shown in overcoming such obstacles. The general principles of weaving having been sufficiently explained there will now be little difficulty in tracing the various modifications from step to step—when it will be found that the effect produced by the introduction of the Jacquard apparatus, and the great change it has given rise to, has been in no way overrated in its value.

When a loom is arranged to be worked by an automatic machine, all that is required in order to weave a new design is to make the alterations in the machine itself—equivalent to altering the position of the pegs upon the barrel of a musical instrument—either by changing the barrel, or using various sets of perforated cards. But in the case of a loom not provided with such a machine, the matter is quite different, the loom itself requires to be altered, or rather the tying up of the various cords and levers, and the arrangement of the warp in the healds have to be arranged accordingly.

There are several ways in which this can be done, each having its own advantages, according to the particular weft on which they depend. They may be classified as follows:

1. The use of healds in any practicable number, in regular or irregular order, as in weaving satins, twills, spot, or small figures.

2. In forming the healds into groups of two or more divisions, in such a manner that any of the divisions may be brought into action, each division having a distinct and separate control over the whole of the warp, at the same time each warp thread to pass through one eye or less only of the healds, as in damask weaving.

3. In passing the warp through two separate harnesses, so that each thread of the warp passes through two eyes; both harnesses having a compound control over the warp, as in damask weaving.

There are other kinds of weaving, such as gauze, velvets, &c., but they are produced by entirely different processes to the above, and will be described separately.

Weaving—No. X.

Weaving without the Aid of Automatic Machines.

Previous to the introduction of the Jacquard and other automatic machines the weaver, as we have before stated, had to resort to a variety of contrivances—often of a very complicated nature—in order to enable him to produce figured or ornamental fabrics. We shall now endeavour to describe the system he pursued, and the tediousness of the labour to which the complication of his loom gave rise.

The ingenuity shown in these contrivances was often very great, and the success with which great numbers of threads could be worked in various designs by means of only a few working parts is worthy of attention, for there is perhaps no other art, in which the requirements for such complication exist, and none in which greater skill has been shown in what we are now attempting. We shall, therefore, give a more extended account of the process and details, as it is impossible to do justice to this branch of manufacture by giving a mere summary of the subject. We have, as far as the use of four healds only were concerned, shown the principle upon which satins, twills, and zig-zags, and double cloths are woven, those forming the first class into which we have divided the subject. But as four healds are very limited in number—in fact, the smallest number that could be used for the purpose—will be desirous to show the use of a greater number of healds, and how they may be employed in the weaving of ordinary satins, &c.

In silk weaving as many as sixteen leaves and
upwards are used in making very rich satins. Fig. 87 on the preceding page represents the order in which the intersections are made, and Fig. 88 shows the appearance of the face of a sixteen-looped satin when magnified. The intersections only occurring once in sixteen times, the weft threads, although they may be of a different colour, are scarcely discernible in the face of the cloth. The warp threads, when very numerous and crowded together, naturally tend to cover over the few intersections, and the threads thereby give that smooth and uninter sected appearance by which rich satins are distinguished.

Fig. 89 shows the arrangement of the intersections of the common satin, which is woven with eight leaves, and Fig. 90 the satin, which is woven with five leaves. Satins are usually woven with the face of the cloth downwards, for if this were not so, in the case of weaving a sixteen-looped satin fifteen leaves out of the sixteen would have to be raised at every pick, and only one would remain at rest. On the other hand, with the face downwards, only one out of the sixteen is raised, whilst fifteen remain at rest, and thus the friction on the warp and the labor of the process is not only proportionately saved, but the appearance and quality of the cloth is improved.

The principle upon which the regular twills and zigzags are produced has been explained by the aid of Fig. 49, &c., in a former article, we shall now shew how it is extended to the production of small figures. Fig. 91 is a plan of a warp with six headings, and shows a portion of cloth woven. No reed is shown, nor anything that would indicate the figure, and it will be understood that only a few threads are represented, for the pattern in actual cloth would be simply repeated. W and W' show the warp threads which are passed through the eyes of the headings, in the order shown by the circles, which represent a sectional plan of the headings at the line BB, Fig. 92.

Each of the headings, Fig. 91, being marked with letters, the effect they produce on the cloth can be readily traced in C, and, consequently, the principle upon which the system depends. Thus the first pick of the weft A, has been inserted when the headings a b c have been raised; the second pick when a b c have been raised; and so on to the last pick—the letters at C being clearly traceable to the letters at H. Fig. 92 is a section of Fig. 91, showing the sheds open. Fig. 91 and Fig. 92 represent the plan of the pattern woven as it would be shown by the weaver in order to arrange the loom.

We need not say that, at first sight, there appears no clue to connect or associate the plan Fig. 92 with the pattern woven Fig. 91, but a little attention to the matter will be amply repaid by tracing the ingenious and simple manner in which the subject is planned by the weaver. In a former instance lines with marks at their intersections were shown, but weavers also use spaces as well as lines for the purpose. Hence the circles in the spaces Fig. 93, correspond to the marks at the intersections before mentioned. Sometimes two or three descriptions of marks are used, and in this case the use of spaces instead of lines is desirable as affording more room and distinctness.

On comparing the warp threads W and W', Fig. 91, with the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, &c., at W, Fig. 93, a resemblance is at once detected in the arrangement of the figures with the circles, representing the eyes of the headings H, Fig. 91. In short, the spaces marked by the letters a b c d e f g, Fig. 93, represent the headings marked with the same letters in Fig. 91, and the order of entering the warp threads W, Fig. 91, is the same as shown at W, Fig. 93. In the same figure the headings, six in number, are shown at T. The numbers above T represent the consecutive order in which the headings are worked, which is simply backwards and forwards, and by this means the diamond form of the pattern is woven.

The small figures under the letter T show the order in which the headings could be worked more conveniently—beginning with the right foot at 1, the left 2, and so on. Therefore, after it is shown in what order the headings have to be raised, as shown by the figures above T, the connections between the headings and the threads are "tied up," according to the convenience of the weaver for working them, as shown by the figures below T. The circles in plan, Fig. 93, show which of the headings are raised and correspond with the letters at c, Fig. 91. For instance, the first pick A' has been effected by raising the headings marked a b c, as marked at c. In like manner circles are to be found on the headings a b c, Fig. 93, where they intersect No. 1, which is raised at A', Fig. 91. Consequently the thread No. 1 is attached to and has raised the headings a b c.

A great variety of figures can thus be made with comparatively few headings, and combinations of figures can also be made; one example of which, Fig. 94, may be sufficient to give an idea of the system. In this instance a cross and a diamond are combined in alternate order, or the figures are "boomed" together.

By another modification of the same principle another variety of figures may be woven at pleasure. This is shown at Fig. 95, and can be conveniently used for forming spots, or small figures; hence it is known as spotting harness. As the figures and letters in Fig. 95 correspond with the descriptions given of Fig. 91, it is scarcely need any further explanation.

When a considerable number of headings were used, such as in weaving with twenty leaves and upwards, it became necessary to adopt some means to dispense with the headings, and we have already described one of the machines used for that purpose, viz., the "Jack in the box." There is another machine of far greater range, the draw-boy, which was formerly used to a great extent. It will be described in connexion with the draw loom, although it was equally applicable to the weaving of smaller figures. It is now, perhaps, entirely superseded, but as it supplied the principal work, the weaver formerly had to assist him previous to the adoption of the Jacquard machine, it could not be omitted in a description of the old method of weaving. The machine was worked by two treadles, although in a more simple form one treadle was used, and instead of the headings being raised by the cords attached to the couplers and long Marches, they were attached from the couplers, or top levers, direct to the draw-boy machine. But as the machine was of far more importance when used in connexion with the draw loom its mode of action will be shown in connexion with the draw loom.