

DRESS GOODS.

JOHNSON MACDONALD & CO.'S dress goods department has made very rapid progress during the past few seasons, and, from the range of samples they show for spring, 1897, their success is assured. They have already received large orders from some of the keenest and best dress goods buyers in Canada.

The Gault Bros. Co., Ltd., are showing a fine range of blacks and colored moire silks for trimmings.

Brophy, Cains & Co. are showing many extreme novelties in "high class" black dress goods for spring.

Lonsdale, Reid & Co.'s samples are now complete and a fine range they are. They comprise all up-to-date fashions from the French, German, and English markets.

The Gault Bros. Co., Ltd., latest advices from Paris state that boucle crepons and moire effects are still the most fashionable gowns—in silk, wool and mohair effects.

Black sicilans and mohairs in plain and figured are likely to be good property for next season. S. Greenshields, Son & Co. are showing two special numbers, to retail at 25 and 50c.

Kyle, Cheesbrough & Co. announce that they have been making some extensions in their fancy dress goods department. This year their assortment is larger and more varied than ever. They are showing some low-priced organdie muslins and plain grass lawns.

To buyers who wish to be posted as to what is up-to-date in dress goods, James Johnston & Co invite inspection of their range for the spring of 1897. Amongst the lines shown by them are lace effects, tweeds, royalettes, Armenian clothes, silk mixtures and pierolas.

The dress goods season, as reflected in the samples of Wyld, Grasett & Darling, is for fancies and black. The linen effects are exceedingly effective, the lace effect in linen being a feature; oatmeal cloth, a woolen fabric, has the effect of oatmeal scattered over the face of the material. The range covers some attractive designs in shepherd checks, Persian effects, canvasses, guipures, two-toned goods in choice colorings, silk poplins in two-tone effects, iridescent effect in canvasses, basket suitings, tweeds, all-wool sateens, in plain and Persian effects, etc. Cycling cloth, a material to stand the dust and wear well, is a feature. Guipures will be worn over colored linings. Black mohairs are right. Plaid goods for blouses are shown in attractive styles. As to serges, a line to retail at 25c. in all colors looked to be a bargain.

PLAIN GOODS STILL LEAD.

For some time past there has been a marked demand for the plainer class of goods, and we have mentioned this tendency previously. Wm. Agnew & Co. say that their travelers report a further increase in enquiries for the plainer lines, such as ladies' cloth, costumettes, brilliantines, sicilans, etc.

This firm has arranged for an early delivery of their goods and all customers will be in receipt of their purchases earlier than usual thus giving them the benefit of extra time in which to dispose of them. Although Wm. Agnew & Co. placed orders with the manufacturers for the usual amount of goods for the spring trade, their repeats up to date are equal to 50 per cent. of the original purchase. This is an encouraging fact.

DRESS MATERIALS FINISHED HERE.

In dress goods Caldecott, Burton & Spence have always had a high reputation with the trade, and no department has been kept more thoroughly up-to-date or supplied with the best novelties of the season than this. The fact, therefore, that the firm are still further developing their facilities in the dress goods line is a matter

of much interest. In addition to their other specialties in dress goods, they are showing this season a range of materials covering serges, estamines, lustres, sicilans and figures, which are shown in the latest colorings and in large range. These materials have been imported in the grey from the European manufacturers, are dyed and finished here after a process which stands every test, and are certain to be a big feature of the dress goods trade the coming year. The shot effects and shot figures in lustres and sicilans are noteworthy features of the new range, and the finish of the goods, samples of which we have seen, is equal to the very best brought into this market. The colorings are of the latest, and the process is warranted stainless and fast, so that Caldecott, Burton & Spence are making a departure of considerable importance this season, and deserve well of the trade.

FEATURES IN DRESS GOODS.

The dress goods department of W. R. Brock & Co. anticipate a good spring trade. Fancy blacks, principally of the brocade order, and a crepe effect, promise well, while the firm have a big range of lustre and mohair goods from the lowest to the highest grades. Special attention is directed to a range of black mohairs called Carina Lustrine, a triumph of Bradford skill. The demand for plain goods, in staple shades, is reviving, and the firm, despite advances abroad, show all their old lines at former prices. There is a pretty range of fancies, the colorings bright, with green predominant and shot effects in favor, and the patterns tending to be larger.

In costume cloths, a range of covert coatings for cycling purposes is shown to retail from 45 to 65c. and \$1.

Reverting again to fancies, a special line of silk warp glace, that will not pull at the seams, is a feature. Special attention is drawn to a vigoreaux cloth to retail at 25c.; width, 36 inches. Colored and black wool satin cloths to retail at 50c., and an all-wool soleil, in colors and black, to retail at 50c., also are noted. Special values in all-wool black and navy crevenettes are shown.

In silks and velveteens the firm are, as usual, strong. In the latter the Clarion brand is an established favorite, and more of it has been sold than ever before. As to silks, a large range of fancy taffetas comprises some lots made for a New York house, but cancelled for that market and secured by Brock & Co. at reduced prices. They are new goods at special values. Beside staples numbers in black satins, swabs, peau de soie, pongees, merveilleux, etc., the firm point out two lines of black surah and black merveille, heavy weight, to retail at 50c. and of great merit.

The firm are showing extra heavy serge, blue and black, 27in. to 28in., used by manufacturers to make boys' clothing and men's shirts or to retail at 12½c.

JAPANESE FANCIES.

K. Ishikawa announce that they have received some of their spring supplies of fancies and that others are on the way. These contain some pretty new patterns, the latest shades and combinations, to retail at 25, 35, 40, 50, 60 and 75c. The range is a fine one.

LAOES.

The success which attended the efforts of W. R. Brock & Co.'s lace department last season has induced them to import a much larger range than ever. They are opening out for the early trade a large shipment of all the novelties which the British and continental markets produce suitable for the Canadian trade, comprising grass lawn laces, valenciennes, silk guipure, chantilly, Irish point, orientals, torchons, fancy cottons in white, cream and butter, correct styles. Good values and drawing powers will ensure an active demand for these goods.