

velvet. On one side is a large, true-lover's knot in cut shell, and further back, resting on the hair, is a semi-coronet of shaded red roses.

Flowers are beginning to be used quite freely again, but the kinds chosen are so far restricted to roses, asters, dahlias, chrysanthemums and violets. All except the violets are mostly used in serried rows of three, five or seven, and are not mounted with foliage. Violets are generally made up into small bunches, and will frequently be combined with wreaths of their own leaves in stamped velvet, seldom of pure green, but with dull-green veinings on gray and mauve grounds. The semicircle of flowers beneath the side of the brim and the cluster of three blossoms, almost at the back, resting on the hair, is once more in high favor. It is in this form that flowers are generally applied to velvet and other fancy hats and toques, their outside decorations seldom including them.

LACE CURTAINS IN THE STATES.

The United States lace curtain industry was founded about 15 years ago, the commencement being made at Fordham, N. Y. Nottingham had up to that time protected her industry very carefully, and as the home of lacemaking naturally was guarded about the various modes of manufacture. She practically had the industry all to herself; her people had grown rich by it. The machinery for producing the laces as well as curtains was all made there. The patterns for weaving the designs; in fact, everything necessary for the manufacture of these goods, could be had there and there alone.

It can, therefore, be very readily surmised that the starting of the industry in this country was not child's play. It has flourished, however, and to-day we have a number of very successful plants whose production exceeds 3,000,000 pair per year.

The manufacturing process is very interesting and intricate. The first outlay is considerable, no other machine being so daintily constructed. The greatest care imaginable must be taken of its delicate parts, any slight accident throwing the entire mechanism out of order. Considerable time is required to initiate a workman and make him skilful in his labor.

The making of the patterns is also an important feature in the manufacture of these goods. When the curtains leave the loom they go to the trimming and examining rooms, where they are cut into pairs, folded and made ready for the market.

This industry has afforded up to the present time employment to a large number of people, and it represents an invested capital of over \$2,500,000.—D.G. Economist.

AN ENGLISH OPINION.

Referring to the retirement from general business of the well-known Toronto wholesale firm of Caldecott, Burton & Spence and the reconstruction of the firm under the style of the Merchants Dyeing and Finishing Company of Toronto, Limited, The London (Eng.) Drapers' Record says: "Mr. Burton, who is well known on this side as a clever and honorable business man, will continue to do the buying in Europe, as he has done for the past thirty years. In his new departure he will have the best wishes of a large circle of friends."

THE STORE ADVERTISING.

Some of the specimens of country advertising which come to the attention of the writer are bad in all respects—poor ink, poor paper, poor presswork, and poor taste in setting up, while others are bad in only one of these respects. Least often is it the fault of the writing of the matter. As regards the display of advertisements, that is a good deal a matter of taste and judgment, and if the printer has not these qualifications he will need to be taught by precept and example.—D.G. Reporter.

THE ERA OF THE SLEEPING BAG.

OUTFITTERS FOR THE MINING REGIONS DOING A LARGE BUSINESS
IN THIS ARTICLE—ITS USEFULNESS TO THE EXPLORER
AND MINER—NEW KINDS IN THE MARKET.

THE sleeping bag is a hero of the hour. The rush to Klondike and other Canadian mining regions is causing a great demand for this article. British Columbian and other western outfitters are selling them rapidly, and the spring will certainly see an enormous sale of these in Canada.

For travel in cold regions nothing ensures health and comfort so perfectly. Nansen, in his journey, used the sleeping bag. When he and his companion Johansen left the Fram to go alone toward the North Pole they used sleeping bags. These were made from reindeer skin on board the Fram by one of the crew. They were imperfectly made, and Nansen records that he had to abandon the one-man sleeping bag for a kind that would contain the two men. But it is evident from the narrative that the bags were not satisfactory, because they were hastily constructed without much choice of material.

The Canadian sleeping bags are avoiding all these mistakes, and the greatest care has been taken to meet all the conditions of weather that may arise. The sleeping bags being made by Millichamp, Coyle & Co. are meeting with great success. They are strong, well made, waterproof, and roll up in small space. When not employed for sleeping purposes they can be used for putting extra clothing into. They are made of different materials and at various prices. The outfitter who wants to suit various demands may get fuller information from Millichamp, Coyle & Co.

A sleeping bag which A. A. Allan & Co. have made is of fur. The flap buttons over and the opening is laced up by the occupant after he gets inside, thus insuring a complete covering.

STYLES IN ENGLISH CARPETING.

The Shuttle, of Kidderminster, England, refers to trade matters as follows: The tone of the home market is healthy. With the continued hardening of the raw material, buyers are beginning to realize the necessity of placing their orders, and manufacturers are in some instances receiving larger commissions from their representatives on the road than was the case this time last year. Self-colors are rather more in demand, but there is no special run on any particular style. The prevailing tendency towards the Chippendale and Louis Seize styles leads to many more enquiries among dealers for harmonizing carpets. Of course this applies more to the larger upholstering houses doing the leading business than to the drapery establishments. There can be no doubt that patterns of the Arts and Crafts School are in demand among a certain number of cultivated people, but it is not with this class that the bulk of the trade is done. The artistic tone of the carpet trade has been distinctly raised of late. All the reports received at home make reference to this fact. Carpet makers have risen to the occasion, and the patterns now "on circuit" are, for the most part, novel, striking and superb both in tone and finish.

THE PASSION FOR THE BARGAIN COUNTER.

"Did you hear what Whimpton's little boy said when they showed him the twins?"

"No; what was it?"

"He said: 'There! Mamma's been gettin' bargains again.'"

Miss Sadie Ryan, who has had charge of the corset department for Smallman & Ingram, London, has secured a position with Robertson, Lindsay & Wilcox, St. Thomas.