

undergoing a process of "squeezing" by the Sugar Trust, which cannot last forever.

The stocks in the principal countries on 1st June show a striking falling off, as per the following figures:

June 1st.	1888. tons.	1887. tons.
United States	187,170	226,081
Havana and Matanzas..	91,213	110,949
United Kingdom	246,035	217,066
Germany	135,000	137,821
France	153,703	169,147
Belgium	24,929	26,691
Holland	18,713	53,213
Austria and Hungary ..	80,000	75,600
Total June 1st	642,763	1,017,028
" May 1st	993,495	1,061,082
" April 1st	1,055,462	1,144,248
" Jany. 1st	1,070,712	1,302,761

The stocks held at four principal cities in the United States—New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore—on 5th July last, were 144,567 tons, against 186,269 tons at same date last year, 158,000 tons in 1886, and 72,000 in 1885. Canadian prices are somewhat higher and firm. The refinery price is advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ cent this week, and the wholesale figures may advance another $\frac{1}{2}$. It is to be remembered, however, that the competition of the St. Lawrence refinery, when it is shortly re-opened, will tend to keep prices from advancing rapidly.

DRESS GOODS.

Whether for spring or fall, tailor-made dresses of all-wool tweed or costume cloth, narrow striped or plain, of either Old Country or Canadian production, are a feature. They have a cosy look, and set off a trim figure to perfection. A habit cloth in delicate colors and of smooth texture called, oddly enough, Amazon cloth, is in vogue for fall wear. The name suggests a riding habit. There is no longer the bewildering variety of names to the colors or the fabrics used for dresses, which characterized some former seasons. Nearly everything of a wool texture seems now to be invoiced "dress goods."

According to a buyer recently returned to Canada from the European markets, the combination idea, i.e., the formation of a costume out of self colors with stripes to correspond, is exploded, or nearly so. It was a trouble to the trade, he explained; not so much to the designer, perhaps, or even to the importer, as to the retailer, who was rather overweighted by the responsibility of their selection. A favorite line of wool goods for dresses are the ombre stripes, soleils and checks which, as the name imports, have a shadowy effect. These are found in high priced all-wool continental fabrics, such as cashmeres, as well as in cheaper Glasgow goods. It deserves to be noted, too, that the French manufacturers of Roubaix are emulating the Glasgow makers of cheap costume tweeds or mixtures. The variety of price and pattern in these ombre dress goods is astonishing, it is almost endless.

Fancy wool blacks are made with "ombre" stripes as well, though it would require a Frenchman to explain how a shadow effect is producible on black. Speaking of the French, it appears that the German manufacturers are gaining rapidly upon their neighbors and rivals in the production of these all-wool fabrics at a moderate price. Costume cloths are produced freely also in self colors. A pleasing effect, too, is reached with snow flake stripes and snow flake checks, in wool goods, of any tint from ruddigore to snuff brown as a basis.

The trimming of these dainty stuffs is of much importance, and the arbiters or arbitresses of fashion have pronounced that

the proper thing to trim them with, on cuff or skirt, is velvet, plush, or silk. The loveliest and richest silk plush, plain and embossed, looking "just too sweet for anything," greets the eye in pleasant harmony with the material to be trimmed. And delicate flowered gimp-like ribbon is sometimes used, in all the colors of a Canadian forest and in some which are not found there. In England, we are told, there is a perfect craze for moire trimming silks. It is not impossible that this craze will have extended to Canada by the autumn.

SHOE TRADE NOTES.

Among pretty shoes are those of white silk canvas, foxed with patent leather or bronze foxings. The canvas, being made of coarse silk, is very strong, and at the same time dressy. They are quite the rage, with costumes of light and delicate fabrics.

New overgaiters for men are those of sage green kersey or broadcloth. They do not show dust as easily as do the blues, browns, and blacks, and if the wearer will only pay proper regard to the color of the clothes he wears them with, they are quite stylish looking.

For light summer rain New York and Boston shoe men are making little footholds, which look decidedly jaunty when on. The material is the cloth faced water-proof, just such as is used for garments, all the fancy designs being used—stripes, checks, etc. They are gotten up in good imitation of Oxfords, and the effect upon the foot is really pleasing.

People troubled with burning feet find much relief in linen and silk shoes to be worn inside the stocking and next the feet. They are in some way medically treated, and it is claimed that they will greatly ease itching and burning feet. People troubled in this way, says the *Reporter*, should never wear cotton or lisle stockings. Even in the hottest days of summer the all-wool cashmere hosiery is the most easy and comfortable.

Shoe lacings are now made of fine, stout, fancy woven cord as well as of the flat braid, and are by some liked much better. They look pretty, especially the silk ones, and will bear more strain than the braid.

Pretty school shoes for misses are of broad-striped canvas—black and white or blue and white—the stripes running up and down. These are trimmed with French kid or fine calf in the way of toe caps, etc. They have cork soles and are light and cool. Plaids are also in vogue.

The kid leather trade of Dresden has been unsatisfactory for years, says *Kuhlow's*. According to the balance-sheet of the Dresdner Lederfabrik this factory, which is now in the 16th year of its existence, has been unable to attain a satisfactory result. Both production and sales have fallen far behind those of the previous year. The purchase of raw calfskins amounted to 122,560 hides in value 577,773 marks, while the total sales only equalled 1,091,384 marks. The number of pieces of kid leather sold was 119,533, and the offal produced 46,523 marks. The profit and loss account shows a loss of 23,202 marks, which was covered out of the reserve fund.

There has been a growing demand for patent leather for a year or more, in the experience of the *Shoe and Leather Reporter*. It has been cut into toe caps and trimmings, but is now used for the entire shoe. "Patent leather shoes look well and wear well if proper care is taken of them. It was a mistaken idea that liberal applications of sweet oil will preserve the leather. It tends to obliterate the enamel and rot the shoes, especially in hot weather.

I hold that patent leather is economical," says a New York retailer, "and men who wear it continually in footgear save its price in shines. A shine every morning is a small matter, but it amounts to \$17.25 a year, and by wearing patent leather shoes in the spring, summer, and fall, a person saves enough to keep himself in heavy shoes for two winters." "But how can you preserve patent leather?" somebody asks. He replies: "By using plain water on the shoes, and wiping them with a dry linen rag."

Receipts of hides at Boston for the six months ended with June were 803,109 foreign and 611,777 domestic; total, 1,414,886. Of these, 330,609 came from Buenos Ayres, 105,446 from Monte Video, 158,847 from Rosario and Rio Grande, 91,104 from Zanzibar, 34,243 from Sierra Leone, 48,433 from Liverpool, 6,300 from Antwerp, 11,382 from London.

HARD WOODS.

Both from New York and from Chicago the intelligence comes that demand for hardwood has fallen off. Agricultural implement makers and furniture manufacturers are running light between June and September. Besides, it must be remembered that makers of furniture, both American and Canadian, have been manufacturing for some years past as if there were no limit to their market. Some of them have found that it has limits. The demand for house-furnishing supplies may be expected to set in later and help the hardwood market somewhat.

In New York, ash is moving but moderately and is likely to continue in moderate consumption. Prices of western are affected by the competition of southern ash. Plain oak is offering in plenty, and prices are weak; quartered oak is in over-abundant supply, and only first-class stock brings quotations. Poplar moves slowly, at \$28 to 31. Cherry is inactive with but a limited supply, and holders as well as producers are very independent. Redwood is in moderate use. Walnut about equal in price to last year; regular run of stock brings \$92 to 97; shipping walnut, \$105 to 110. In Boston good shipping walnut is scarce, so also are good ash, cherry, and whitewood, the latter in especial demand. Mahogany is moving well in Philadelphia, so are poplar and cypress, ash being dull; redwood is also coming into favor.

From Chicago we learn, by means of last week's *North-Western Lumberman*, that the remarkable quietness of the furniture trade checks the movement of the cheaper woods used in that industry, such as elm, maple, black ash, poplar, and basswood. Some of the furniture concerns in that city have shut down for a fortnight, ostensibly for repairs; but it is known the main reason is because of a lack of orders. The furniture trade seems to be remarkably dull. White ash is in active demand, and there is apparently no accumulation of it.

The demand for walnut is quiet and the common grade sells better than any other. There is comparatively a small amount of first quality of walnut sold for consumption at interior points.

The movement of cherry appears to be less this season than last. There is a steady call for it in a moderate degree, but the high price of it in first hands renders dealers indifferent about stocking up heavily with it.

Dealers mention that stock is crowding on the market in excess of the willingness of the dealers to buy it. Most of the yards are well filled; but in respect to the leading woods,