

*The History of Silk, Cotton, Linen, Wool, and other fibrous substances, including Observations on Spinning, Dyeing and Weaving; also an Account of the Pastoral Life of the Ancients, Social State, and Attainments in the Social Arts. With Appendices on Pliny's Natural History; on the Origin and Manufacture of Linen and Cotton paper; on Felting, Netting, &c. Illustrated by Steel Engravings.* New York: Harper & Brothers, 1845.

The above title, which is given in full, sufficiently proves the very great value of the work. It is crowded with the most curious and useful information, and on topics which are constantly attracting more of the attention of this country. The proficiency, still more the processes, of the ancients, in the useful arts—especially in the culture and manufacture of silk, cotton and linen—are very little known. History has been, in this respect disastrously partial. The author, in his preface, remarks justly and well to this point.

The book is a most interesting and important one to all in this country who are engaged, or engaging, in the culture of silk, cotton and flax. This class, especially of silk and flax growers, is becoming larger every day, and they ought to lay hold of whatever sources of information are opened to them. They cannot fail to find this volume worth to them its full price. It is even curious and interesting matter to the general reader. The book is every way well executed, with fine paper and ample illustrations. We recommend it to the agricultural and growing West.

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