



**T**HE fall millinery openings are now numbered with the things of the past but will long be remembered in Toronto millinery circles for the great success which attended them, more buyers having been present than at any previous fall openings. All the visitors appeared to be in good spirits and hopeful of big results from the season now opened.

We learn from the leading wholesale millinery houses that felt hats are in high favor and for a time at least the tendency will be towards sailors with flange brims, small shapes and conical crown effects. In hat adornments passementeries, plain and fancy ribbons, ribbon velvets, birds, wings, fancy feathers, mounts and tips will all take positions in the garniture of fall and winter millinery.

A branch of the wholesale millinery business, which has made great progress within the past three or four years, is the cloak department. Firms, which would not look at ready-made mantles two years ago, are now heavy buyers of this important article and wonder how they did business without them. So much for mantle education. The correct goods in this class are reefers,  $\frac{3}{4}$  coats, combination cape and jacket, and paletots. The houses report a very large trade in this line.

Buyers are again in the English markets looking out for sorting-up goods.

#### WHAT DAME RUMOR HAS DONE.

Thomas May & Co., the well-known wholesale merchants, of Montreal, have taken out an action for \$50,000 damages against F. X. Cousineau, a Toronto merchant, on account of certain statements which they claim were made by him regarding the firm. It was recently rumored that the firm was about to go into liquidation, but the story was promptly contradicted by the firm. The plaintiffs claim that the defendant declared in the presence of other parties that the rumors were true.

#### PARISIAN FASHIONS:

The Paris correspondent of the Drapers' Record says: In the way of hats a dreadful revolution has taken place, which has caused the direst despair to many. This is it: My readers will doubtless know that up to the end of July every single hat, without exception, was turned up at the back in some way or other. A whole bevy of well-known demi-mondaines arrived at Aix-les-Bains from Paris a few days ago with the most exquisite models of hats, which not only were made narrow at the back to sit on the edge of the now fashionable Grecian knot, but many of them even sloped downwards, to the

disgust of those fashionable ladies who had only recently been set up at Viro's with

turned-up summer hats.

Hats are more dainty than ever, some of them are made of lace and gauze drawn on cords, and adorned with huge bunches of soft feathers.

The newest color for straw is called rousse. This is a large hat with extremely small crown and straight rough-straw brim. It has a full ruche of frayed yellow surah around the crown, and small swallows are perched here and there.

White satin ribbon rather wide is worn as strings to hats, and is tied under the chin with ends. When these strings are narrow they pass under the chin round the neck, and then are brought round again to the front and tied.

A novelty in hats is the "inverted bouquet." It is a wreath of flowers with the stems drawn to a bunch at the top and tied with a large bow of ribbon.

#### MONTREAL MILLINERY OPENING.

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

The autumn millinery openings have been more largely attended this season than usual, and business has been above the average. Two reasons are given for this state of affairs. First the travelers did a very poor business on the road, owing to the uncertainty regarding the crops, which has now been dispelled, and second because of the merchants' excursion which gave to merchants west of Kingston advantages not enjoyed heretofore. All the opening week the wholesale millinery establishments were crowded from morning till night, with milliners from cities, towns and villages, all looking out for the latest goods and fancies. They found many changes in styles—more pronounced changes than there have been for a couple of years. Covered goods take the place of the trimmed bonnet and plain felt hat of the last few years, and silver or gold is considered a necessary adjunct to trimming. These are the two principal changes, and those in the trade will recognize their importance. Felts are inclined to be small and compact in shape, but are shown in all styles, high crowns and low crowns, broad brims and narrow brims, all being on the same level, with a slight preference in favor of sailors. The most correct thing is the College or Vassar, with plush crowns and paramatta brims, of all colors from the brightest red to the most subdued browns or black. The English Scarborough also shows out prominently in the displays and meets with particular favor. It is drab in color with a low, crown and rounding brim, trimmed in black velvet with a bow in front faced with two rows of brilliants, and with a straight black wing standing up from the crown. French felts have come in all styles, and are generally high priced. A better trade is expected in beavers this season than heretofore. They come in larger sizes than felts, and are meeting with more favor already. A flat plaque, which can be bent to the fancy of the wearer, is one of the novelties.

The new shades are numerous. Browns and grays are the prevailing colors, but blacks continue in most favor. Of the new shades, the Thermidor, a yellow or burnt orange, is expected to take well. Several new shades of green are also destined to be very popular.

Trimmings are in great variety, gold and silver tinsel effects being particularly prominent in French goods. French velvets are shown in many shades and will be much used for covering, the