

Canadian Journal of Fabrics

THE JOURNAL OF THE
Textile Trades of Canada.

Vol. XVIII.

TORONTO AND MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1901.

No. 10

Canadian Journal of Fabrics

A Journal devoted to Textile manufactures and the Dry Goods and kindred trades.

Subscription: Canada and United States, \$1.00 per year. Great Britain, 5 Advertising rates on application.

Offices: 6a Church Street, Toronto, and the Fraser Building, Montreal.

E. B. BIGGAR { BIGGAR, SAMUEL & CO. } R. S. SAMUEL
PUBLISHERS

TRAVELLING REPRESENTATIVE: A. W. SMITH.

PHILADELPHIA AGENT: H. E. BURNETTE, Cor. Fourth and Locust Sts.

BOSTON AGENT: F. F. GRANT, 5 Gayland St., Roxbury.

Toronto Telephone, Main 1392 Montreal Telephone, Main 2589

Business correspondence should be addressed to Montreal; but cuts, news items and editorial correspondence to Toronto; cuts from abroad should be sent by post wherever possible, not by express. Changes of advertisements should be in our hands not later than the 16th of each month to ensure insertion.

THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion; to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades Fourth edition. Price, \$3.00.

BIGGAR, SAMUEL & CO., Publishers,

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TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN THE COTTON TRADE.

Among the subjects which came before the recent New England Cotton Manufacturers' Convention, held at Niagara Falls, was the advantage of technical education in the cotton industry. In his address, the president, Charles R. Fish, of Dover, N.H., remarked that "the ideal cotton manufacturer of the future, and I may say of to-day, is one who not only understands the arts of spinning and of weaving the cotton fibre, but is also proficient, at least to some extent, in the different branches of engineering. He must understand excavation, foundation work, and construction of all kinds. He must be able to figure for himself the strength of materials. He must be able to estimate the power

required, and the power consumed. He must know the water-wheel, the steam engine, and the application of gas, compressed air and electricity; and so it is that the cotton manufacturer must also be, in a way, a mechanical engineer, an electrical engineer, and I believe in most localities a knowledge of political engineering will not come amiss." Following up this line of thought, Mr. Fish advocated the fostering of technical and textile schools and colleges, and the encouragement of study and investigation along the lines indicated in the quotation.

The matter was not long in bearing fruit, for immediately Mr. Firth, of Boston, head of the Wm. Firth Company, and president of the American Moistening Co., addressed the following letter to Mr. Fish:

International Hotel, Niagara Falls, N.Y., Sept. 26th, 1901.

Dear Mr. Fish.—I was very much impressed with your address yesterday to the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association, especially with that part of your address which referred to the technical education of our boys. America, now that she is in a position to largely supply her own wants, must look to other countries for an outlet for her surplus production, and to do this profitably must follow the advice and recommendation made by you. Knowing this, I beg to say as a mark of my appreciation for the encouragement, and as an expression of my thanks for the many kindnesses received from the members of the association, I should be pleased to purchase a scholarship in one of our textile schools and present the same to the association. The scholarship to be used for the benefit of the education of a son of a member or a late active member of the association. The use of the same to be in the hands of the Board of Government for the time being, details of which can be arranged later if my offer is accepted by the association. W. FIRTH.

The advantage of this technical education, in another line, was referred to in the September number of the Journal of Fabrics, where the number of trained chemists employed in the German chemical works was pointed out. Attention has also been recently called to it by Dr. J. G. Hodgins, of Toronto, in a review of an article by Prof. Starling in the June Century. Speaking of the multiplicity of State-aided universities in Germany, Prof. Starling refers to the thousands of young men who every year leave these universities, trained in scientific methods; trained also to distinguish between the true and false in science. This is the army with which Germany is conquering the world's markets. No