

CARPETS AND CURTAINS.

THE trade in carpets has been very fair during the past month with retailers. Jobbers have taken some orders which were fairly bulky, but, while orders were numerous the majority of them were for small quantities. A large number of back orders were executed. The manufacturers report a very good demand, and most of the factories have orders booked which will take some months to execute.

The curtain trade has been excellent with all dealers. On account of the advance in cotton, lace curtains have stiffened considerably in price, but no actual advances are to be noted among jobbers.

CHENILLE CURTAINS.

Most of the chenille curtains sold on this market are made in Philadelphia. Their sale on this market has been, and is, increasing in a wonderful degree. This may be explained by their lowness in price as compared with the prices of three years ago. Since then prices have dropped nearly 50 per cent., and there is a consequent greater enquiry. Almost every dealer now handles chenille curtains in small or large quantities, according to the size of his business. At the same time these goods have improved in appearance very materially, and are consequently more taking. The machinery used in their manufacture has experienced a semi-revolution, and faster and better work is being done. Instead of weaving one curtain at a time, they now do cloth enough for four, with almost the same amount of trouble. Tapestry curtains during the same period have advanced in price if anything, while lace curtains have cheapened but slightly.

WILL THERE BE A CHANGE?

The United States carpet people are wondering what changes in the tariff will be made to affect them. The American Carpet and Upholstery Trade says: "The general query is: Will the coming season's business be much affected by the election of Cleveland? We cannot see why it should be. The great World's Fair year is upon us, when millions of people will be moving and travelling, and the need for furnishing and re-furnishing will be something extraordinary. The price of carpet and upholstery materials cannot possibly be affected by the change in politics within a few months to come unless Mr. Cleveland should call a special session of Congress soon after his inauguration. Other than this the new regime will take shape in December, 1893, and the overthrow of the present tariff cannot follow under some months thereafter. Things are apt to travel about as now during this period. It is safe to prophecy that under the Democracy free wool, free raw, and other essentials classed as raw materials, will enter this country substantially free of tax; that Mr. Cleveland will tolerate free textiles we do not anticipate. Even Mr. Mills, the Texas apostle of free trade, did not dare confront the north with anything like free trade in woven stuffs. His 'free wool and 40 per cent.' on carpets was entirely satisfactory to Mr. Lyman, of the Lowell Co., and to other thinking men. Even with free wool

and 25 per cent. we need not fear a devastation of our giant industries.

DISJOINTED FACTS.

A well-known Philadelphia retailer inserted recently the following "want" in a daily paper:

Carpet Salesman--Wanted, young man, willing to push himself to the top; plenty of work; good pay.

He received 164 answers. Either there are a good many dissatisfied carpet salesmen in the city, or else the opinion has become prevalent that such a position is a very easy and lucrative one.

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Scotland is gaining high repute for its curtain products; there are some eighty machines in Scotland, and the climate, the water, and the skilled help up there are conducive to superior lace curtains. Glasgow, Darvel, and points in Ayrshire, are the habitats of the lace mills, and altogether the industry there is flourishing in a quiet way.

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England exported to the United States during October 49,100 yards of carpet, as compared with 81,700 yards for the same month in 1891. For the ten months ending October 31, 1892, the exports amounted to 696,000 yards, while for the corresponding period of 1891 they footed up 639,500 yards.

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Germany tried a few years ago to build her machines, but even when Bismarck put up the duty on everything she could not succeed, and found the experiment very unprofitable. This tariff stimulated lace weaving very greatly, however, and Plauen, Falkenstein, Dresden, and one or two other towns ordered something like 150 machines from Nottingham. The American Carpet and Upholstery Trade.

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During the past week Vancouver has entertained two gentlemen from England, who are interested in one of the largest industries in that country. They are Messrs. G. B. Bird and Marchette, the former being a director, and the latter the son of a director in the well known carpet manufacturing firm of Messrs. John Crossley & Sons, Ltd., of Halifax, England. This firm is the largest carpet manufacturing institution in the world, and employs a very large number of hands. These gentlemen are out for pleasure more than anything else, and before returning to England intend to visit the principal cities in eastern Canada and the United States. Mr. F. W. Hart is the agent for the mainland for this firm, and he has shown the visitors all the sights here. This firm do a large business in Canada, and Mr. Hart has just placed an order for \$10,000 worth of goods with Mr. H. A. Driscoll, the firm's agent at Winnipeg. This is without doubt the largest importation ever brought to Vancouver, and some novelties in carpets may be expected next spring.—News-Advertiser.

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Michael Gates, carpet manufacturer, Woodstock, Ont., is contemplating removing to Paris, Ont., where a firm has recently vacated a factory.

John Macdonald & Co. are showing an elegant range of Wilton and Axminster rugs at present. They carry

these goods in a wide range of makes and qualities, and their stock is large enough to supply all customers. Their buyer in this department, Mr. Dewar, is one of the most experienced buyers who has ever gone to for countries to purchase carpets, curtains, or rugs for the Canadian market. They have just passed into stock a huge shipment of the latest style curtains; their stock having been almost depleted by the huge enquiry during the first week in December. They have also secured a line of mottled carpet, which will be sold at a price never before equalled on the Canadian market. It can be made a leader and retailed at 25 cents. Enterprising carpet men will remember this.

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Foster & Pendar, wholesale upholsterers' goods, are about to move into an elegant store at 14 and 16 King East, in the very heart of this Keity. About a year ago they were burnt out of their premises on Colborne street, and moved their salvage stock of upholstery goods, carpets, rugs, etc., up to a store on Yonge street, where they ran off the stock at retail, although previously they had done only a wholesale trade. But being pleased with the retail trade they have secured they have decided to continue in their new premises on King street.

A NEW CONCERN.

At 103 Adelaide street west is a new firm doing business as The Globe Hat and Cap Mfg. Co., Ltd. They have been running only a few months, but have done an enormous trade and are now about to enlarge their factory. This will enable them to do a much larger trade next year than has been done this. Their superintendent, W. Williams, has left for England and the continent to secure a supply of raw materials for next year's manufacture, and to see the leading styles in his lines. The company is under able management. Mr. W. P. Page, a gentleman well known in financial circles being the president, and Mr. E. H. Hilborn, the secretary-treasurer. There is a big field for such manufactures as this company turn out, and they will no doubt be successful. Their goods so far have given excellent satisfaction.

Mr. E. A. Benjamin, manufacturers' agent, of 1724 Notre Dame St., Montreal, who represented the colonial house, The Mosses, London, England, dealers in high-class dry goods and novelties, has left his creditors without warning. It is reported on good authority that a wholesale furrier of Montreal is in his books for \$5,000, while among other creditors in the city are said to be M. Michaels, A. Morris, and a large number of prominent men in the city. Mr. Benjamin has been in the habit of visiting Toronto frequently and always put up at the Rossin house, where, with the hotel proprietors, he was very popular. The result is that they are now looking vainly for \$1,000, the amount of his hotel bills and borrowed money. As to the total liabilities there seems to be some difference of opinion. One creditor, who evidently wanted to draw the matter lightly, said the total would be about \$8,000, while another gentleman said confidently that they would aggregate \$15,000.