THE TEXTILE MERCURY.

January 19, 1899.

Foreign Correspondence.

TEXTILE MATTERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The question of stamping imported goods with the name of the country of origin has been exciting a good deal of attention here, but no definite results seem to have been arrived at as to the precise nature of the requirements exacted by the law. Shall each of the needles in a box of needles be stamped, or only the packets in which they are put up? And how about imports of such articles as cotton or linen threads? Is every reel to bear a indication of origin? The question is by no means settled.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 19th, 1899.


Gentlemen,—To reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are informed that, in the opinion of the Department, the provisions of Sec. 6 of the act of October 14, 1899, will be sufficiently complied with in the case of the importation of kid gloves on and after the 1st of January, 1899, if the hands surrounding the number of pairs of such gloves, or the cartons thereof with the outside packages are marked, stamped, banded, or branded in the name of the country of origin, and not the individual gloves.—Respectfully yours,

O. L. Spalding, Assistant Secretary.

The question of the textile manufactures which has been raised by Means, Marshall, Field, and Co., forms the subject of an "opinion" by Judge Somerville. The appellants in their protest assail as unconstitutional the Act of Congress entitled, "An Act to reduce the revenue and equal duties upon imports, and for other purposes," approved October 14, 1899, commonly known as the McKinley Tariff Act. It is insisted that this Act is void and of no effect, and that the duties assessed on certain imported merchandise under its provisions were illegally assessed—that the Tariff Act of March 3, 1897, still remains in full force, and that the rates of duty imposed by it continue unaltered. The first ground upon which the protest is based is, that an important and material part of the measure as enacted by Congress was omitted, or clerically expunged, which had the effect of reversing the judgment of this President. This refers of course to the now famous tobacco section. It is not necessary for illustrative purposes to go into the details of the judge, but it may be stated that, after citing several cases in which the clerical omission of a single word caused a material change, he concluded, "by not affecting its validity, his Honour says.—The question is: Shall the whole law fail, as unconstitutional and void, because of a clerical omission in the one section relating to the one article of tobacco?"
This make of cloth is also being required for in the plain weave, with slate, black, peach, lead, dark buff, and light cinnamon brown for warp shadings; wet all grey, or white linen, and a mottled worsted composed of one thread, silk, wool, and linen, wound loosely together with no twist whatever, the two ends to be, when doubled, equal to 30's; the same reed, picks, etc., as the make for design above referred to. This union cloth will be the most durable and effective fabric that has been introduced for spring wear and as a dress material for many years past.

**SPRING DRESS PATTERN.**

This is in a 40 reed, two in a dent, or 80 ends per inch in a 200 reed; warp, 30's organzine silk; and weft 30's single tram silk, 80 picks per inch; a cassimere or 6-end twill, as taste may require; indeed, it would be well to make ranges of patterns in both “weaves” and place them for orders as speedily as possible. The following warp patterns will be found all that is desired: 12 ends mid buff, 6 single ends doubled to 24 to make 3 of crimson silk, 12 buff, 4 dark brown, dark blue, or black, 12 buff, 4 dark shades, as just mentioned, 12 buff, 4 dark shades, 12 buff, 4 dark shades, 12 buff, 4 dark shades; total ends, 94 in full pattern, and repeat. Weft the same, but light cream tram silk to oppose the crimson in the warp. A second pattern with reed, counts, etc., same as the preceding. Warp, 16 light cream, 4 powder blue, 4 cream, 4 powder blue, 4 cream, 4 powder blue, 4 cream, 4 powder blue, 16 cream, 6 of light green organzine silk, double so as to make 3 ends only in thickness; total, 86 ends. These patterns will be found the most elegant of any produced for this spring season.