

Tomorrow.

A demoralization of prices such as has seldom been known. Trade conditions out of the ordinary have compelled many importers and agents to turn to us for the ready cash outlet so hard to find in troublous times, and not in vain where goods are right. The first installment of these "emergency purchases" will be on the counters tomorrow. Pricemaking was never on so boldly low a scale. Assortments were never so widely various. Opportunities for clever purchasing never so unmistakable.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE

Dress Goods and Silks

We make the greatest dress goods purchase of our entire business career—We buy 2,300 pieces of fine imported dress goods as well as the stock of high grade goods of the bankrupt Vanusky mills from Wilmeading, Morris and Mitchell—at about one-fourth their real value—all of which goes ON SALE MONDAY.

1,000 pieces of IMPORTED DRESS GOODS. An extraordinary lot closed out from a timid importer, hedging against possible international complications, on sale at half and less than half price.

Pure Silk and Wool High Grade Novelties

in light and dark colorings, beautiful suitings in handsome effects, two-toned covers, French Poplins, Scotch Cheviots, handsome Checks and Plaids, Tan and B-woven combinations in stripes. Every yard of these goods is silk and wool mixed and actually worth from \$1.00 to \$1.25—but on our front bargain square at 50c yard.

25c for 49c Dress Goods—100 pieces of all wool, small checks and plaid, two-toned dress goods, all colors and choice of 40 pieces, all wool novelties—every one a desirable combination and go at just 25c yard.

25c

High Class Novelties—In plaids checks and plain covers, all desirable shades; these are some of our latest importations, on sale at 75c A D \$1.25

Black Dress Goods

50c for 98c Black Dress Goods—A really extraordinary lot of fashionable fabrics, including etamines, jacquards, storm serges, chevots, German Henrietta and French Serges in black—20-45 department at 50c yard.

Priestley's Renowned Black Goods

Priestley's pure silk and wool, large and small figured goods, in epinglin and other well known weaves, on sale at \$1.35 yard.

A grand assortment of Silk and Satin Brocades, in all the new two and three-toned changeable effects, a really handsome display and just the thing for waists and dress trimmings, at 48c yard.

A new lot of LARGE PLAIDS 27 inches wide, very heavy silk taffetas, in ombre, plain camellian plaids, satin plaids and fancy block plaids, beautiful for shirt waists and trimmings, actually worth \$2.00, on sale at \$1.25 yard.

49c Printed India Silk and Japanese Foulards, choice qualities, best designs and remarkable values at 49c yard.

Black Silks Black peau de soie and satin dress silks, a choice quality at \$1.25, 98c and 69c yard. Black figured heavy satin, new patterns at 49c and 75c

TRIMMED MILLINERY.

In the Millinery department we are showing unquestionably, the swiftest millinery outside of New York. Every late and exclusive effect can be found in our Art millinery pattern room, and no matter how expensive or inexpensive, they will have the utmost style and greatest possible value.

AT \$1250 and \$15 SPECIAL OFFERING. Knowing that we would sell out nearly every hat by Easter, we have telegraphed and received from New York 100 NEW PATTERN HATS, which will be displayed in our Art pattern room for the first time, at \$12.50 and \$15.00, including the Shepherdess, short back Safors, and other hats that are entirely new.

AT \$5.00 and \$7.50 BEAUTIFULLY TRIMMED HATS on sale at \$5.00 and \$7.50, trimmed just as stylishly as our more expensive hats.

500 HATS TRIMMED WITH FLOWERS \$2.50 chiffon, quills and ornaments, on sale at \$2.50.

LADIES' NEW SUITS

Dress Skirts, Jackets, Capes and Silk Waists. \$12, \$15, and \$18 Tailor Made Suits. \$7.50 At \$750 These suits are made of most fashionable and durable materials, strictly all wool covers, chevots and Broadcloths in the latest and prettiest shades, jackets cut full front style, lined with fine quality of silk, skirts cut full width, lined with percaline and bound with velveteen, at \$7.50.

Extra—200 Ladies' Model Suits, Blouses, Fly Fronts, Box Coats, Blazer suits (only one or two of a kind), fancy silk lined, braided, tucked, plaited—cheviot broadcloth, whipcord, serge, covert, etc.—all colors, worth up to \$45, cleared at \$12.50.

Ladies' Tailored Suits At \$1500 of Coverts, in box fronts, silk lined waists, in which and navy cheviot serge suits, fly front, silk lined skirts and jackets, at \$15.00.

\$8.50 Ladies' Dress Skirts Tomorrow at \$4.98. Made of strictly all wool serge in navy or black, lined with fine quality silk and bound with velveteen, tomorrow at \$4.98.

Tailor Made Top Coats, Tomorrow at \$5 Made of strictly all wool evert cloth, in stylish spring colors, cut fly front style, notched collar, coat back, lined throughout with fancy colored silk, an extremely durable and pretty little garment, at \$5.

Ladies' New Spring Capes. Ladies' silk capes, plaited empire effects in black, handsomely embroidered with jet and prairie trimmed around neck with a ruching of ribbon and lace, ribbon bow down front, \$3.98.

Ladies' silk lined cloth capes, in black or tan, very prettily trimmed with ribbon and silk embroidery, ribbon bow down front, at \$4.98.

TROPICAL LIFE IN ECUADOR

Where Melons Grow on Trees and the Mules Wear Pantalnets. A PROGRESSIVE CITY. Guayaquil is what the Ecuadorians call a progressive city. It has 50,000 inhabitants. It covers the banks of the River Guayas for miles, and at a distance is very imposing. It has fine buildings of great styles, with balconies, out of which dangled beautiful look from under half-closed shutters down upon you as you go through the streets. It has a maze of great stores, which are open at the front, so that you can look within as in an Egyptian bazaar. Stores with stocks of goods worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, and wide-open warehouses filled with bags of cocoa, coffee and sugar awaiting shipment. Its streets are thronged with the black and white trades on the sidewalks, with Indian women to comb the insects from their own and their children's hair seduced upon their backs, with men carrying great bags and baskets upon their backs, and with beautiful women of the better classes, who go along in couples, dressed in black with black shawl-brown faces. It has hundreds of donkeys, who carry all sorts of things through the streets. There are some one-legged men, and there is one who is blind, and there is one who is lame. It is the baker's wagon of Guayaquil. This is also a large number of business men, the richest of whom are Italian, English, French, Chinese or Spaniards, and two banks, one of which

Basement Special Bargain Monday 100 pieces Brown Comforter Prints The regular 74c kind—tomorrow, 23c

Special Bargain in Basement. 2 cases Fruit of Loom MUSLIN 5c full pieces—no remnants..... 5yd.

Special Bargain in Basement. 300 pieces Imperial English Long Cloth, 12 yards in a bolt, go at 85c per bolt, worth \$1.50..... 85c

Special Bargain in Basement. 100 pieces of INDIA LAWN, regular 124c kind, as long as it lasts at 61c yard..... 61c

Grand Special Bargain in Basement 30 pieces of 40-inch Apron Lawn worth 19c yard, full pieces—no remnants..... 5c

Special Bargain in Basement. 7-Foot WINDOW SHADES, all complete, with spring roller, at 9c each..... 9c

WHERE THE MELONS GROW ON TREES.

The equatorial coast region, where I now am, is full of vegetable wonders. This is today the richest and most productive part of Ecuador. In my sixty miles' sail up the River Guayas big melons, green and red, are everywhere. They are the melons of the fields of Egypt in winter, in which fat cattle, and horses and mules stood up to their bellies in them. In the present season they are the melons of the fields of Egypt in winter, in which fat cattle, and horses and mules stood up to their bellies in them. In the present season they are the melons of the fields of Egypt in winter, in which fat cattle, and horses and mules stood up to their bellies in them.

THE LAND OF THE EQUATOR.

But before I go further let me tell you something of Ecuador. The name means equator, and Ecuador is the land of the equator. It lies sandwiched between Colombia and Brazil and Peru, on the west coast of South America, in the shape of a great fan, the handle of which extends into northern Brazil, and the scalloped rim of which is washed by the Pacific ocean. It is one of the least known countries of the world. Parts of it have never been surveyed, and today the different geographical estimates of its size range all the way from the bigness of California to that of Texas. The coast is low, and a rich tropical vegetation extends from the ocean back for 100 miles or less to the foothills of the Andes. The Andes cross the country from north to south in two great parallel ridges, upholding between them a series of basins or valleys, in which about nine-tenths of the people live. These valleys are from a mile and a half to two miles above the sea, and give the interior a beautiful climate, which is more like that of New York City than of the equator. Quito, the capital, is situated in one of the highest of these valleys. It is almost two miles above the altitude of Washington City. Here the weather is that of May in Ohio all the year around. East of the Andes the country is a tropical wilderness. A great branch of the Amazon, the Marañon river, flows along its southern boundaries, and steamers go up the Amazon, enter the Marañon and bring you within a comparatively short distance of Quito. In fact, I am told you can come to within four days' ride of Quito by water via these great rivers and the streams which flow into them. Ecuador has almost every climate known to man. Scores of its Andean peaks are ever covered with snow, and it has mighty glaciers. Chimborazo, on clear days, is visible here and there, and the banana and coffee are unsurpassed by those of any other part of South America.

A CUP OF CHOCOLATE.

The chief article of export from Ecuador, however, is cacao, or, as we call it, cocoa. It is from this that the chocolate comes. There are vast cocoa plantations along the Guayas river and the other rivers of the Pacific coast, and the planters have one of the best paying businesses among the farmers of the world. There are few plantations which do not get 12 per cent, and many bring in five times this amount. Cocoa costs here, I am told, about 3 cents of our money to raise a pound of cocoa, whereas it sells in Guayaquil for about 14 cents, making a clear profit to the farmer of 11 cents (good) a pound, and paying him a profit of about 460 per cent. This year Ecuador will raise about 40,000,000 pounds of cocoa beans, which will be shipped to Europe and the United States. The crop is

SOME LATE INVENTIONS.

A new rubber for wet weather wear does not extend round the heel, but is fastened to the narrow part of the shoe sole by spring clips to hold it in place. A new racketing shaft which will prevent collisions of rollers in a crowd by a new foot attachment of a short shaft at the rear end of the shaft, which also supports the seat. A new pencil holder is formed of a curved spring section to surround the pencil with a pin in the back by which the holder can be quickly attached to the coat or vest. Wearing apparel is kept from wrinkling by a new hanger which is made of wire and has a curved spring portion for the coat and vest, with slots in the lower side to receive the buttons of the trousers. Carriage lamps burning candles can be tilted out of the lamp by a new device consisting of a curved spring which will catch the candle socket and carrying a central wick tube with a lever wick adjuster. Fountain marking pens for use in shipping departments are being made with a ball set to the end of an ink-holding tube having an outlet to feed ink to the revolving ball as it is drawn over the surface to be marked. Short persons can raise themselves to the height of others in a crowd by a new foot attachment consisting of an iron foot plate having legs long enough to raise the user to any desired height when strapped to his feet. In a new safety hat pin a spring arm is attached to the head of the pin and extends a short distance down its shank, ending in a sharp point at right angles with the pin to engage the fabric as the pin is pushed into position. Housewives will appreciate a new culinary beater which is made of glass and curved at the bottom, with a double set of paddles geared to a crank outside the jar to come within the opening in the peak which slips over the tip of the umbrella and acts as a cup to catch the water.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

Ithaca is to have a co-operative glass factory. One firm in Sweden makes 21,000,000 candles yearly. Denton, Tex., is to have a 5,000-spindle cotton factory. The Massachusetts electric lines are going into the express business. Massachusetts textile mills produce 2,000,000,000 worth of goods a year. Glass manufacturers are of the opinion that this will be the greatest building year since 1891. At Huntsville, Ala., it is proposed to build a factory to make wooden articles used by cotton mills. A ten-hour day for railroad employees will be secured by a bill before the Massachusetts legislature. Laboring men have 312 working days a year in Hungary, 208 in the United States, 278 in England and 267 in Russia. There are 30,000 unionists in Japan, two-thirds of them added during the last year. The Japs catch upon the benefits of organization by the fact that they have a union of Alabama iron works, and Great Britain will exclude this iron under a law barring convict products. The new \$600,000 cotton mill at Avondale, Ala., will start up within the next few days. It will employ 600 hands and consume 12,000 bales of cotton annually. The Dayton Coal and Iron company, Dayton, Tenn., has advanced the wages of its 3,100 miners 10 per cent and other laborers 12 to 15 per cent, beginning April 1. Two thousand two hundred acres of cedar timber are cut down every year in order to make wood cases for lead pencils, of which more than 2,000 are made in Florida. Alaskan demand has caused dealers in evaporated fruit and vegetables at Portland, Ore., to double their plants and the number of their employees. The seven years' struggle between the Brunsvick-Balko Colliery Co. of Chicago and the woodworkers' union ended by the former making an agreement to hereafter employ union men only. Japanese matches threaten to drive out the Swedish. The exportation, which was 3,000 gross of boxes in 1894, rose to 9,000,000 gross in 1897 and 18,000,000 gross in 1896. The price per case of 7,200 boxes is \$16.50. Japan now supplies China and India, and is working its way into the British market. The annual report for 1897 of the Consumers' League of New York gives the league's "white list" of the retail houses which approach nearest to the league's standard in its dealings with its employees. The list includes thirty-six names of firms, among which are to be found about a dozen of the large dry goods concerns, though several of the biggest are not in it. The league's