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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 an retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion; to which i appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades. Fourth edition. Price, \$3.00.

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COMMUNES OF THIS NUMBER

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Australian Sheep Industry, Unfavorable Condition of	Institution, A Unique

We close the volume with the wish that our subscribers and their friends may have a Joyous Christmas and that the coming year will be a better and a happier one for all our readers. We hope they have all found the Canadian Journal of Fabrics worth much more than the dollar asked, but if the subscriber has doubt on this point, let the account be squared and the paper stopped. Short accounts make long friends, and the proverb applies with special force to subscriptions. We will take it as a vote of confidence from all who remit, and encouraged by this vote we will try to produce a better paper next year. The paper will now be addressed by a printed label showing by figures the date to which the subscription is paid; for example 11-3 means that the subscription is paid to December, 1903. Subscribers changing their address will please give old, as well as the new, address.

THE FUTURE OF THE WOOL SUPPLY.

As Canadian textile manufacturers are large users of South African wool, they will have a special interest in that part of the Imperial Commissioner's report on South African trade conditions bearing upon the production of wool in the Orange River Colony. Under the old regime the Boers devoice themselves almost exclusively to stock-raising, and it is estimated that before the war there were 7,000,000 sheep in that colony, representing a clip of wool equal to 50,000 bales. The decimation, due to lack of pasturage and the needs of Tommy Atkins' larder during the campaign, was such that fo-day there are probably not more than 1.000,000 sheep, and the clip must be proportionately less. According to the commissioner it will take five or six years to re-establish the flocks and herds, and in the interval the shortage of the South African wool supply will continue. This condition of affairs following closely in the wake of the serious losses to the Australian wool growers caused by the great droughts indicates that no reduction in the market price of wool can be looked for in the immediate future unless a compensating increase is forthcoming from the Argentina. But even if there should be a material increase in the sup; 'y from there it would not compen sate for the shortages of colonial wool if the quality was inferior.

The Textile Manufacturer calls attention to the turther inroads being made into the supply of wool by another factor, viz., the frozen meat industry. Our contemporary says: "It is now a few years since the advances made in the methods of freezing mutton first made their mark upon the wool trade. To the growth of this new industry we are largely indebted for the large proportion of cross-bred wool in our imports, for sheep farmers now consider other points than those connected with the fleece alone. In Australia and New Zealand the freezing establishments are in full work, and it is easy to see that the busier they are the shorter will be the future supplies of wool. There is at present a phenomenal demand, not only for sheep, but for lambs, for freezing purposes, and the demand seems to be limited only by the supply. Just after a long and disastrous drought many pastoralists are in need of