TRADE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

OBVIOUS is the fact that Great Britain at present is in great trouble over the miners' strike, the factories cannot get coal and hence they must close. This throws thousands of operatives out of work. The situation is serious. The strike cannot be settled before October 15th, and after that it will be a month before the mines will be in good working order. If coal is scarce now what will it be in six weeks.

The Drapers' Record of Sept. 23rd says: "The effect of the strike is naturally becoming more and more acute, as week after week passes without a settlement of the dispute, and a general resumption of work. Reports are continually arriving that, owing to the increased price of coal and the danger of the supply ceasing altogether in a short time, the expedient of reducing the hours of work in mills is being resorted to, in order to make the stock of fuel that is available last as long as possible. Great hardships are being inflicted upon the operatives by this enforced idleness during a very considerable portion of the week."

MANCHESTER TRADE.

The Textile Mercury of Sept. 23rd says: "There has been very little change brought to the surface in the condition of our leading industries during the week. The salient features existing before have remained unchanged, or, when altered, have become more strongly accentuated. The difficulties brought upon the cotton trade, as well as other industries of the country, by the colliers' strike have grown more acute, and as far as prospects go must surely, if not obviated soon, bring a large proportion of the cotton trade to a stand. The steady advance in the price of coal, and the loss in which it is involving every branch of the textile trades, must soon cause them to pause. The extra expenditure entailed upon them amounts to £4,000 to £5,000 annually.. As is well known, this in very many cases is far and away above the profits they have been making. It can, therefore, only go on for a limited time, as no compensating advantage is accruing from any improvement in prices of goods produced.

DUNDEE JUTE MARKET.

The Textile Mercury prints the following Dundee report of Sept. 20th:—

"The market remains very far from satisfactory to the Dundee manufacturers. Calcutta still wires advancing prices. First, £14 2s. 6d.; business done at £13 15s. American advices speak of continued depression there, with no advance in prices. Rio is also a market of importance which still shows no signs of improvement, and political troubles increase the depression. In these circumstances one hears on all sides of still further stoppages of machinery. The leading firms, as well as the smaller men, either go short time or put off frames and looms Forfar follows suit, and there is still wanting any change of importance. The wish rather than the hope of an early change for the better is all one hears expressed.

"Flax is reported to be dearer, but spinners here refuse to follow it. They prefer to run short time. Russian reports are more favorable, and as the crop is no doubt large, sellers, it is hoped, will soon be more reasonable in their demands. Flax yarns are still drooping; there is no adequate demand for them. Bleachers are offering good spins under spinners' quotations always an unpleasant feature. Tow yarns are also quiet, and the tendency is still against sellers. Linens remain inactive. The home market for linens is utterly spoiled by the labor troubles in England.

On Sept. 27 the report was as follows:—"There has been considerable excitement in the market this week. Calcutta continues to report still dearer jute. For firsts £15 is now asked, and some spinners have been forced to buy for early arrival. There is a general impression, however, that the large business done has been by dealers rather than consumers, and that the whole situation is again rapidly tending towards the inflation of last year, which led to such disastrous results. In the meantime the fact is that the value of jute is about 15s. a ton higher on the week. *For all this there is no adequate reason in the demand* for goods. From all the consuming markets the news is unfavorable."

IRELAND GETTING THE LINEN TRADE.

Ireland seems to be getting the linen trade. The Textile Mercury says: "To show the decline of the trade in England, it may be mentioned that the number of spindles in the flax factories fell from 344,308 in 1861 to 118,508 in 1890, although the power-looms increased from 2,160 to 4,472. In Scotland, the number of flax spindles has declined, but the power-looms are more numerous. In Ireland both spindles and power-looms have increased enormously. The number of operatives in Scotland in 1890 was about the same as in 1861. In England there was a serious decline, and in Ireland an increase of about 100 per cent. These are facts which confirm the view taken above of the position of affairs in the linen trade.

"The development which has taken place in some branches of the Irish linen trade is in fact wonderful. Men are living to-day who can remember when there was not 100 damask looms in Belfast, although there are now single firms with from 600 to 700 each. Union damasks, dowlases, glass cloths, and other goods, are produced in enormous quantities by Irish houses."

LONDON WOOL SALES.

Good prices are being realized at the London wool sales. The Draper's Record says:—"There is a good attendance of home buyers at the fourth series of London sales of colonial wool, which commenced on Tuesday, September 19th, and the foreign trade is also fairly represented. The catalogues, according to Messrs. Helmuth Schwartze, contained a somewhat indifferent selection of wool, but the biddings have, nevertheless, been made with fair spirit, prices for Australian wool ruling, for both merino and crossbred, on a par with the closing rates of last series. Cape wool has met also with good demand and realised former prices. The arrivals in time comprise 189,113 bales (151,487 bales Australian, and 37,626 bales Cape). Deducting what has been forwarded direct, but adding the wools held over from last series, the total available amounts about 219,000 bales, against 332,000 bales last year. Messrs. Jacomb point out that the total available quantity is considerably less than we have been accustomed to of late years in September-October, being 116,000 bales less than at the same time last year. As at present arranged the series will last till October 11."

The Kingston Hosiery Company's term of exemption from taxation has expired, and it asks for a renewal. It pays $50,000 per year in wages.