



Fall orders are coming in fairly strong, and buyers seem to have more confidence now than a month ago. Ready-made clothing is not selling very well on account of the accumulated stock in retailers' stores, and on account of the great competition, especially in the cities. Lawn tennis goods and light materials have been enjoying nearly all the trade. But the backwardness of the season has prevented the full demand for these from being felt as yet. Most of the wholesale houses have been getting in their stock of worsteds, and the range this season is very extensive. Fancy summer vests in drilled goods and cashmeres are the taking thing for summer wear, and are being sold very extensively. These are quite dressy, and being also comfortable during the warm season, the strong demand is not surprising. They are shown in great variety, stripes and checks predominating. There is one point in the trade that cannot be overlooked, and that is the continued strong demand for medium and lower-grade of woollens. These tweeds are having strong repeat orders from the wholesalers to the factories, and the sale for them is quite good.

#### CLOTHING IN MONTREAL.

The clothing trade is much the same as it was last month, and the boom will not take place till next month. Travellers are out sorting up and sending in fair reports. The trade on the whole now is out of its season. The factories are all working hard on fall and winter goods, but very few firms in the retail trade buy so far ahead. The prospects however for a good fall trade look bright as trade all round has been good so far.

#### BOYS' AND CHILDRENS' CLOTHING.

Very few journals, says the Economist, pay any attention to children's clothing, and very seldom mention their styles, while ladies' and men's attire is never missed. Every season brings fresh styles and materials for the young, both boys and girls. New shades, new bindings, trimmings, etc., all these things go to make the children look pretty and feel comfortable. The market was never so full of new and original styles and designs as now. Little fellows of from two to three years can now be breeched in very pretty garments. Others with long dresses, skirts and kilts. A very striking costume is the Russian one-piece dress, which buttons down the left side, and with cords to match. The Zouave is another wonderfully boyish looking garment, although not one of the latest, it is strikingly pretty. Gingham frocks with rolled collars have been much worn, while cotton and Bedford cords have had great demand throughout the country. Just now many jacket suits of cloth are seen of pique, flannel, gingham, etc., with a round or square cut jacket, box pleated or gathered skirt, and a loose blouse shirt waist of cambric, etc. Many of these are worn by children from two to three years, and sailor waists and suits. Great allowance is now made in dressing little ones, as their age and size do not always agree, and it is noticed by many that boys are not so long in kilt suits as heretofore. There is a greater variety in kilts now than ever, and to carry a full line of these goods means an immense stock.

#### CHEVIOTS, GOOD AND BAD.

It is seldom that the clothing trade has developed such a craze for any particular fabric as has been seen this year for cheviots. These goods have in a large measure supplanted the demand for worsteds, and have placed the woolen industry in a worse condition than it has known for many years. The demand at first seemed legitimate enough, for the public required a winter suit that would wear well and retail at from \$12 to \$15. The worthlessness of certain lines of cotton-backed worsteds had proved the inability of these goods to fill the requirement, and cheviots were the only goods that would supply the need. An immense demand sprung up, and some genuine and wearable goods were sold, but imitations followed, and the very composition of the cheviot cloth opened out a very wide field for the lowering of the standard without much risk of detection. All acquainted with the nature of cheviots know their peculiarity. Production is almost as unlimited as the facilities for adulteration. Woollen yarn may be made of any description of wool and its compounds.

The condition of the market to-day reflects these features. Some original grades have been lowered by the greed of the manufacturer, and a large number of cancellations has been the result. Imitations have been put on the market that possess no intrinsic value where wearing qualities are concerned, and some of these in cotton warps are selling at less than 4 cents per ounce of their weight, and in all-wool at less than 5 cents per ounce. Anyone with the best knowledge of the trade knows of what such goods can alone be composed. They look well and appear a marvel of cheapness, but an examination shows their weight to have been increased by the addition of flocking, and while professing to offer 22 ounces of warp and filling, practically contain only 16 ounces, and the other six ounces is nothing but loading. Apparently they seem strong, but a sudden pressure on any part will cause a rent, while the face will be off in a week's wear and the poverty of the goods shown.

Such a cloth has really no intrinsic value, and cannot fail to damage the reputation of every grade. The public demand cheap clothing, but they demand value as well, and the value of cheviots depends more on construction than on their appearance, as few can discern from the latter the character of the former. This paupering to cheapness is a serious danger which should be no longer disregarded by either manufacturers or cutters of cheviot cloth.—Dry Goods Economist.

#### HOW THE NICK IN THE LAPEL OF THE COAT CAME INTO USE.

The following ingenious explanation has been offered: When Napoleon I first felt the sway of ambition he tried to implicate General Moreau in Pichegru's conspiracy. Moreau had been Bonaparte's superior and was very popular, but under the circumstances, with the "man of mystery" in power, it was not safe to express publicly and sympathy with Moreau; so his admirers and supporters quietly agreed to nick their coat lapels to show their fellowship. The outlines of the coat form an M, like this,  $\Sigma$ . Moreau was exiled by Napoleon and lived in Morrisville, Pa., for some years.