

and possessed unrivaled water power, which has given Almonte, (for by this name the ancient village of Waterford is now known) splendid advantages as a mill site. There is a difference in the levels of the river, above and below the town, of about sixty feet. The first venture in woolen manufacturing in Waterford or Almonte, as we may call the village, is curious in that a joint-stock company, known as the Ramsay Woolen Cloth Manufacturing Company, was formed to carry on the business.

Mr. James Rosamond finding some difficulty in renewing his lease of water power at Carleton Place, purchased shares in the Ramsay Company. A year later, in 1852, the mill at Almonte was burned and the company was ruined. The mill site was sold to Mr. Albert Teskey for £90, and was subsequently purchased by Mr. James Rosamond, who removed his machinery from Carleton Place to Almonte in 1856. The business was converted into a joint-stock company in 1862, and the Rosamond Woolen Company stands to-day in the first place in the woolen manufacturing industry in Canada.

Fifty years ago the largest woolen mill in Canada was that owned by Messrs. Fraser & Co., at Cobourg, Ont. The mill had an average production of 600 yards of cloth in the summer months, while during the autumn and winter, when the process of pulling the cloth could be carried on to better advantage, the out-put amounted to about 850 yards each day. About 150 hands were employed, and of these 35 were women. In the year 1850 more than 220,000 lbs. of wool was used in the mill, and of this quantity 175,000 lbs. had been grown in Canada. The motive power was steam, wood bought at \$2.50 to \$3 a cord furnishing the fuel. The machinery was considered the very best made at the time, and was valued at \$60,000 by the proprietors.

Only a few miles away Henry Greenwood had a well established mill at Shelter Valley. This gentleman had left his father's employment in the large woolen mills of Coverley, Yorkshire, to try his fortune in the New World, and after operating a factory in New York—where, by the way, Morse, the telegraph inventor, was his sub-tenant—moved up into the northern part of New York state, and finally carried his plant across the lake. The trials of the pioneer woolen manufacturers are well illustrated in the fact that the Shelter Valley mills were seven times burned down, Mr. Greenwood carrying no insurance. This mill sent goods to different parts of the province, but Montreal was always the main market.

Alexander McCann built a woolen mill in the township of Nassagaweya, Halton county, in the year 1847. For several years Mr. McCann operated the mill, and in 1853 sold it to Messrs. Gleanill and McIntosh. Five years later the mill was owned by Thomas Davidson and Sons, and in 1863 was again sold, passing into the hands of William Walker.

The Auburn Woolen Mills were built at Peterborough in 1862, by Messrs. Robertson & Co., Montreal. There was already a woolen factory in this place, Mr. Brook having erected a small mill in 1842.

(To be continued.)

ZEPHYRS AND LAWNS FOR THE SPRING.

The wise man in the dry goods trade lays his plans for a coming season's trade long before the active work of buying commences. It is not many weeks before the retailers will be canvassed for spring orders in light summer fabrics for 1899, and there is no better time than the present to find out what is in store for this trade. Canadian cotton manufacturers have something special for the trade this year. There was a time when the large wholesale warehouse gave to domestic made zephyrs, lawns and similar goods but scant consideration. Now-a-days the buyers of imported goods postpone their trips abroad until they have a look at the new samples from the Canadian mills. We do not wish to unduly sing the praises of the Canadian manufacturer, but strongly advise the retailer to carefully inspect the zephyrs and lawns that are being turned out of the Canadian mills.

There are two ranges of zephyrs in 30 and 32 inches, which for the first time the Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Company have produced that are especially attractive. Previously the widest width in this class of goods made in the Dominion has been a 28 inch width. The trade has asked for the new widths, which were previously imported largely from Scotland, and

the request has been granted. Shoppers have an idea that the wider width is of better value, and there is little doubt it cuts better in the hands of the dressmaker. Although there are many patterns to choose from, plain goods will in these two ranges, undoubtedly be the favorites. They can be sold in a retail way at 12½ and 16 cents a yard.

In addition to these 30 and 32 inch goods Canadian manufacturers offer six narrower ranges, making eight in all, ranging from 25 to 28 inches. These can be retailed with profit at from 6 to 10 cents per yard, and we would not be surprised to see them offered as "drives" at lower prices. Shades and patterns are countless and can only be appreciated when seen. Checks of all sizes are shown, and apparently the solid check is a popular design in these goods. Some novel ideas in plaids are in the samples, which are sure to be admired.

Fancy woven lawns were produced last year by Canadian manufacturers mainly with the idea of replacing the cheaper description of imported muslins. They have answered their purpose well and retailers who know these goods may look for an improvement in them. The neat designs, chiefly raised woven patterns, in different shades of most delicate patterns are exceedingly attractive.

Although merchants in this country are not accustomed to wave the national flag to sell their goods a little sentiment is sometimes not amiss. A window filled with these goods might sell the better for an attractive sign "made in Canada." While we do not desire to encourage a narrow prejudice against imported merchandise, we sometimes feel that retail merchants do not give home manufacturers the credit with the public to which they are entitled.

AUTUMN MILLINERY.

On Monday of this week the wholesale milliners formally opened their warehouses for the autumn trade of 1898. The number of visitors was unusually large, and their more abundant purchases and particularly the free selection of expensive goods, indicate improved industrial conditions throughout the Dominion. A few changes have been made in the trade the past year or so, and none are more noticeable than the handsome warehouse of S. F. McKinnon & Co. Buyers are appreciating the choice which Mr. McKinnon made of a site. A brief summary of the more conspicuous features of the new millinery may be interesting to our readers.

In shapes there seems to be no decided change. Many jaunty bicycling hats are seen with low round crowns and soft rolling brim; when becoming to the wearer they prove a relief from the favorite Alpine and walking hats, which are too masculine for some tastes. The proper way to wear the new winter hats—by the way—is not so far over the forehead as formerly. Many of the most handsome pattern hats are turned back from the face, not in so extreme a manner as last winter, but this effect is given more by means of the trimmings, falling most gracefully from the front towards the side and back.

As it seems impossible to obtain in felt this soft effect easily accessible in straw, the velvet shape, though more expensive, is growing to be most popular.

This will be a velvet season. Plain, miroir, corded, stitched and plaited in fine plaits laid in cross folds will be seen everywhere. Velvet is the all-absorbing material, whether used as material for construction of the shape or in trimming the hat. Many handsome squares of embroidered velvet are shown for crowns, these should make up very effectively.

The embroidery is almost entirely black occasionally brightened with steel. Other fancy velvets in stripe and plaid make most becoming trimmings, as do the shirred chiffons with black velvet baby ribbon forming a stripe down each shirring. These are shown in all colors, and are especially new and pretty. In ribbons we see again the effect of velvet and silk combined in checks. Velvet ribbon in the very narrow width, and the handsome wider ribbons are used to the neglect of medium widths. But we can leave the ribbons for summer wear; those whose conscience and pocket-book can afford it will have a hat of feathers or wings. Certainly we cannot help but admire the clusters of wings, graceful sprays and stately plumes. Nothing can give such beauty or elegance, and combined by the milliner's touch with the charming new velvets.