haps they are not all the biggest mills in the country, but they make money and will make more.

If some economical method could be found by which mills running on absolutely pure stock could unite to have a general trade-mark that would stand for quality as does the word "Canadian" on a cheese box in the English market, we might export woolen goods to a large extent. A staff of designers might be employed by such an "all-wool" combination, which would produce designs equal to any in the world, and by assigning different lines to the mills best adapted to produce them, thus save a great deal on changing over.

Canadian woolens are sold now in the United States. But it is as British goods they are sold, not as Canadian. If we had a system of trade-marks and maintained the purity of our goods we could get good prices and have a steady demand.

TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

The following are the sterling values of the textile imports into Canada from Great Britain for November and the 11 months ending November, 1897-1898:

	Month of November.		Eleven months ending November.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
Wool	£ 9,285	£ 3,321	£40,261	£35,978
Cotton piece-goods	26,699	24,176	342,578	427,044
Jute piece-goods	9,513	14,856	117,550	125,035
Linen piece-goods	7,787	9,743	107,320	136,298
Silk, lace	441	491	5,088	6,681
" articles partly of	1,902	2,374	19,269	29,414
Woolen fabrics	6,109	8,806	208,354	270,695
Worsted fabrics	27,646	23,804	519,294	531,558
Carpets	9,097	5,454	129,890	165,906
Apparel and slops	17,538	15,115	283,117	309,519
Haberdashery	5,127	4,670	132,314	136,031

The following are the sterling values of the textile imports from Great Britain to Canada in December 1897 and 1898 --

	December.	
	1897.	1898.
Wool	£7,757	£3,339
Cotton piece-goods	57,309	60,946
Jute piece-goods	8,369	8,859
Linen piece-goods	13,448	12,561
Silk, lace	374	922
" articles partly of	1,286	2,805
Woolen fabrics	11,430	18,116
Worsted fabrics	59,954	51,253
Carpets	9,463	12,549
Apparel and slops	17,415	12,843
Haberdashery	5,787	5,636

COCOA, COIR AND STRAW MATTING.

Cocoa and Coir.—Cocoa or coir matting is made from the fibrous rind or husk of the cocoanut. The cocoanut palm tree, which produces these nuts, is cultivated in Ceylon, the Malabar coast, the Straits Settlements, the islands of the Eastern Archipelago, the West Indies, Central America, Brazil, and Zanzibar, Africa. The husk, which contains the fibers, is removed from the nut by pressing it upon a sharp spike of iron or hard wood fixed in the ground. The husks are then placed in soaking tanks, which are filled with fresh water. If the trees are on or near the seashore, the nuts are simply buried in holes dug in the sand, so that the salt water may reach and macerate them. The soaking renders the fibers more pliable and facilitates their separation from the cellular tissue of the husk. This is accomplished by beating the macerated husks with hard wooden clubs or mallets. The fiber, or coir, as it is called, is then arranged in loose rovings or sheaves, which are twisted into yarn by being rolled in a peculiar manner between the palms of the hand. All these operations are performed by the natives in countries where the cocoanut palm tree grows. The separation of the fiber from the nut and the twisting of the yarn, occupy them through the rainy season, when no other work can be done. The cost of native labor is so low and the yarn spun by machinery is so much inferior to the hand-made product that all attempts to introduce machines in this work have proved impracticable, says a writer in the Carpet Trade Review.

The first process to which the yarn is subjected in the matting factory is bleaching, and, as all the skeins are not of equal texture and do not have the same color after bleaching, they are assorted according to shade or tint and texture. The yarn intended for the warp is reeled upon bobbins about a foot in length, and these are placed on a frame at the back of the matting loom. Each thread passes separately through a reed, which keeps it in place, and then between a pair of iron rollers with roughened surfaces, which hold it tightly. The woven fabric also passes between a similar pair of rollers, whose purpose is to give the tension desired. The shuttle used is quite large, and the yarn for the filling is wound on a cob large enough to fit tightly in the shuttle. No spindle is used and the yarn unwinds from the end. The matting loom is operated by power, and, unlike most other kinds of power-looms, it requires constant and arduous labor to make it weave properly. This is owing to the difficulty in giving the necessary tension to the weft threads. The yarn is so coarse and harsh that every contrivance for tightening the weft sufficiently for a perfect selvedge tends to interfere seriously with the working of the shuttle. The workman is therefore obliged to catch the thread behind the shuttle every time it passes through and draw it tight, an operation which considerably retards the speed of the loom.

Ordinary cocoanut matting is woven with a certain kind of twill in a three-leaved harness, two extra threads running in special loops, alternating up and down for selvedge. In Calcutta-made matting this twill is reversed every five or six inches, so as to give the fabric a striped appearance. But all goods having this appearance do not come from Calcutta, for European and American manufacturers produce the same effect by reversing the order in which the warp threads are drawn into the harness. The looms on which cocoa mats are made are like an old-fashioned hand-loom of the most primitive style; but they are very strong and substantial, as great tension is needed and heavy blows must be dealt with the lathe to beat the weft up tightly. The warp is wound upon the beam in the ordinary manner and passes through a plain two-leaved harness.

In making fiber mats the workman uses the loose cocoanut fiber, having first run it through a picker. He springs the harness, and twisting a bunch of the fiber into a wisp or loose strand, passes the end of it under each alternate warp thread as it is brought uppermost by the harness cutting off each time a length sufficient to form the pile of the mat. The loose ends, which are too short to be fastened in, are pulled out. After a tuft of fiber is thus placed under each warp thread across the loom, the harness is sprung about and a weft thread run through as a binder. In the better grades of mats, Zanzibar yarn is used for the weft. In cheaper goods remnants or short ends are employed. The harness is then sprung again and the process of inserting fiber is repeated. When the mat is woven to the size desired, the warp is set forward some