

with a metallic salt (chrome, iron, or alumina), to develop the color-lake. But the process is too new for any fair estimate of the results of its use. So far it seems to have worked well.

All attempts to simplify wool mordanting are most welcome. The use of chromate and tartar has the disadvantages of requiring long boiling and of want of uniformity. Both these difficulties are lessened when fluoride of chromium is used, but it is a very unsuitable substance for use in copper vessels. Nevertheless, a single hour's mordanting with it gave a uniform green wool, while a two hour's treatment with chromate and tartar gave a somewhat inferior result.

Of substitutes for alizarine, we must specially name Diamine Fast Red, used as a substitute for Alizarine Red, and for toning indigo hues. Anthracite Black and Diamond Black have gained ground in the dyeing of carded yarn, for which Alizarine Black is unsuitable, but not so much for loose wool. With that material Anthracite Black is used principally for dark blue and blue-black. For lively navy blues, Gallocyanine has come much into use, and its newest competitors, Gallamine Blue and Celestine Blue, although much inferior to Alizarine Blue in fastness to light, have secured acceptance by the splendid fiery blue which they produce.

The dyeing industry has received an impetus by vat dyeing, especially with hyposulphite. The contrast between the latter vat and the woad-vat, with its capricious uncertainties, was too marked to leave the result long in doubt. The hyposulphite process is easy, rapid and certain, and economises indigo. It must, however, be remembered that the new vat has not yet given the fine copper hue or the deep tints obtained by the skilled use of woad. Hence, for the acquisition of these, it is at present necessary to give the goods a taste of the woad-vat after leaving the hyposulphite. Another drawback attending the hyposulphite is its reducing power, which renders the grounding with madder, orchil, or Alizarine Red, for dark indigo hues, less easy than is the case with woad, and their productions therefore dearer. With light colors, however, the case is very different, and for them the hyposulphite-vat bids fair to drive woad from the field. But the use of the vat cannot altogether be dispensed with yet. For example, to get mode and slate greys quite fast to light, a vat bottom is at present necessary, but it appears certain that the hyposulphite-vat will soon overcome this difficulty.

MANUFACTURERS AND THE WOOL MARKET.

As noted in our previous reviews of the wool market, there was a speculative spirit abroad in the eastern markets of the United States, affecting more particularly the lustrous wools such as Canada produces. By correspondence and by the visits of special agents, the Americans cleared out every available lot of native wool from the Canadian market, the consequence being an advance of 15 to 20 per cent. in prices. Tub

washed of grades such as Southdown, Shropshire, etc., were neglected, and now are in the market unsold, the speculative feeling that pervaded other classes not being warranted in these by the prices ruling for foreign wools. Speaking generally, there is a better feeling among the woolen manufacturers, who find they cannot get supplies unless at an advance in price, and who see that the foreign manufacturer is able to get an increased price for his products. It can safely be said that the advance in wools, taking all classes together, amounts to at least 15 per cent. The Canadian blanket manufacturers have found out that they have made a mistake in making contracts on the basis of last year's prices, since they have to come into the market and pay 15 per cent. more for their wool. This observation also applies to manufacturers of domestic tweeds and all woolen goods, except those made from Cape or Australian wools, which have not risen to the same extent. The wholesale clothing manufacturers recognize this, but are keeping out of the market as long as possible, and only buying for present requirements; but a number of wholesale houses and clothing houses see that nothing is to be gained by waiting further, and have already given extensive orders in some cases at prices which are considered mutually satisfactory to them and to the mills. The market is now very bare of Canadian tweeds of desirable patterns.

In the Toronto market wool is quoted as follows: Fleece combing, 24 to 25c.; clothing wool, 23 to 24c.; super, 21 to 22c.; extra super, 22 to 23c., and rejections, 19 to 22c. Manitoba and Northwest medium, 13 to 13½c.; fine medium, 13 to 14c.; select staple, 15 to 16c. All British Columbia wool has been cleared from that province, and most of it shipped direct to Boston.

Business in the Montreal wool markets is going along quietly. Prices are being closely guided by the New York and Boston markets. An advance of 10 per cent. has been made on fine wools. Three-quarters of the Canadian fleece wool yield this year has been bought in the States.

B. A. scoured is now bringing from 26 to 34c. Prospects indicate that prices will go at least 5 per cent. higher in a few days. A new cargo of wool is on the way, and already two-thirds of it have been sold.

As indicated in last report, the July series of the London wool sales closed with pronounced advances and was very successful, the principal competitors being Americans. In all some 390,000 bales were offered, and all were sold except 39,000 bales, which were withdrawn. The next series of auctions will open September 24th.

The beautiful muslins of Dacca, which were famous when Babylonian and Assyrian kings ruled Western Asia, were among the wares first brought to England by the old East India Company. In 1787, according to Sir George Birdwood, the value of the imports of these muslins into England was estimated at 30 lakhs of rupees, say, £300,000.