

CREVELD.—Retailers are not buying, and if there had been any desire to do much business it has been quieted by the hot weather. Wholesale distributors are doing very little business in consequence, and this is felt by the manufacturers, who report an almost total absence of reassortment orders for fall delivery. The cloak trade at this time usually keeps up a fair demand for silks, but this year seems to be an exception, and, except plushes, which sell well for ready delivery, the business with the garment trade is rather slow. Linings are not selling well for this time of the year. This dullness in the demand for fall goods is not due to any unfavorable conditions, but to the fact that the opening of fall business being a little later this year the market is still asleep. But the manufacturing situation is in no way affected by this, and while manufacturers find it almost impossible to secure advance orders for fall delivery, it is easy for them to obtain contracts for next spring. Good orders have been placed for dress and trimming silks for spring, and buyers seem anxious to secure novelties. Enough orders have been placed lately to guarantee constant work for the looms for a considerable time to come. The looms devoted to ribbons are well engaged and orders for next spring have been placed in which the better grades of ribbons have taken a good share. Tie and umbrella silks have also received more attention on orders for future delivery, but the orders are individually small. Evening silks are still favored, but the order season for these is likely to close soon, although the looms have work ahead on these goods also. Wool-filled bengalines have received attention. While the distributing activity is still slow, production is active. With the opening of fall trade wholesale distributors are likely to also feel an improvement. In velvets and plushes business is fair. Millinery velvets are in good demand. Changeable velvets sell well and are scarce. Mantle plushes are selling regularly. Velvet ribbons are in good request at firmer prices.

ZURICH.—The silk goods market is more active and the prospects for the future are becoming still brighter. As far as the demand is concerned, manufacturers have little to complain about, but considering the recent advances in the prices of raw material there is room for improvement in the selling price of goods. This is especially the case for plain fabrics, like surahs and merveilleux. These are in regular demand, but do not give much satisfaction as to values. Good supplementary orders for next spring have been placed for taffetas. The looms are well engaged and there is no fear of work being scarce between now and the middle of next spring. Black silks are better favored and stocks of rhadamés, satin de Lyon, merveilleux and surahs have decreased. Damassés are good sellers.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL FOR JAPAN.

E. Jerome Dyer, from Melbourne, has been in Japan for the past two or three months, trying to convince the Japanese that there is more virtue—and profit—in conquering countries by commerce than by fire and the sword. Mr. Dyer was the bearer of a large collection of Australian products from the Government of Victoria to the Emperor of Japan, including a large collection of various wools from the Wool Brokers' Association of Sydney. They were distributed amongst the different mills in Japan, and left on permanent exhibition at the Bureau of Commerce and the Chambers of Tokyo and Osaka. The manufacture of cotton goods, however, has monopolized the attention of those who might otherwise have developed the woolen industry; but the war has most strikingly proved the value of woolen clothing, and during the last eight months the output of the Japanese mills has been about doubled. It is said by the leading Japanese that after this war the woolen manufacturing industry will make great strides in Japan, especially as there is a general feeling that it is advisable to go slower with cotton spinning. In 1891 Japan imported wool to the value of 206,500 yen; in 1892, 302,500 yen; and in 1893, 425,000 yen worth. Of the total for 1893, 247,306 yen worth came from Australia, and in 1894 the import of this article from Australia rose to the value of 380,673 yen. (The total imports for 1894 are not yet compiled.) The mill owners of Japan are convinced that this

industry has scarcely yet started in Japan as compared to what it will be, to supply the great local demand and that which is expected from China, apart from the trade of foreign markets which will be competed for. When it is remembered that Japan imports about 8,000,000 yen (about \$1,000,000) worth of woolen goods, and that it is in a position, with labor at from 4c. to 8c. per day, unlimited working hours, and cheap motive power, to manufacture successfully for outside markets, the prospects of Australian wool in Japan look decidedly bright.

STAINS AND THEIR REMOVAL.

It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to say that stains should be treated as speedily as possible after their first appearance when once dry they are more difficult to remove, requiring both time and perseverance. Paint should be instantly wiped off, grease on wood, stone, or carpet should be congealed before it has time to penetrate, by throwing cold water over it. Tea, coffee, ink, wine, and fruit stains will disappear in a quarter of the time if they can be attended to while wet. Spots on colored material must not be rubbed, but dabbed over and over again until they disappear. Rubbing roughens the surface and often leaves a whitened circle almost as unsightly as the original stain. The dabbing is best done by covering a finger with an old handkerchief frequently changed, and great care should be taken to confine the operation to the area of the stain itself, and not to extend the damage by damping and dabbing the surrounding material. In the treatment of stains to know what you mean to do, and to do it quickly and neatly, is more than half the battle. We will take stains on white washing materials first:

For acids, tie up a bit of washing soda in the stained part, make a lather of soap and cold soft water, immerse the linen and boil until the spot disappears.

For anilines, wet with acetic acid, apply diluted chloride of lime, and wash out carefully.

Apple and pear stains may be removed by soaking in paraffin for a few hours before washing.

Blood, if fresh, is removed by soaking for twelve hours in cold water, then washing in tepid water. If the mark still remains, cover it with a paste made of cold water and starch, and expose to the sun for a day or two. Old stains require iodide of potassium diluted with four times its weight of water.

For coffee and chocolate, pour soft boiling water through the stains, and while wet hold in the fumes of burning sulphur.

Fruit stains can be treated in the same way if fresh, but if old, rub them on both sides with yellow soap, cover thickly with cold-water starch, well rub in, and expose to sun and air for three or four days. Then rub off the mixture and repeat the process if necessary.

Grass stains are removed by alcohol.

Ink requires milk for its removal, the spot should be soaked and gently rubbed. A fresh stain will disappear quickly, but an old one may need soaking in milk for twelve hours.

For iron mould, spread the stained part on a pewter plate set over a basin of boiling water, and rub the spots with bruised sorrel leaves, then wash the article in soft warm suds. Or, cover the spots with a paste made of lemon juice, salt, powdered starch, and soft soap, and expose to the sunlight.

Mildew can be removed by the above paste, or by simply wetting the spots, covering them with powdered chalk, and bleaching on the grass.

Paints must disappear before turpentine and perseverance.

Scorched linen can be restored if the threads are not injured. Peel, slice and extract the juice from two onions, add half a pint of vinegar, half an ounce of curd soap, two ounces of Fuller's earth, boil these well, and when cool, spread over the scorch, let it dry on, and then wash out the garment.

Tar can be taken off with petroleum.

Tea stains yield to the action of boiling water poured through them from a height, or to glycerine.

Wine stains, if old, treat like old fruit stains. If fresh, table salt spread over the spots while wet will neutralize the damage.