



Clothing and Woollen Trade.

THE advances in the wool market, which have affected fine goods for some time, are affecting coarse wools, so that the prospects of a general advance seem reasonably certain. Canadian tweeds have advanced 5c. for 3 4 goods and 10c. for 6 4 goods in fine medium qualities. The Canadian mills are now getting ready to show their range of samples for Autumn, 1900. Already, the clothing manufacturers have seen some of these goods, and placed orders for them. This month it is probable that the mills will be ready to show the wholesale trade the full range of samples.

Some of the Winter lounge suits, says a New York correspondent, will be worn with double-breasted waistcoats, cut rather low, with a double row of three or four buttons; the coats will be either single or double-breasted; if single, will button with three buttons, short and cut rather high in the neck; this insures comfort when the weather is cold, while when the coat is thrown open indoors it supplies an opportunity for display of necktie and shirt. The single-breasted lounge coat will be worn to some extent, but the double-breasted style promises to be the most popular.

Colored shirts, of course, will continue to be worn; they are better adapted to business, as they do not soil as easily as the white; but I would depreciate the wearing of colored shirtings except in the mornings. Narrow stripes in red or purple (both fashionable colors at present) are always neat and quiet in effect.

The newest sticks are made of heavy dark wood, either knotted or plain. One has a rather sharp crook at the top, tipped with silver, and with a silver band below the curve. Another is of plain smooth wood perfectly straight. Still another has a handle at right angles to the stick. They should be carried with the frock coat and with evening clothes, but are, I think, out of place in the morning, except when used by men of advanced age, or when the English morning suit is worn. Umbrella sticks are made of very much the same shape as the walking sticks and of the same woods.

Grafton & Co., Owen Sound, have on exhibition in the window of their place of business a collection of firearms of ancient and modern design. One of the number is an old gun obtained from Thomas Armstrong, of Holland. The gun has been in use for seal hunting and is six feet in length, the barrel measuring over four feet. The gun is an odd looking instrument when compared with the guns now in use.

The rise in the price of wool at the September sales has been promptly followed by a corresponding advance in yarns, says *Minister's London Gazette*. Woollen merchants have

consequently been favored by two, and in some cases three, notices of further advance within the last six weeks by every woollen and worsted maker, and these, coming on the top of former ones, make up a pretty aggregate for the tailors to pay presently. These aggregates vary, of course, greatly according to the class and weight of goods, but it is not too much to say that 1s. to 1s. 6d. more per yard on "Summerweights" will have to be paid next Spring as compared with a year ago. It is on next year's Winter goods, however, that the most serious advance will occur. The wholesale market for that season is just now commencing in and around Golden Square, and we have it on the best authority that from 1s. 6d. up to 3s. more per yard is asked for high class heavy overcoatings. This sounds cheerful. Tailors with plenty of capital cannot, therefore, invest it to better advantage than by laying in stocks of standard goods against next year.

The seeds for a further and permanent rise are meanwhile being laid in Yorkshire, where 38 firms of woolcombers and topmakers have just amalgamated under the style of The Yorkshire Woolcombers' Association, Limited, with a capital of £2,500,000. The object stated is, as usual, a desire to prevent undue undercutting, and it is expressly said in the prospectus that there is no intention to raise prices. Well, we shall see. It may be so for the present, especially as the amalgamation does not include a number of important firms. But let these once come in—and capital is specially reserved for the purpose—and prices will be put up by leaps and bounds.

The A. S. Campbell Co., Limited, Montreal, is being incorporated with \$150,000 capital. The incorporators are Messrs. A. S. Campbell, F. R. Lannigan, B. W. Byer, M. Murdoch and J. W. Blair.

Oxford, Cambridge, and steel-grey mixtures, continues the same English authority, are the most fashionable materials for ladies' costumes at the present moment. They are made in chevrons in all the usual plain weaves and with stripes and checks; also in Venetians, when the ground is a mixture with lighter grey overchecks in the usual combinations. These greys look rather "mannish," and are, therefore, immensely popular with the tailor-made section of the sex; but they require smart cutting and making, also great simplicity of style. Velvet collars add much to their appearance. In plain materials, browns, shades of the havanas, chocolate or nut brown type are most generally worn. But for the early Spring, amaranth red, which is a scarlet with a touch of crimson in it, is intended to be pushed as the fashionable color.