COTTON TRADE SCHOOLS IN THE SOUTH.

BY J. A. STEVENS.

The progress which the South has been making in cotton manufacturing augurs well for the future prosperity and advancement of the Southern section. While there were 7,105,000 cotton spindles in Massachusetts at the beginning of 1895, there was no State south of Mason and Dixon's line with a similar amount. Now there are two, North and South Carolina, with over that number, thus exceeding all the New England States excepting Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire.

The value of the cotton goods manufactured in the eight Southern States in 1899 was $6,157,322, and in 1890 the returns showed a value of cotton manufactures reaching $6,165,074 or a gain of nearly 24 per cent.

This splendid growth is bringing the South into prominence through the enhancement thus given to national fortunes. Its progress is also bringing it closer relation and a clearer understanding of the development of the manufacturing interests which comprise so large a portion of the life and prosperity of the nation. Furthermore, this grasp of conditions is shown by the growing realization in the South of the need of trained craftsmen and educated workmen to conduct its colossal manufacturing interests.

Like-textile manufacturers in foreign countries, manufacturers in the South are recognizing that the system of training workmen in the mill is ineffective, for the textile mill is an establishment whose chief purpose is production and not instruction. Consequently they have been awoke to the necessity of establishing textile schools, from which are to come trained workmen and educated engineers for the carrying on of their large and growing textile industrial enterprises.

The first cotton trade school in the South is that started in 1898-1899 in connection with the Georgia School of Technology at Atlanta, Lyman Hall, president. Clemson College, S. C., has also recently opened a textile department in a building especially erected for its use under the direction of J. H. M. Beatty. By the establishment of these two trade teaching institutions, the South has justified its claim to textile educational enterprise.

The Atlanta institution is very complete. It was designed by a Boston architect, and as it stands it embodies the very latest ideas of mill construction, as well as a convenient school department.

The school is the outcome of the legislative act of December, 1897, which appropriated $10,000 for the establishment of the Textile School on condition that its friends contribute $10,000 additional in money and machinery. A wealthy philanthropist, Mr. Aaron Frowe, of Pittsburg, became the chief benefactor of the institution. In his honor it has been named "The A. French Textile School." In December, 1898, the legislature appropriated $80,000 for two consecutive years for the support of the school. The building is of brick, 130 by 70 feet and three stories in height. The basement floor contains the laboratory, dye house, receiving and finishing rooms, store and washrooms, the engine room, a ginery and a lecture room. On the first floor one finds the department devoted to preparing the warps and weaves. Here are also the designing room, a room for Jacquard designing, an exhibition department besides the principal's office. The top floor is occupied by the carding and spinning department, where the cotton is brought from its crude state up to a finished yarn ready for weaving.

The equipment of the school is complete. In appre-