

IN PRIMARY MARKETS.

THE LYONS SILK TRADE.

MESSRS. CHABRIERES, MOREL & CO. report as follows on the Lyons silk market: The volume of business transacted in April has been smaller than during the preceding month, whilst prices have shown some weakness due to the approach of the crop, which, as frequently occurs, renders buyers more cautious and holders more desirous to lighten their stocks. On the side of consumption there is, however, no perceptible reduction. Manufacturers, indeed, have received fresh orders, looms are fully engaged, and the figures of the Lyons condition-house for the first four months of the year, amounting to 2,224,400 kilos., against 1,916,200 in 1894, are a confirmation of the improved position of our article. The weather so far has been favorable everywhere, and the rearing of silkworms is progressing satisfactorily. In Spain they are reaching the fourth stage; in France and Italy they are between the hatching and the second stage; in Syria they approach the third. It is reported that in all these countries the quantity of seeds put to hatch will be somewhat inferior to that of last year, but it should be added that last year's quantity was in excess of the average; therefore this year's seems to be very near the customary supply.

JAPAN'S EXPORT TRADE.

Japan, since she adopted French silk weaving looms, has made rapid strides. Her export trade in silk goods (habutae) since 1888 is as follows:

Year	No. of Hiki, 2 1/2 lbs.	Value, Yen.
1888	7,145	51,624
1889	44,772	405,641
1890	57,224	784,199
1891	136,276	1,175,770
1892	414,435	2,835,614
1893	499,980	3,534,421
1894	571,991	5,076,127

COTTON STIFF AT MANCHESTER.

The Manchester cotton market is reported on May 16th as follows: "The cotton market has exhibited few features of interest during the past week. The Agricultural Bureau report produced little effect, but the sudden drop in port receipts has attracted attention, showing, as it does, that the present crop will barely reach 10,000,000 bales. There is a pause in the upward movement at present, but fourpence is still looked for within the next few months. Egyptian cotton is rather lower in price, and in very small demand. The closing of mills has led to a decreased consumption of this class of cotton; but the supply is still insufficient for even these restricted requirements, and, notwithstanding present depression, a further advance is probable before the next crop is to hand."

On May 27 the Liverpool quotation was 3 7/8d., showing that fourpence may yet be the price of raw cotton in England. On the same day the quotation in New York was 7 5-16 cents for Uplands and 7 9-16 cents for Gulf Middlings.

NOTTINGHAM LACES ARE QUILT.

Says The Textile Mercury Nottingham correspondent. "The Americans are not ordering lace to anything like the extent that was anticipated. The colonial demand is quiet, and business with the Continental countries is still comparatively small. The fine weather has not yet had the effect of bringing any large quantity of repeated orders from home buyers, merchants having still pretty good stocks on hand. In the millinery lace department silk goods are still very low, and machinery

is very indifferently employed. Valenciennes and other descriptions of cotton laces continue to sell to a moderate extent."

DRESS GOODS.

The N.Y. Journal of Commerce of May 28 says: "A prominent dress goods jobber, discoursing upon the outlook for fall, takes a very hopeful view of conditions as they exist. He already has a good force of travelers out seeking engagements for fall, and at the rate they are sending orders in he will soon be far ahead of any previous season at the corresponding time. A feature of these orders is the good call for solid black goods, particularly in fancy mohair weaves, giving further indications of a strong black goods season. Rough effects in both boucle and bourette weaves are promised well of, these running to the warm colors in mixtures, of which red will predominate. Small Scotch plaid effects are being taken liberally for tailoring suitings, these, too, running to rough weaves. In low-priced dress fabrics a leading thing for present trade is Nankin Costume Crepe."

THE RETURN OF PLAIN MATERIALS.

The spring and summer season being about over with first-hand people, the most interesting feature at present is to watch the increasing tendency of import buyers toward plain materials for next fall.

There are but few jobbing and retail houses accustomed to placing import orders that have not included plain goods in their selections for next fall.

This being so prominent a feature for next autumn, it would be well for all buyers to keep a sharp lookout for the best values and place their orders with concerns that are certain not to disappoint them in making deliveries.

The experiences of the present season, as far as the deliveries of crepons were concerned, ought to serve as a good reminder for next autumn as regards plain materials.

The character of plain goods likely to have chief call next autumn will be heavy-wale diagonal serges, Henriettas and cashmeres. Broadcloths, too, are expected to loom into more pronounced prominence than for some years.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET.

The Boston Commercial Bulletin, of May 25, said: "The sales of the week are 1,557,000 lbs. domestic and 884,000 lbs. foreign, against 1,519,000 lbs. domestic and 1,651,400 lbs. foreign last week and 1,963,500 lbs. domestic and 67,000 lbs. foreign for the same week last year.

"The sales to date show a decrease of 687,000 lbs. domestic and an increase of 15,667,100 lbs. foreign from the sales to the same date in 1893.

"The receipts to date show a decrease of 11,225 bales domestic and an increase of 90,198 bales foreign.

"The market is dull but uneasy; buyers are paying in the west more than the equivalent of eastern quotations. Domestic wool on hand is limited to a very poor selection. Rather than pay the higher prices demanded for new wools buyers are turning more than ever to foreign stock. Up to date 14,900,000 pounds of Australian alone have been sold in Boston against 3,500,000 lbs. during the same time last year. Cape wool at 30 to 32c. clean is now being experimented with extensively as a substitute for American clothing fleece and crossbreds. Australian and South American are being substituted for the new Kentucky medium wools. They cost 25 to 27c. clean, against 28 to 30c. clean for Kentucky."