

JAN 3 - 1922

CANADIAN Journal of Fabrics

THE JOURNAL OF THE Textile Trades of Canada.

Vol. XVI.

TORONTO AND MONTREAL, JANUARY, 1899

No. 1.

Canadian Journal of Fabrics

A Journal devoted to Textile manufactures and the Dry Goods and kindred trades

Subscription Canada and United States \$1.00 per year Great Britain, 5/-
Advertising rates on application.

Offices: 62 Church Street, Toronto, and the Fraser Building, Montreal.

E. B. BIGGAR { BIGGAR, SAMUEL & CO. } R. R. SAMUEL
PUBLISHERS

Agency in Europe: Palace Bros. 3, Poppen's Court, Fleet St., London, Eng.
Toronto Telephone, 1392 Montreal Telephone, 2589

Business correspondence should be addressed to Montreal; but cuts, news items and editorial correspondence to Toronto; cuts from abroad should be sent by post wherever possible, not by express; changes of advertisements should be in our hands not later than the 10th of each month to ensure insertion.

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. Fourth edition now in hand

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BIGGAR, SAMUEL & CO., Publishers,
Fraser Building Montreal

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Editorial.

THE ADAPTABILITY OF WOOL.

The following is a lecture delivered by J. W. Turner before the Bradford Textile Society. He said that the wool industry was now so subdivided that the manufacturer could buy yarns and go to work upon them guided by the highest technical education, the spinner, on the other hand, had to be guided by what was known as "the rule of thumb." Cotton, silk, and flax could be compelled to take the forms desired by the manufacturer, but wool

would only go its own way, and required "humoring." There was no sharp dividing line between the various classes of wool. Many qualities of merino, for example, could be made into either woolen cloth, worsted coatings, worsted stuffs, or flannel. Leicester wool or colonial cross bred, when combed, produced a top which was available for almost any purpose except the production of woolen goods, whilst the noil, or short wool, obtained from the same process could only be used according to its fineness, for the manufacture of fancy woolen goods, flannels, blankets or hosiery. Merino wool, when combed, produced a proportionately long wool or top, suitable for the manufacture of the finer grades of worsted coatings, cashmeres, and Italians, but the noils were only available for making fine woolen-faced cloths, fine flannels, and fine felt hats. It was an old saying that "You cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear." It was equally true that a lustre Orleans piece could not be made out of pure merino wool, or worsted coating out of Lincoln hogg. To take pure lustre as an example of the way in which wools could be used, the chief sources were mohair and alpaca, which could be supplemented by the wools of Lincoln, Yorkshire and Nottingham. It must be noted in that connection that white and delicate colors were made out of Mohair and English lustre wools, whilst blacks, browns, and melanges could be made of alpaca, llama, or other goats' hair. Leaving the range of pure lustre, there was a large production of goods known as demi lustre, made of such wools as Irish, North, Kent, etc., and colonial crossbreds, which made serges, cords, reps, poplins, various fancies, and lastings. Amongst those might be mentioned the coarser kinds of demi-lustre, such as Gloucester, Oxford, Warwick, and Northampton, and sometimes Devon and Cornish. These were manufactured into camlets, lastings, braids, and buntings. Next in order came the mixed breeds, which formed a very large proportion of the growth of the United Kingdom, i.e., wools which contained in a greater or less degree a cross of the Scotch black faced or mountain wools. Those could be made into almost any thing. The pure black-faced usually found its way into carpets, but the various crossbreds were accounted for by the manufacture of moreens, damasks, and Scotch mixtures. To the same class belonged the Cheviots and the superior classes of Welsh and Irish mountain wools, which were made into goods of a quite unique character. Large quantities of the so-called Cheviot goods, however, were produced from the crossbred wools of Australia and Buenos