

# Canadian Journal of Fabrics

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## Canadian Journal of Fabrics

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### 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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## Editorial.

### THE COTTON CROP OF THE UNITED STATES.

Secretary Hester of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange has just issued his report for the year ending August 31, in which he claims that the crop will aggregate 11,000,000 bales, which shows an increase over the crop of 1896-97 of 2,442,030 bales and of 4,042,648 over that of 1895-96. The average commercial value of the crop has been \$28.62 per bale, against \$30.76 last year, \$41.09 the year before, and \$30 in 1894-95, and the total value of the crop compares with the previous two years as follows.

	Bales	Value
1897-98.....	11,199,994	\$320,552,606
1896-97. ....	8,757,964	321,924,834
1895-96 .....	7,157,346	294,095,347

It is claimed that many of the northern mills were running at a loss. The south, on the contrary, has done well. It has added more spindles, and its increase in number of bales consumed is greater than has ever yet been recorded in any one year. The increase of spindles in the south since 1890 has been 2,443,964, while those in New England have increased 2,207,918, showing a gain for the south over New England of 236,046 spindles. Of the gain for New England, Massachusetts contributes 1,904,718 spindles, or a little less than an average of 240,000 spindles a year for the past eight years.

### THE CANADIAN WOOLEN MANUFACTURER.

The Canadian trade is in a more favorable position than for some time past. The yield of the crop just gathered is very large, and the fact that it has been housed without any serious damage has imparted a brisker tone to a market already in a healthy state. The competition from Great Britain is not going to be so serious a thing as many woolen manufacturers anticipated, and where it might otherwise have been felt by them new machinery and improved processes will render it harmless. Many of our woolen and knitting mills have been running day and night since May last.

### TRADE IN THE UNITED STATES

The trade conditions in the United States are far from satisfactory, though there are signs of improvement, the war caused a feverish activity in many lines, but now that it is all over except the paying of money and health, there has been a decided reaction. The following is a statement of the case from the columns of a prominent contemporary. "A great deal of machinery is lying idle to-day, a great many mills are practically out of commission. The situation among woolen manufacturers is in a sense somewhat critical. The market is suffering very largely from the sins committed a year ago and six months ago. Had there been less speculation in goods, had there been a nearer approach to legitimate demands of consumption, to day there would not be the distress which is apparent in the manufacturing situation."

Among the more favorable features of the situation are the heavy imports of raw silk and the indication of