The textile Mercurv.

April 25, 1899.

mention whatever is made of Hollyday's processes, by which such colours were first produced, and which are really the master pieces of work after work on the subject. It seems to us that the author, in common with all Continental writers, has ignored English workers on this subject as much as possible. Before and after reference to Perkins' and Lightfoot's annealing, there is absolutely no reference to English work whatever. Yet the present methods of dyeing with the coal-tar colours are almost purely English discoveries. No reference is made to any recognition of English workers by foreign makers, such as the Gammes of Messrs. Read Hollyday, the turner of Messrs. Brooke, Simpson and Spiller, nor the Claytown colours of the Claytown Limited, over.

The book is well got up, and the patterns are very attractive, though not all well done. We think, however, that it would have been an improvement to have stated the processes used in their production in a more definite manner than has been done, and in the case of dyed patterns to have given the percentage of colour used for producing each shade; then, again, where, as in the case of benzine-aurein and benzopurpurine, there are several brands of the colour, the particular brand used in the dyeing of the pattern should be stated.

One feature of the book that calls for notice is that with each group of colours is given a table of results and reactions with various reagents of the colouring matters. These tables are coloured, and look nice, but we have doubts as to the value, as the colour of the table is not exact representations of colours actually obtained in the tests. There are a good many optical errors in the tests themselves, and the numbers are not more than are noticed in the page of errata, but for the most part they are not serious ones. Altogether the book is worth acquiring, and those of our readers who understand French will find it to contain much useful information.

Messrs. Fleming, Son, and Co., the eminent belting manufacturers and mill furnishers, West Grove Mill, Halifax, have just issued a revised price list of their specialties and the various wares they deal in. The list, in addition to current prices, contains a considerable quantity of valuable information, which will be useful for ready reference in office or shop. The firm supplies it gratis on application.

The society for the development of industry at Bolton, whose gold medal and a prize of 3,000 marks to the inventor of a method of manufacturing yarn and fabrics from the fibre of cellulosic, which is produced in England and sold in the country. The cellulosic must be worked as far as possible in the same manner as cotton, in any case it can be made into 50 per cent. of other textile fibres. The close of the competition is fixed for November, when the object is to encourage Germany more independent of countries beyond the sea so far as concerns vegetable fibres used in large quantities, such as cotton and jute.

Designing.

COTTON DRESS PLAIN AND STRIPE DESIGN.

No. 1.—This design is an amalgamation of four distinct weaves for the purpose of breaking up the vertical and transverse lines of a dress with pattern or repetition of property developed in warp and weft. It forms a charming novelty for the summer season: 30 shafts straight-over draft, 30 to the round, 60 ends per inch, of 30's worsted. 6 shafts, 1 yd. 9½ inches; 4 inches wide, called double width, 30 inches wide. If the design, which is simply suggestive, is carefully examined it will be found capable of producing a great variety of patterns in any textile material, and in silk and wool effectively.

We give a stripe pattern as follows: 6 chocolate, 10 maize, 4 chocolate, 4 maize, 4 chocolate, 5 maize, 5 chocolate, 5 maize.
SUGGESTIONS FOR FIGURED DRESS FABRICS.

Designers of figured dress fabrics have of late given themselves over to the productions of what may perhaps be best described as “in discriminate nothing.” Figures partaking of the characteristics of no natural design, however conventionalised, arranged apparently any way. Very effective are many of these, undoubtedly taxing the designer’s brain to a considerable extent; but being, if we may venture to so term them, of unnatural growth, it is questionable whether they will long survive the war which the growing love for nature is waging against them. Now it seems to us that many of Nature’s forms lend themselves to development as textiles which as yet have never been treated. Among such occur the multiform forms of birds. The characteristic features of many plants, insects, animals, etc., defy suggestion by lines and curves such are admissible in textiles, but when we come to birds, not only do we find that appropriate environment which is essential to the effective rendering of natural forms, but we also find that the characteristic features of many of the denizens of the air may be delineated as completely as is necessary by such means as the textile designer can command. For example, the wings and tail of the swallow, a simple treatment of which we have attempted; the round head and bulky body of the bulfinch; the plump yet neat form of the wren; the bill of the king-fisher, and the characteristic tails of most birds, are quite capable of being so rendered that the form in part represented suggests itself at once to the observer. Such is truth is the real art of textile design.

In Design 35 we give a treatment of the swallow suitable for arranging as a spot form, the development of which may be effected in various ways. If developed twice the size given here, say for a 400 machine, then with the same system of development the following sett will be found suitable:

**Warp.**
- All 80/2 silk.
- All 60’s silk.

**Weft.**
- 50 ends per inch.
- 60 ends per inch.

Another system of development would be to employ plain or 2-and-2 twill ground with weft flush figure, in which case the following sett will be useful:

**Warp.**
- All 60/2 silk.
- All 60’s silk.

**Weft.**
- All 60/2 silk.
- 40’s red 25%.

As a worsted fabric we should suggest its development in warp and weft 5-end satin, or, for a cotton warp and lurex weft the system of development given above will prove effective.