

AUSTRALIANS are going in more extensively for flax culture, and it is said that about 1,000 producers are now growing flax. The sowing time is from July to September.

GRIFFIN & WRIGHT, dry goods merchants, St. Thomas, Ont., have assigned to G. C. Gibbons, London. The assets are said to be considerably in excess of the liabilities.

S. O. SHOREY, of H. Shorey & Co., Montreal, at Ottawa recently secured the order for 2,000 overcoats for the Militia Department.

ROBERT FER, a defaulting bookkeeper employed by Sadler, Dundas & Flavell, dry goods, Lindsay, Ont., who fled on the occasion of an audit of the books, not long ago, has been arrested at Rochester, N.Y. There was a shortage of \$800 or more.

SOME time ago a Halifax clothier, Jacob Goldberg, went to Montreal, representing himself to be worth \$30,000, and obtained large supplies of clothing on credit. Afterwards he gave a bill of sale of his stock and then assigned, preferring his brother, Ike Goldberg, and other relatives, for some \$15,000. An officer from Montreal arrested him on a charge of obtaining goods under false pretences. He was brought up before Judge Desnoyers on the 13th Nov., and committed to stand his trial for obtaining \$1,400 worth of goods from A. Jacob, of Montreal. Charges are also made by Porter, Teskey & Co. and others.

CHEMICALS AND DYESTUFFS.

There has been no marked change in the state of the market since last report, and there are no alterations in price to notice. Prices show signs of remaining steady for some time. Glycerine and sulphate of copper are stronger. Gambier is easier. The following are current quotations in Montreal:

Bleaching powder.....	\$ 2 15	to \$ 2 30
Bicarb soda.....	2 25	" 2 35
Sal soda.....	0 67½	" 0 70
Carbolic acid, 1 lb bottles.....	0 25	" 0 30
Caustic soda, 60°.....	1 90	" 2 00
Caustic soda, 70°.....	2 25	" 2 35
Chlorate of potash.....	0 15	" 0 20
Alum.....	1 40	" 1 50
Copperas.....	0 70	" 0 75
Sulphur flour.....	1 50	" 1 75
Sulphur roll.....	1 50	" 1 75
Sulphate of copper.....	4 00	" 5 00
White sugar of lead.....	0 07½	" 0 08½
Bich potash.....	0	" 0 12
Sumac, Sicily, per ton.....	65	" 70 00
Soda ash, 48° to 58°.....	1 25	" 1 50
Chip logwood.....	2 00	" 2 10
Castor oil.....	0 06½	" 0 07
Cocoonut oil.....	0 06½	" 0 07

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DYEING WITH CARBOLIC ACID EMULSION.

On operating in the dyehouse laboratory with pure carbollic acid, says a writer in the *Färbere Muster Zeitung*, I made observations which caused me to examine certain actions in different applications, arriving at results which it may be of interest for technical chemists to further develop.

Pure carbollic acid, mixed with water in various proportions, dissolves only to a small portion, but by energetic stirring forms a fine emulsion. Carbolic acid proves to be one of the strongest solvents for nearly all groups of tar dyestuffs. Such dyestuff solutions in carbolic acid, when added to larger quantities of water, form likewise fine emulsions. In such finely distributed state, suspended in water baths, the carbolic acid shows an uncommonly great affinity to both vegetable and animal fibrous matters.

I found that raw loose cotton, which is very difficult to wet out in water, when put into an emulsion of carbolic acid, sinks to the bottom without special mechanical assistance, while the bath is exhausted of carbolic acid—that is, the latter rapidly associates with the fibre material. I have found the same observation under equal conditions, confirmed in the case of raw wool fibre, which fact may be based upon physical as well as chemical actions.

As the substance of the cotton fibre, freed of the atmospheric air adhering to it and contained in the lumina, is of higher specific gravity than water, while that of pure carbolic acid is less than water, it may, on the one hand, be inferred that by the rapid penetration of the carbolic acid into the individual fibres an energetic expulsion of the particles of air is effected; and on the other hand that a thorough scouring, respectively alteration of the oily, fatty, and resinous components of the raw fibre, takes place.

When solutions of tar and other dyestuffs in carbolic acid are diluted with water, the solutions of dyestuff behave like pure carbolic acid; the latter gives off to the water only a very small quantity of the dyestuff, but holds it fast as emulsion, and as the dyestuff containing carbolic acid shows again the same behavior to the fibrous material as pure carbolic acid, this behavior explains the uncommonly rapid level coloration which takes place when cotton, wool, or silk is immersed in such emulsified solutions of dyestuff. The coloration, respectively exhaustion of the baths, takes place without difference, whether the cotton be raw, boiled off or bleached, the wool raw or scoured, the silk raw or ungummed; and the degrees of coloration obtained represent the normal effects of certain weights of dyestuffs. Raw yarns and tissues are subject to similar influences of carbolic acid.

Dyes carried out in this manner, without any other preparatory or after treatment, showed in some cases greater resistance to chemical influences; in other cases at least the same features as can be claimed for the several dyestuffs applied after the usual dyeing methods. In order to remove the bad odors, respectively of all unnecessary remnants of free carbolic acid, if thorough airing is not sufficient, steaming may be resorted to, which, by the way, contributes to the fixation of the coloring bodies.

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