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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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THE LONDON WOOL SALES.

During the first series of London wool sales, whose opening we described in last issue, out of a net available total of 184,500 bales, 173,000 have been catalogued and 11,000 left over, which, with 8,000 with-drawn, leaves 19,000 to be carried forward. Of 171,000 bales sold it is estimated that 83,000 have been taken on British account, 82,000 Continent and 6,000 America. The opening sale was marked with active competition from all sections of the trade, including America, and an advance of 5 to 7½ per cent. on December rates was established for both merinos and crossbreds. As the sales progressed merinos were

particularly in request on British and Continental account, especially medium and inferior combing sorts, values of which soon hardened into an advance of 10 per cent. since then they have met with strong competition and final rates show no falling off from that level. Fine and superior greasy and scoured parcels have met with a ready sale throughout on home account, and have sold in sellers' favor, closing about 5 per cent in advance of December rates. A feature has been the continued spirited demand from Continental houses for fine locks and pieces, which all through the series were about the dearest wools on the market. Well grown and medium greasy crossbreds only were in request by American representatives, and such was the eagerness with which they operated that prices soon rose 10 to 15 per cent above December parity. The demand slackened somewhat during the last day or two, but buying was resumed on closing day, the prices realized showing the above advance. The finer qualities, in sympathy with merinos, met with strong support at 5 to 10 per cent. improvement, principally on home account.

COST OF KNITTING HOSE.

The improvements made in knitting machinery in the last few years have been very great, the resulting economies in production seem little short of marvellous. The following figures of the cost of producing hosiery, 50 dozen per day, men's half hose, have been supplied us by R. Schofield, Toronto. The cost of producing men's hose is as follows:—

Knitting	\$0 05 per doz
Topping	0 04 "
Looping	0 05 "
Knitting tops	0 00½ "
Dyeing	0 03 per lb.
Wet boarding	0 00¼ per doz
Pressing	0 01 "
Pressing and folding	0 01 "
Winding	0 01 "
Mending	0 01 "

To this 10 cents per dozen is to be added for general expenses, though in some mills general expenses are reduced to 3 cents per dozen. There are elements of the cost of hosiery production to day in the mills which set the prices in the market. A few hundred years ago the price depended upon the amount that a hand knitter working with four knitting needles could produce in a day. More recently an important factor in the market was the product of the hand-operated knitting machines, but these