and are buying only for present wants. If the financial horizon brightens, buying to the usual extent will be promptly resumed, and the total trade of the season will thus maintain its magnitude.

Another reason may be advanced to explain this short buying, and that is that trade in medium weight goods last spring was not brisk. The change from real cold weather to real warm weather was very quick, and people changed at once from flannels to muslins. Dealers will accordingly aim to work off their medium weight goods in September.

Trade must be said to be about five or six per cent. less in volume than at the corresponding period of last year, but this amount can easily be recovered if confidence can be restored. In the meantime Canadian dealers are practising a wholesome carefulness.

Millinery has been in good demand. Purchases have been fully up to the average of past seasons in hats and trimmings. In mantling cloths the trade has shown a slight improvement.

Collections continue somewhat slow and this month is not expected to show much improvement. Quite a number of small accounts were settled by visiting buyers, but the total volume of money received in this way was not large. Money has not begun to come in freely from the North-West as yet, but the latest reports show that money is considerably easier in that district. Trade seems to be fairly good in the Maritime Provinces.

The 18th of this month will see a large number of travelers on the road again. The Exhibition will be over and the retailers will be breaking their fall stocks in earnest, and sorting orders and duplicates will be numerous and increasing in volume as October 1st draws nearer.

Mr. Caldecott has been quite ill for a few days but a slowly recovering.

Mr. Donald MacKay has returned from Great Britain after a stay of several months.

Caldecott, Burton & Spence have a shipment of hard finished serges in navy and black, extra wide, and of special value.

W. R. Brock & Co.'s dress goods department is well filled with the season's novelties in hopsacking, tweeds, serges, shot whipcords and other leading fabrics.

Mr. O'Hara woolen buyer for Gordon MacKay & Co. has returned from foreign markets, as Mr. Auld of W. R. Brock & Co.'s woolen department and Mr. Begg of John Macdonald & Co.'s

Two of John Macdonald & Co's buyers left for Europe last week. These are Mr. Dingwell, silks, and Mr. Blackey, haberdashery.

Caldecott, Burton & Spence have had some delay in their shipments of cashmere gloves, but their shipments are now to hand.

Wyld, Grasett & Darling have a line of ladies' cashmere hose, extra heavy, which can be retailed at 50 cents. Ladies' tan and cardinal cashmere hose are shown to retail at the same price.

Silk in colored surahs, shot surahs and tartans suitable for the millinery trade are being shown in great variety by Gordon, Mackay & Co.

John Macdonald & Co. are showing special value in 62-inch damask tabling. This is extra quality, and includes five or six good patterns. A full range of R. B. holland is in stock; their special numbers are still selling at old prices.

Gordon, Mackay & Co. are showing a line of coating serge dress goods at 50c., special value, good range of shades; also a fine assortment of sail cloth and Panama hopsacking dress goods at 50c., 75c. and \$1.

Wyld, Grasett & Darling have a good line of ladies' cashmere gloves to retail at 12½ cents, and a splendid line of gauntlets to retail at 25 cents. These are in blacks and colors, and are decided leaders.

Another line worthy of notice in Gordon, Mackay & Co.'s haberdashery department is that of combs. These are in horn and rubber in the medium and low priced numbers, good styles and the lines that sell.

Alexander & Anderson are showing full lines in black and colored dress silks. Black, colored and fancy velvets are very popular as a trimming, and their range will be found to embrace everything requisite in this line.

John Macdonald & Co. have opened up a large shipment of fancy frillings, and will now be able to meet the great demand for these goods. A shipment of velvet shawls and another of crinoline lining are to hand. Many other lines have been replenished this month.

Wyld, Grasett & Darling are showing this week a full and complete range of table damasks, 47 to 72 inch, in loom and bleached. These are desirable goods, and are part of their contract for lines before the rise. Glass cloths are also restocked in 14 to 32 inch—blues and reds.

The demand for W. R. Brock & Co.'s leading line of ladies' ribbed vests for fall, has been much larger than they anticipated. In order to secure this line, to be retailed at 25c. the popular price—they had to place an immense order, which they felt sure would cover the whole season's requirements, and it is with great satisfaction that they report having already placed large orders for this taking line of goods. Their lines of ladies' vests to retail at 50 and 75c. are also special value, being buttoned fronts, with pearl buttons and ribbon trimmings, and in full sizes.

In their haberdashery department John Macdonald & Co. have made some changes which will astonish visitors. New shelving stands have been erected to display their special holiday stock. In previous seasons this has not been ready until December, but knowing that many buyers visit this city in September and do not have time to call in December, they have made an advance by showing their holiday stock on the days following August 29th. Many visitors will also find suitable souvenirs of their visit in this stock, which comprises purses,