Current Topics.

NEW WOVEN FABRICS.

Persons possessing any practical acquaintance with the textile industries are well aware that at very short intervals the discovery of new fibres is announced, the excellence of the qualities of which will enable them to disestablish and disdrown, in the esteem of the manufacturer, the old favourites—wool, cotton, silk, and flax. Indeed, so numerous have been the new candidates for favour, though their triumphs have been tried with so little success, that we are no wise surprised at the establishment of an institution in London for the purpose of examining and testing these claims to consideration. Our readers will find this school and its objects described in an article from the Times in another column. We cannot say from the statements made that we have been inspired with a great deal of confidence in the prospective usefulness of the new institution, but trust to learn more of a practical character about which may alter our present views. The proper management of such a place will require a combination of skill, science, and practical knowledge, not often found combined, whilst its equipment with machinery will need to be of the most varied character. The amount of business likely to be forthcoming is in proportion to its success, and the way in which its work is executed.

THE UNIFORM WOVEN FABRICS LIST.

As we have several times ventured to predict, this matter is steadily proceeding towards settlement. The adjourned meeting of the Northern Counties Association of Weavers, held at Durham on Saturday afternoon, to consider the proposed uniform list as agreed to by the joint committee of employers and employed at the White Bull Hotel, Blackpool, on Saturday last, after a long and animated discussion, resolved:—"That the list, as settled by the joint committee, be approved conditional to a modification of the 11th clause." The majority by which this was carried was only very narrow. The resolution to which objection is taken provides for a small allowance being made to firms using what is termed "thatch" twist, which in these days we suppose will include the old thistle frame yarn and ring yarn frame. It has always been understood that these yarns are of better material and superior in quality, and cost more than mule yarns. As a consequence, twenty or thirty years ago they were much preferred by weavers, who could earn more money with less labour than from other sorts. Though an advantage may still exist at the present day, we do not think it great enough to make it practicable in another way, by the development of ring spinning on a more extensive scale in the weaving districts, which will provide more and varied employment for their families, an object not to be disregarded.

THE NEW WEAVER WAGES LIST IN THE COLOURED GOODS TRADE.

In another column we print the new list for the coloured branch of the cotton trade. This list has been framed and finally accepted by employers and employed. It deals with plain, striped, and check cloths, which are extensively woven in some parts of East Lancashire. Over 3,000 operatives are affected by the list, and about 12,500 looms, chiefly in the Barley district. The question may now be asked, what will South Lancashire do in relation to the same subject?

FOUNDACTION OF A FREE TRADE LEAGUE IN FRANCE.

France always flatters itself that it is the leader in all phases of human progress, and that all other nations, tongues, and peoples form merely a court relais. This is a grateful no doubt, to French sentiment, but it finds little acceptance outside her borders. So important did she deem her revolution of 1789 in the political world that she started a new era from the event. She was quite oblivious that in England had had two revolutions, 160 and 100 years before, in the first of which we effectively controlled the army by making one of them shorter by the head, as they did later on; and in the second that we established constitutional liberty. About half a century ago we founded a Free Trade League, and France imitated us—no, we are wrong, our neighbours are always original, and imitate no one—by founding a Free Trade League to-day. It is reported from Bordeaux that on Wednesday night the first meeting was held of a league which had been formed there for the defence of imports and exports. A provisional committee has been instituted to prepare for a propaganda all through the country in the interests of unchoked Free Trade. The league has already
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A FRENCH LIEGE ON ENGLISH LACE.

A paragraph that we have no hesitation in describing as a malicious libel on English lace is beginning to go round the trades papers. Here is the item in all its barbarous statements:

LEAD DE LACE.—Ph. de Clamont gives an account in *Le Moniteur de la Tenture* of a white satin lace totally ruined with English lace. The dress had been worn but once, had been packed away, and when examined, it was evident that the lace which had been deposited in a damp place and exposed to emanations of hydrochloric acid from gas. When taken out it was found that the lace had changed to the state of a white satin. The accident was not difficult to explain. English lace is habitually charged with sulphuric acid, which in this case had absorbed hyposulphite and hydrochloric acid from the atmosphere, forming sulphide of lead, which had been impregnated and fixed upon the white satin, which naturally had also absorbed hydrogen and hydrochloric acid.

We may observe in passing that the account referred to appeared in the *Moniteur* as far back as April of last year. From this it may be safely inferred that it was first done into English lace some time ago, where it has not, doubtless cured itself or evil end, namely, that of helping forward the sales of French lace to the detriment of English lace. In the paragraph the paragraph will not bear examination. If the lace was charged with lead, then it ought to have been the lace, and not the satin, that was discolorated. Lace, as it is now, is rather charged with anything except a little starch to stiffen it: if for no better reason, then because it is impermeable to nitric acid and to such open fabrics as lace with silk, and lead especially could not be so used. But, on the other hand, it is a common practice to wash silks and satins in; in fact, it was the French silk dyers who introduced the practice of washing silk, and who to-day care not for the most flimsy material. Moreover, lace is a favourite weight-bearing material with them, and of the two—the lace and satin—the satin was the more likely to be charged. This we venture to assert really was the case, partly on the ground that the discoloration was on the satin, and partly because, as pointed out above, it is not usual to wash white lace, while it is usual to wash white satins. The public may, therefore, be at ease, as there is no cause for concern as regards weights or poisonous laces; but, as they seem to wish to discuss this sort of adventure, we are not assured that another textile baggy will shortly be raised by the sensation or the news.

FRENCH INFRINGEMENT OF A NOTTINGHAM DESIGN.

Not content with libelling English lace by statements such as those referred to in the preceding note, our French friends, who are so proud of boasting of their artistic taste and originality, have commenced to pirate successful Nottingham designs. Last week an action was commenced at the Birmingham assizes by Winfield and Sons, lace manufacturers, of Nottingham, against Snow Brothers, lace merchants, of London, to claim an injunction and damages in respect of an alleged infringement of the plaintiffs’ design for lace. In April of last year plaintiffs registered a design for the manufacture of Chalmeley lace, and the defendant is alleged to have infringed it by using it in the making of a lace described as ‘Chalmeley’. Shortly after the first samples were issued the plaintiffs’ attention was called to certain infringements by the defendant, and the present action was taken.

The defendant’s contention was that as the pattern had been shown and sold to a firm in the 26th February, and was not registered until the 18th of the following month, a prior publication had taken place, which prevented the plaintiffs from claiming the registration of the design. Without going into further details we may briefly state that a verdict was given for the plaintiff by Mr. Justice Hawkins, and costs against the defendant. The defendant acted as agents for a French firm of manufacturers who had obviously imitated the design originally produced by Messrs. Winfield.

IN CHINA NOTING.

The North China Herald brings intelligence that since H. E. Chang Chiklung has been appointed Viceroy of the Hupeh province he has carried over, as it were, all the projects for the establishment of new industries in Canton to Hankow, which is rapidly growing in importance. In the number of new schemes mainly of great importance, is one for the establishment of a cotton mill on the most improved English pattern, which will be built very soon on the right bank of the Yangtze, at a short distance from the south gate of the city. The construction of the building has begun, a part of the machinery has been landed, and the engineer, Mr. Dickinson, arrived at Wuchang some time ago to superintend the construction of the factory, which in full working order will have 20,000 spindles in operation. Much more we are told, but in matters Celestial, it is best to bear earless in patience and not to be disappointed if all we hear should not turn out true.

HOW TRADES UNIONS MAKE BAD WORKMAN.

An incident has taken place in a mill in an important district which illustrates the manner in which trades unions as at present constituted and conducted, help to deteriorate the quality of English labour and to encourage lazy and incompetent workmen. At the mill in question the manager found it necessary to examine minutely the work done by a certain spinner, complaints having been received of his slovenly cropping. He discovered amongst his work a very large proportion of damaged cords; these he collected and weighed, and charged the spinner the difference in value between sound and inferior cords, the whole amounting to less than a shilling. The spinner laid the blame on his piece, and said he would leave it if he were fined. The manager replied he would certainly have to pay for the cords, but whether he left or not. The man left his work and the firm shortly received a communication from the Spinners’ Union that it was contrary to the rules of the firm to fine the spinner and that it must be at once refunded or serious consequences might ensue, etc. Now, in this case there could be no possible excuse for the spinner. The rule of the mill is that if from any cause whatever, either by the machinery being out of order, or the plies being incompetent, bad cords are made, they shall be collected together and placed on the “top” of the sound yarn, and the spinner receives pay as though it was as good as the rest, so that no loss is incurred by him in the matter. In this case, however, the spinner, knowing perfectly that the bad work was the result of his own neglect, concealed it “below” the sound yarn, which got pressed on and showed to the weaver, whereby not only increasing his employer’s loss, but inflicting loss of time and money upon his fellow-operative, the weaver. The trades union, however, which is supported by the wages, provided, in the first instance, by the employer, says: We have rules of our own which shall supersede your rules. No matter what damage, wilful or otherwise, our members inflict upon their employer or upon their fellow-workmen.
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they shall not be made to pay for it, and even although they entered the employer's service subject to the declared rules of the mill, it is to be of no consequence. We rule supreme. We lay down the rules, decree what shall be our work and who shall not work, who shall live and who shall not live: whom we will we slay, and whom we will, we keep alive. In fact, we are the masters, and only we have the privilege of deciding what is right and what is wrong. We can make and we can break the law. The Popes could say no more. Let them beware, however, a day of reckoning must come, unless they are prepared to provide the wages of their misdeeds.

This confirms from another point the lesson to be derived from the present strike at Melrose Mill, Oldham.

JUDGING PROTECTIONISTS OUT OF THEIR OWN MOUTH.

"Little birds in their nests" do not always agree—that is, not if they are of the same disposition as the protectionists may be present day. One would think that followers of an identical policy would not be able to find ground on that account for mutual recrimination. As a Protectionist, we would quarrel with a fellow believer for holding the same religious views as himself, or than the Irish Home Rulers would quarrel with the Gladstonians, also are in the line of Separation. On the contrary, it seems more natural to imagine that when "birds of a feather" do "flock together," nothing but friendly greetings are exchanged, and protectionists should prevail. But alas! 'tis not so. Protectionists, as we have before pointed out, cease to believe in their doctrine when it is practiced outside of their own dooms. All the rest of the world must be free traders. We had occasion last week to comment on the inconsistency of those who adopt this attitude, our remarks having more special reference to France, a protectionist country which has been raising an outcry because the United States has advanced a step farther in the same path as that which our Gallic neighbours are treading. Now we have another amusing spectacle in the action of the American Government in connection with the French prohibition of the importation of American cotton products. Any more cumbersome correspondent of the subject has been sent to Congress. It shows that the efforts of Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the United States Minister at Paris, to procure a small concession last year, failed. Mr. Whitelaw Reid, Acting-Secretary of State, writes that France now bases her exclusion upon economic instead of sanitary grounds. The chief letter is from Mr. Reid to Mr. M. Ribot. It is dated Paris, May 1, last, and fully argues the case, showing that France loses by her prohibitory policy, and intimating that it is obvious that French discrimination against American products is despite the historic friendship between the two countries, beget retaliation from which France would suffer severely, this pork prohibition being a direct attack upon the American agricultural classes, who can always control Congress. The indignation of the American Protectionists is caused by the fact that the prohibition is based on economic, not on sanitary grounds. In other words, the act does not like protection to be imposed by foreign nations on her products, although she herself is fiercely, barbarously protectionist. The paradox is both amusing and significant: an ample supply of sublime ignorance, the protest of the United States against the prohibition of her products abroad is unparalleled, seeing that at the very moment they renounce in this manner the McKinley Bill is being actively pressed forward. Of what use is it to argue, as does Mr. Reid, that the threat of American retaliation should meet with serious attention in France? Of what avail is it to argue that America imports enormously from France whose protective duties are not great, and is probably her largest customer for wines, silk, and other kindred articles? Is not the McKinley "crowd" doing its very best at this moment to lessen these "immorale" imports and, if possible, keep them out altogether? What power of retaliation can the United States possibly use in that ease? It is the matter is that Europe, with its 390 millions, has the whip hand over the 64 millions of the United States in this war of protection. In this hemisphere are the world's great markets; for it are eleven-twelfths of the whole number of mouths that require to be fed and the backs to be clothed throughout the world. Mr. Reid says that "prohibition is a direct attack upon the American agricultural classes, who can always control Congress." Just so. The more the 350 millions of Europe prohibit the products of American farmers, the more the fraction of their crops among the comparatively limited population at home, the more those farmers will attack the American protectionist system to keep Europe to retaliate. We should like to see the effects of further prohibition of United States foodstuffs. Such an action, if adopted, would cause the farmers of the United States, "who control Congress," to turn and rend the party which exists at the small ring of manufacturing monopolists—not by any means for the benefit of the farmers.

THE NEW COMPANY AT PARIS.

The North British Daily Mail, referring to the conversion of an eminent cotton firm into a limited company, has the following remarks. So far as reference is made to the tendency to a change in the current of the demand from ladies to wholesale manufacturers of ladies' wear, we concur with the writer:—

"There has been a good deal of talk about J. and P. Oats during the past week. The trade generally is not enthusiastic about its success as a limited company, but this drawback is being removed by year and more and more a question of value simply and less and less rated by name. Ladies are so much tempted to get ready-made that their custom is decreasing in value, and the trade is being taken over by those who seek for quality and price much more readily. Sir James Whitbread's name and influence has been a decided advantage, for he is a keen and energetic, but the board of directors is not considered a good woman's man, and there is an impression that in future circumstances will be less rather than more favourable to the business, especially as increased duties are threatened in several countries."

ANOTHER OPERATIVE'S DISCHAIR OR EXISTED.

The question raised in these columns a fortnight ago as to whether employers shall retain the right to discharge operatives of whose income a large portion is derived, or for which they have been engaged, or of whom willful neglect to do so they are fully convinced, has just received another illustration of the necessity of the employees taking control of their immediate and serious condition. On December week the card and blowing-room hands at the Britannia Mills, Middleton, struck work owing to a back tax having been delivered and a portion of her wages deducted for alleged bad work. The newspaper paragraph conveying this information does not say whether this is old the statement of the Card-room Hands' Association, nor. But whether or not this case makes it plain they this idea widely permeates the operative mind that to strike under such circumstances is the proper thing to do. The whole of this question was dealt with in a letter to the Manchester Evening News by the General Manager of the Britannia Mills, Mr. J. W. G. Wood, to whom the workers' grievances were referred to, and who in an able and sympathetic reply pointed out that while it was not the intention of the management to treat the operatives in an unfair manner, they were not in a position to grant the demands of the workers, and that the dispute was likely to continue until the workers had a fair hearing. The conclusion was that the dispute was likely to continue until the workers had a fair hearing. The conclusion was that the dispute was likely to continue until the workers had a fair hearing. The conclusion was that the dispute was likely to continue until the workers had a fair hearing.
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is little doubt she was stimulated by her parent, who would hardly be content with the 5s. 6d. per week brought home by the daughter when children several years younger were bringing 11s. to 12s. per week into other households. If this conjecture be true, and we have no doubt but that it is very near the mark, then the cause of the increase of out-of-town workers, though very near. The girl, discharged, left her work at noon, went home as usual to dinner, the dinner hour being, as we presume, the usual one from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. In the ordinary course she would again have left home to return to work at about 1:30, but the mother states in her evidence that her daughter did not tell her that she had been discharged. Unless the mother goes to the mill also, which she may do, we cannot credit the statement she makes, or at least that she did not find out the fact by her daughter not returning as usual. We suggest that this may have been done and the girl severely scolded for her inefficiency. In the course of their cross-examination, or direct examination, the witness of the kind is to be found the direct impetus to self-destruction. Where then is the pertinence of the language our contemporary uses regarding the conditions under which the "working slave of this country exist," and the "hunger of" "fear" suggest? There are physical and intellectual life-savers which end in self-destruction, for which no life-saving devices can be introduced and may partly be attributed to the conditions under which the unfortunates find themselves, owing to circumstances over which they have no control. But we are not disposed to accept this view. Our popular press should use language which, by innuendo, slander the social or industrial systems for which, according to the least extreme, is justly held responsible.

**Articles**

MR. GRANT ALLEN ON FAIR WAGES.

A recent débâcle in the realm of popular literature is Short Cuts, a half-finished novel, whose quality is considerably above the average of its competitors. The enterprising editor has secured a large list of eminent contributors, which he publishes, and an article from one of these would be weekly. Mr. Grant Allen, whose name is not unknown in journalism, is one of the earlier issues, contributes an article on "Fair Wages." It is to this article we propose to devote a short space. Mr. Allen starts by saying that the editor has asked him to discuss about Fair Wages, and that he is "the task affords him peculiar pleasure," for a very peculiar reason, and one in which we think any intelligent person who has read or may read his contributions, and has ever thought five minutes upon the subject will concur with him. What is—and we give it in his own words—"Because I haven't the very finest conception myself of what Fair Wages can possibly mean." Mr. Allen goes on to say:

There is a gentleman in Italy, we are told, who makes one of the best known diseases, and many unknown ones, by the simple fact that he chooses to describe as 'Blue Electricity.' Now, electricity (within my hands) has been a.U positive or negative, mild or powerful, constant or intermittent, in any potency to me, be blue, or green, or red, or yellow. Just in the same way, Fair Wages may be insufficient or insufficient, high or low, in kind or in quantity, a thousand or a thousand; but I don't know how they can possibly

A BLACKBURN GIRL. WEATHER COMMITTEE SUCKED.

The report of the Blackburn Weather Committee, appended to the report of the Queen's Commission of Saturday last, contains a paragraph narrating a case of suicide by a girl of 17, a weaver in one of the mills of the town, situated near the canal. The statement says that on Thursday morning the girl was seen in the canal by the cloth-maker, and dismissed for making bad work. She had previously had complaints made to her on the same grounds. Leaving her work at some time she was dismissed, it is said, not tell her, but, it is said, not tell her that she had been discharged. After a time, but much too late, we should say, for her to have been properly going to her employment, (4:45 p.m. according to her mother's evidence) she left her home as if she was returning to her loom. Instead of that, however, she went to the canal and drowned herself, leaving her clogs, shawl, and watch on the towing-path. Now a case of a young woman of which there is no record made in evidence is, should terminate her life in this manner is inexpressibly sad. But, notwithstanding this, we would not call it a suicide. It calls for such conclusions, as were made upon it by our local contemporary, in which the blame seems to have been put anywhere but in the right place. The editor says: A Blackburn jury yesterday afternoon. A girl of 17, employed as a weaver, drowned herself in the Leeds and Liverpool Canal on Thursday, because she was dismissed for bad work. It is easy for prosperous peoples, blessed with good health, as with all conditions which can only be touched by a rule of law, to think how the girl could be so foolish and wicked as to destroy herself, but she is not so easy for one or more to despise the matter so summarily. The dreadful incident is a commentary upon a system of wages, in which the weaver's boy, perhaps, instead of 12s. to 13s. for 40 hours, was paid 7s. 6d. for 48 hours. The girl had probably learnt early what the struggle for existence means in England, and possibly her sensitive nature showed in the large wages which she had to bear. But instead of weighing herself against the water, she threw herself with her clothes on the head of the water and children, and that into the world which she has left and the feeling of insecurity. It is this which leads to such a suicide that otherwise seems inexplicable. Working men and women can understand the feeling, but those without experience of the trials and anxieties of a factory life cannot.

Now we are rather surprised that the editor of our contemporary, with his practical knowledge of mill life and of mill workers, should come to such conclusions as to enable him to write the above impression of our social and industrial system as a whole, and that he would improve. This implies good health. She left her shawl, clogs, and watch on the towing-path. Shaws and clogs are the common articles of attire of even the most respectable working people, whilst the possession of a watch shows that the girl belonged to the most respectable section of the classes. It is nothing in itself to an honest life, such that should have led her to destroy herself any more than more prosperous people would have done from the prevailing influences. Neither do we think the incident is any "fourth rate commentary upon our social system." It had really nothing to do with, for nowhere under the sun is the lot of the working classes lighter than in the cotton industry, and in no occupation one girl or boys earn so much money, nor so soon practically establish their independence, and demonstrate that they know how to enjoy life. Preston road and the canal, this pool, the cotton mills, on a Saturday evening and Sunday, demonstrate this truth beyond all doubt. We don't believe that the girl had ever had any bad work, but a perception that she was engaged in a struggle for existence, or that her imagination magnified the difficulties in her way so much as to unhinge her mind and lead to the rash act.
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Foreign

Unsound Policy.

TEXTILE MATTERS IN THE UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, AUGUST 8TH.

Mr. Speaker Reed is not beloved of Mr. Rogers, who represents a democratic constituency in Arkansas. This fact was made the capital of the day the other day, when the fiery representative from the state gave vent to the spleen which has accumulated during the domineering actions of the Republicans in connection with various Bills recently under consideration.

The speaker, said Mr. Rogers, had delayed the majority with the full assurance on the part of Republicans members that, if this scheme should break down under the judgment of a liberty-loving people, they would persist like Samson under the rule, but if it succeeded, that he alone should reap all the glory. Their want of patriotic courage was exceeded only by their suicidal stupidity, and among them all had not been found a man with the courage of a Jackson, the patriotism of a Henry, and the love of liberty that inspired the fathers, who could say, “This is our country, these are our liberties, these are our countrymen, and you are our servants, and we will not have the toad endorsed under foot nor the serf unbridled and wronged.”

No, he concluded, “may I tell you, Mr. Speaker, that they cause you and despise you, and hate you, and when you are proved in private and in public, they are silent.”

Language of this kind is accountable for an outcome of the pent-up irritation of the masses which for some time has been brooding in the breasts of the opponents of the Force and Tariff Bills. There is no additional news of importance to report regarding the later measure. The Republicans are finding that the
opposition to the measure shown no sign of weakness. Every inch being contested with the most dogged pertinacity. Senator Plumb has been hurled up to the Senate to argue against the measure, and other members, plucking up courage to speak independently, now that every inch of ground is supposed to be at stake. The leaders with the tariff, having annoyanced the dominant party by their garrulous tactics. It is considered probable that the reciprocity idea will receive expression in the measure will be a surprise. The last occasioned by the proposal of the bill, has been twice before to both manufacturers and distributors. Importations have been so heavy that in any case, domestic producers will have to endure the almost total loss of their spring trade, while the autumn trade will certainly be adversely affected. Buyers have been more anxious of late to jerr in supplies of lower-priced goods, which will be affected by the tariff.

The abnormal large stock of cotton goods at Fall River, coupled with the lowness of prices, causes much anxiety, and an endeavour is being made to stop the mills. The proportion of the Fall River mills to the total for the country, each mill to select the time for its closing. The mills short of cotton will be first to avoid themselves of this shut-down agreement. The Rhode Island mills, it is stated, will not consider closing, but that some of them may close. A shut-down of two weeks. Nearly all the mills that admit that a curtailment of the output is a necessity. There is no mention of a shortage of supplies of cotton by mills at that stop; a shut-down of two weeks by all manufacturers. As a rule, it is during the temporary period, but a stoppage of one month would be prohibitive in lessening the supply and improving the prices of cloth, if it did not have a depressing effect upon the price of cotton.

At Paterson the strick fever has not yet subsided, the strike being being determined to force the issue for the purpose of a tral of strength with the masters. When wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. When wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike, it was determined to force the issue for the purpose of a trial of strength with the masters. While wages were reduced during the strike,
to the inch: warp 24's, two in a shed, 40's weft, two in a shed, 60 white, 40 violet; weft the same pattern. This makes cloth is a union of linen and cotton, the white, grey, or green tint in warp and weft linen, the colours of warp and weft cotton. If made in this way the linen must be about 64's. A variety of pretty designs (with turquoise blue, bright green, terra cotta, etc. for cotton in warp and weft), can be produced by any twist or satin within the compass of ten shafts, and if the draft is broken, another and very extensive range of patterns can be obtained.

No. 8.—The design same as No. 7, but a plain canvas cloth on 2 shafts. Warp pattern: 2 white, 2 sapphire blue, for 20 repeats or 80 ends, 4 dark maroon; 2 white, 2 terra cotta, 2 blue, 2 terracotta, for 20 repeats or 80 ends, 4 dark maroon; total, 168 for complete pattern. Weft same as warp pattern. The white warp and weft 50's linen, 2 in a shed and 2 in a shed.

No. 9.—A cotton zephyr stripe on 4 shafts for plain, 4 for stripe, 40 red, 2 and 4 in a dent, 30's warp and weft. Pattern and draft: 10 white, 2 ruby, for 10 repeats, 4 shafts; for plain cloth, 2 of violet, 4 in a dent on 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 shafts (see pegging plan). Complete pattern, 144 ends, or 1,296 on 30 inches. With all white. The following list of shades (with white for the ground) will be found useful and fashionable for the stripes: crimson, magenta, tan, rose, pink, in all its shades, yellow, primrose, purples, blues, browns, etc. Both ground and stripe may be increased or decreased at pleasure.

GAUZE FABRICS.

Additional examples to those previously given are applied in Figures A, B and C. Our remarks on these patterns shall be as concise as possible, and we would urge upon those of our readers who are endeavouring to obtain a firm grasp of this type of pattern to examine minutely the relationship between pegging plan, heading plan, and full sketched pattern, our remarks being given with the distinct idea of assisting such examination as much as possible.

Figure A is very similar to a previous pattern save that the thick threads do not oppose but follow each other, all working exactly the same way. In the actual pattern these threads will be much closer together and will give a distinct wave effect. On examining the heading plan, pegging plan, etc., the following observations may be made: 1st, the thick thread crosses seven thin threads and completes its convolution on thirteen picks, so that for the plain worked alongside to be correctly completed two repeats of the gauze effect (i.e., 28 picks) are required; 2nd, observe that our pegging plan, etc., are given for weaving the pattern wrong side up, also that we commence the plan on the two picks which come over the third crossing thread in succession (i.e., the 3rd and 4th picks of the fully sketched out pattern). It will at once be observed that the thick crossing thread passes over two picks between each tin, and that when the two weft picks finish over the thick thread it is evidently done to dispose of the last, viz., the thirteenth pick. Bearing these facts in mind, if the plan for Figure A be compared with the full sketch, no difficulty should be experienced in fully realising the relationship between them. Note the combination of pegging plan, heading plan, and heading should be carefully studied, when little difficulty should be experienced in mastering all details, etc.

If, say 4, 6 and 8 stripes similar to the two shown in Figure A be combined with stripes of plain, a useful pattern will be produced suitable either for all white cotton, or white and coloured cotton yarns, or for cotton and silk in union. If, however, instead of the plain stripes, a stripe of the effect shown in Figure B be used, a much better result will be obtained. In this effect it will be noticed that between every gauze crossing there are eleven picks, an odd number being required for the reasons previously mentioned. In order to obtain effect with the warp similar to the gauze crossing in the weft, several dents must be missed, thus the effect is altogether like a check of plain white fully detached by the gauze crossing in the weft and the blank reed spaces in the warp.
Machinery and Appliances.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MULE.

MESSRS. JOHN HETHERINGTON AND SONS,
LIMITED, MANCHESTER.

The cotton trade continues to advance. The world's appetite for cotton goods seems insatiable. In every place where the industry is established it seems to be growing. England, the United States, Prussia, Germany, France, India, and even the countries in which it has only recently been planted, are all increasing their spindles. In this country not only is a rapid extension taking place by the building of new mills, but old ones are also being re-furnished to a considerable extent with new machinery, embodying all the latest improvements that have up to the moment been placed upon the market. Hence the production is being added to from two sides—by the increase of spindles, and the substitution of new spindles of higher productive capacity for those which are now rendered obsolete by the progress of invention.

The cotton spinner of to-day has the choice of two very perfect machines for transforming cotton into yarn, the mule and the ring frame. For a long time in the earlier decades of the present century, the mule, though far from being as perfect as at present, was without a rival, having hopelessly distanced the old throstle spinning frame. But this latter was improved, and in its modified form with the new name of ring frame came to the front with a rush. For a time it carried everything before it, winning everybody's favour by its greater production and economy of working. Many friends of the mule were almost inclined to give up its case and admit defeat for ever. There were, however, those who retained their faith in Crompton's grand invention, and therefore set to work overhauling it and improving its details, which they found capable of being done to an extent that surprised even themselves. To such a degree was this the case, that even in the domain of smalls everybody seemed willing to surrender to the new comers, the question of ultimate superiority became and remains even to this day an open question. The contest which two or three years ago raged so fiercely between the rival spinning machines has, however, latterly to a great extent subsided, the ring frame having contested a well-defined sphere of usefulness for itself, which it bids fair to retain. Of the extensions that at the moment are taking place in this country, the majority are being awarded to the mule. This is owing to the improvements in the quantity and quality of its production.

The mule illustrated herewith is the production of the old and well-known firm of Messrs. John Hetherington and Sons, Manchester, whose reputation for the excellence, high quality, and finish of their productions needs no commendation from any quarter, being thoroughly established in every section of the trade. It has been overhauled and improved in every detail where possible, a few of which we may enumerate. In connection with the front roller, the makers have introduced a considerably larger clutch box, rendering it stronger and quicker in action, and diminishing the liability of breakage. The sliding portion of the box is provided with a bearing much longer than usual by which the movement sometimes termed "wobbling," is quite prevented. This consisted of a slight canting of the clutch box through the hole getting too large from wear, and which resulted

FIG. 1.—IMPROVED MULE HEADSTOCK, FRONT VIEW.—MESSRS. JOHN HETHERINGTON AND SONS, LIMITED, MANCHESTER.
lever is locked, and the minder changes the camshaft for a short draw.

The makers have also introduced a large back-off friction arrangement by which skipping is quite prevented, a fact which can be easily tested and the means for doing which are well known. Cast upon the back-off lever is a projection, to which is attached a larger, one end of which would set upon a small bowl upon the strapfork lever in the event of the backing-off friction wanting to get into gear, and would prevent it until the strap had got upon the loose pulley. This arrangement effectually prevents the two motions entering into a conflict with one another for the mastery, and thus obviates much of the wear and tear of the strap and risk of breakage to the wheels.

The gearing wheel has been greatly improved by enlarging it, thus enabling the tension upon the yarn to be reduced to the lowest point. It enables the employment of a gain wheel of 120 teeth, which is very important, as the gain can be regulated to the decimal of an inch.

In the ordinary arrangements the movements of the straps when changing positions are much too slow, causing considerable loss of time, which it is desirable should be avoided as far as possible. To accomplish this the makers have designed and supplied this mule with an improved back-off wheel for expediting the movements of the strap in both its directions of traverse.

It may also, if preferred, be used for either way alone. The rim pulleys are made to suit either two, three, or four grooves.

An improved full-cop stop-motion has been added by the makers; it is simple in construction, effective in action, and not liable to derangement. The headstock is also fitted with a gearing-back-off chain tightening motion of a very simple and effective character. Another improvement the makers have introduced is to substitute a continuous drawing-up rope for the two now in use. This arrangement has a tight single or duplex driving at the option of the purchaser. It is also made with the driving arrangement parallel to the beam, which enables it to be used in old and narrow mills without any troubles and expensive rearrangement of the shafting. Our readers may be referred to our issue of September 28th last year for a full description and illustration of this construction.

That the introduction of these improvements has been appreciated by the trade is proved by the fact that the makers have recently furnished with it a considerable number of mills both at home and abroad, and have orders in hand for fitting up four or five mills.

The makers will be pleased to enter into communications with gentlemen or firms desiring further information, and may be addressed as above.

THE CALCIO PRINTERS’ ASSOCIATION.—The following is a copy of a circular which has been issued this week by various firms of calcio printers to their customers:

"Dear sir,—In accordance with a resolution passed by the Calcio Printers’ Association, we beg to intimate to you that all orders placed on or after the 1st September must be charged by the yard on the printed lengths."

"Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, etc.

Dr. George Watt on Native Indian Dyes.

"Notes on Indian Economic Products" is a valuable publication issued at intervals by the Indian Government, in which Dr. George Watt generally has something to say about Indian products of various kinds. In the last volume issued he notices the Indian native dye-stuffs, of which he gives a list of 130, and also as a complaint at the way many of these are being superseded by the coal-tar dyes, the displacement of madder by the cheaper alizarin, and turmeric by the onilne yellows. He goes on to say that "while these coal-tar dyes have been made permanent to detergent influences, the knowledge of their more or less fleeting character under the action of light, com-
THE TEXTILE MERCURY.

AUGUST 29, 1897.

BLEACHING WITH HYDROGEN PEROXIDE.

Honore Kochlin has given a great deal of attention to the use of hydrogen peroxide as a bleaching agent, and at the Paris Exhibition he showed fabrics bleached by it and which were of a satisfactory white colour. To the "Syndicat" of the Dye-Works he has communicated the following details of the latest methods he has used:

1. **Preparation of solutions**.
   - **Fabric**. Lay down the fabrics in cold sulphuric acid of about 35° T. until thoroughly impregnated.
   - **Take up**. Allow to lie in bag until the next day, wash well, and boil for six hours with 1,000 litres of water, 20 litres of acetic acid, 0.5% of salt, 90 litres of hydrogen peroxide 12° Vol., and 0.5% sodium magnesia. These quantities are sufficient for dyeing 100 pieces of cotton per cent. After washing, pour through sulphuric acid as before, wash again and dry.
   - **Soak**. The fabrics obtained are finer than obtainable by the old process, but more expensive, on account of the price of the hydrogen peroxide, but still it may be employed for fine goods which require bleaching quickly.

2. **Waste**. Steep the cotton in hydrogen peroxide to which one-fourth of its volume of sodium of soda of 10% has been added, and water according to the degree of whiteness required. By adding a quantity of water equal to that of the peroxide used, a white is obtained as pure as the corresponding white on cotton. This is not usually required, and wool is always left with a slightly yellowish tone. To get this completely white, add a bath of three to five litres of water, 1 litre of peroxide, 20% vol., and 0.5% of slake soda 50° T. When the pieces are laid down, they are turned up, spread and washed, and laid down in bisulphite of soda diluted with 10 parts of water, according to the quality of the white desired. After waiting to lie for at least 10 hours, they may be boiled as usual.

3. **Pick**. Bolt the silk for 2-5 hours in the same manner as for cotton, leaving out the acetic acid, as the magnesia gives better results than an addition of ammonia to the bath of peroxide, which is the method usually followed.

**Principle Yellow.** A new dye is obtained from primula by treating it with bromides of ethyl and carbonate of soda for some hours, by which means it becomes yellow. The new product may be a cotton direct fast yellow of grecian yellow.

**Salmiak Colour.** A new direct dyeing colouring matter, which has lately been placed on the market. It is prepared by taking 15 parts of para-nitro-aniline-acid, containing, combined with 31 parts of sodium naphthionate, then boiling with caustic soda, the nitric acid in the proceeds is reduced, and the product of the peroxide gas, allowed to act on, and the colouring matter is formed. It has the formula CO (N=CH Cl) NH C (N=CH Cl) or NiH Cl N=CH Cl, and forms a brownish red powder, soluble in water, and alkali, and dissolves in boiling soap bath, the tint varying from a fine salmon or flesh colour to orange brown. It will find most extensive application in printing, as it is particularly fine, but the deep shades are not so satisfactory.

**Black on Mixed Wool 35% and Cotton 65% Fabrics.** For 100 lb. goods: Mordant the wool by boiling in:

- 1 lb. chromate of potash.
- 1 lb. tartar.

Wash and dye for a bath of:

- 7 lb. logwood extract, 51° T.
- 3 lb. balsam extract, 31° T.

Then mordant the cotton in the cold with:

- 10 lb. madder extract, 31° T.
- 5 lb. madder extract, 51° T.
- 10 lb. sulphate of iron.

Wash.

**Second Process**. Mordant the cotton in cold with madder extract, 51° T., and wash and dye with:

- 5 lb. logwood extract, 51° T.
- 5 lb. sulphate of iron.

Enter the goods at the boil, and boil for three hours. Wash and dry.

**Dyeing Heavy Woolen Goods.**

Complaint is frequently made that heavy woolen piece goods cannot be bleached with sufficient success by the usual methods without the addition of new methods, the proper employment of which has not been learned by the dyer. Thus it is often happens, in the case of goods that are dyed with dyes, which the dyer has worked for years, that he is left in the lurch, and goods cold, brought gradually to boil, and boil for one hour.

**Third Process.** Prepare a dyebath with:

- 7 lb. logwood extract.
- 5 lb. sulphate of iron.

Enter the goods at the boil, and boil for three hours. Wash and dry.

**Chinese Methods of Dyeing.**

In the Chem. Ind. is a paper on the subject which contains points of interest to dyers, although they have not much practical value. The Chinese dyer yellow by using the bark of a tree known locally as "Bung pe" (Phoeurus flavus). The colouring matter is extracted from the bark by boiling, and the solution is used as the dye. The resulting solution is admixed with some other gums than gum tragacanth. If spun in solution is tested by the copper test, warmed to make the filature boil, and the filature boiled to test for dextrin.
again in the bath. It makes this possible for the dyer to keep in neutral the ammonia combinations of the wool, and little by little de- podera, to obtain the desired depth of colour periodically repeating the addition of sulphuric acid to the dye bath, and at the same time and at the same time aniline dye is given, it gradually penetrates into the body of the cloth.

It is possible the dyer should work with concentrated baths if he wishes to employ the dyes more quickly, but it is not necessary to do so. In order to add dye to a sufficient amount of water in the time available, it is necessary to add dye to the solution in a very short time, and to do this at a high rate of temperature. This also increases the rate at which the cloth is dyed, and so increases the rate of the operation.

The concentrated baths are used for dyeing with dyes that are not soluble in water, or that are not soluble in high concentrations of water. The concentrated baths are used for dyeing with dyes that are not soluble in water, or that are not soluble in high concentrations of water.

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THE TEXTILE MERCURY.
August 25, 1898.

Messrs. Edward Baldwin and Sons offered for sale on Wednesday, at Blackburn, Farsides Mill, Church, containing 2,000 looms. The premises are complete, and are fitted with the latest cotton manufacturing implements of a modern design. The premises and plant are valued at a year's rent of $20,000. The sale was well attended, but no bids were made, and the property was declared sold at $15,000.

Clockston.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday evening, Mr. R. G. Goldthorp (president) in the chair. Two communications were made by the Mayor of Stirling and the chairman of a meeting held recently in the city, both of which had been forwarded to the Clockston Local Board, were submitted to the Chamber. The communications related to the opposition to the street and the proposed County Council Bill. The meeting was well attended, but no business was done by the members in Stirling. He believed that the opposition to the scheme was being met with considerable success in the city, and that the members would be putting the Bill to the test in the future. The meeting was closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Falkirk.

The sale of the ironworks at the former works of the McRae Iron Company was advertised for Thursday, but it was not held, and the ironworks were sold to the McRae Iron Company for $1,500. The sale was well attended, but no bids were made, and the property was declared sold at $1,000.

Newcastor.

Early on Sunday morning a fire broke out at the works of Messrs. Black and Sons, Goodall, and Kelso, and finished was held here on Monday to consider the present state and condition of trade and the action to be taken in consequence of the Trimmers' Union having given notice that, unless the employers consented to accept the revised rates of trade submitted to them, the men will cease work on the 30th of this month. The two firms are reported to have accepted the list, but at present the majority are not prepared to do so unless they can secure an advance in their own prices. The men seem under the impression that there will be no necessity to strike as the masters will not agree to the advance.

Oldham.

Messrs. Platt Bros. have obtained the order for the machinery required by the Mill of Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., and Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Shaw, has been awarded the contract for the erection of the new buildings. The works have been awarded to the Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., and Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Shaw, has been awarded the contract for the erection of the new buildings. The works have been awarded to the Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., and Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Shaw, has been awarded the contract for the erection of the new buildings.

Northwood.

Messrs. Assless and Company are supplying the machinery required by the Mill of Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., and Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Shaw, has been awarded the contract for the erection of the new buildings. The works have been awarded to the Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., and Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Shaw, has been awarded the contract for the erection of the new buildings.

Victoria Mill, Huddersfield, is being stopped for a few weeks to allow repairs in connection with the steam engines, and also the putting in of new boilers.

It is stated that a departure from the plans has been made in the building of the mill for the Earl Mill Company, by which it is said the arrangements will be considerably improved.

Mr. W. H. Wigglesworth, manager of the Industrial Mill of Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., has been appointed manager of the Oldham Mill Company, and Mr. J. R. Browne, of the Wigan Company, has been appointed manager of the Oldham Mill Company, and Mr. J. R. Browne, of the Wigan Company, has been appointed manager of the Oldham Mill Company.

Mr. Edward Smith (R. Smith and Sons) has sold the carpet manufacturing business of Messrs. Platt Bros. and Co., and the premises are being erected as a new factory by a company formed for the purpose of taking over the Stalybridge Spinning Company. In consequence the mill is closed, and it is expected to remain so for a few weeks, unless some temporary arrangement can be made.

Steps are being taken to form a company for the purpose of taking over the Stalybridge Spinning Company, in the possession of Mr. H. Graves. This company will be formed for the purpose of taking over the Stalybridge Spinning Company. In consequence the mill is closed, and it is expected to remain so for a few weeks, unless some temporary arrangement can be made.

Advantage will be taken of the long holiday at the Yanks by having repairs carried out in connection with the mill, and workmen and directors of the "limit" mills are very mindful of matters of damage to the mill, so far as they know it is only by keeping the machinery up to the mark that they can expect to hold their position in the keen competition that exists in the market. The death is announced of Mr. Edward Collings, the owner of the mills of Messrs. Platt Bros. and Sons, cotton spinning and manufacturing company, who was a prominent figure in the industry until his death in 1905, at the age of 70.

Manchester.

Early on Sunday morning a serious explosion occurred at the large mills of Messrs. W. McLean and Sons, Miller, Fletchatt. A man in the engine-house was injured, but the explosion was not very serious, and the building, which was of large dimensions, was wrapped in flames. The gas was burning up in the building, and with the assistance of firemen, Messrs. McLean and Sons, Miller, Fletchatt, and some 500 or 600 persons were employed in the gaseous explosion, which was the cause of the fire occurred. It is some weeks before the engineers the spinning department are again started, and it is expected to be done in a short time in the mills which remain less or more intact.

A conference of master dyers, dryers, millers, and finishers was held here on Monday to consider the present state and condition of trade and the action to be taken in consequence of the Trimmers' Union having given notice that, unless the employers consented to accept the revised rates of trade submitted to them, the men will cease work on the 30th of this month. Two firms are reported to have accepted the list, but at present the majority are not prepared to do so unless they can secure an advance in their own prices. The men seem under the impression that there will be no necessity to strike as the masters will not agree to the advance.
THE TEXTILE MERCURY.

SCOTLAND.

Dundee.

A meeting of Dundee mill and factory workers was held on Monday night to consider the wages question, when a resolution was carried approving of the action of the Dundee District Mill and Factory Operatives' Union in giving the workers an opportunity to help determine their wages.

On Thursday week a partial strike of spinners took place in a lace factory in the West End of Dundee. It is stated that the company have not struck for a rise of wages, but because their foremen and in the wages of the mill workers there, was disposed of by the Court advising the local union not to promote a strike in the present state of the Kirkaldy trade, but to continue and increase their efforts to have the system of fortnightly payments amended. Considering the present state of wages in the town, the exception of one or two, have been kept very busy, and have still large orders in hand.

Stockport.

A fire broke out on Thursday afternoon at India Mill, off Crossley's Road, Stockport, owned by Messrs. Crossley and Co. The building, which is eight stories high, is the property of the Stockport Corporation fire brigade attended, and found the mill already at work. The fire occurred in the middle of the night, and the smokiness of the cotton and the Corporation steam fire engine plant, did not enable the crews to proceed to remove the smouldering mass to an adjoining building in the morning. The considerable excitement prevailed on the outbreak of the fire, as the hands had not left the mill.

Tyldeley.

The fortnight's notice given by the workpeople employed at Messrs. James Burton and Sons' mills, Tyldeley, expired yesterday, but a satisfactory arrangement was arrived at on Thursday night whereby the hands will continue working for another 14 days, being the period before which the millers have on many occasions complained of bad work. On the 4th inst. they rendered 14 days' notice, and the employers gave all the warehousemen, weavers, spinners, combers, and frame tenders another 14 days, to which they consented. Since then Mr. J. Fielding, secretary of the Bolton Operative Combing weavers had agreed to reduce the long inch one inch in circumference to improve the spinning. The cotton, however, was found to be a very good sort.

Dalmuir.

An agreement has been made by Dalmuir Print Works, which is held by the Glasgow firm, of making a 10% reduction in the prices of all materials for a period of one year. The state of affairs showed liabilities £2,000 less, and no assets £3,500 less, the deficiency being £3,000.

Hawick.

Messrs. Robert Noll and Company have built a new engine-room, and are having a powerful engine fitted up, the old engine now being too small for their enlarged premises. They are also having a new sanding machine fitted to their front wall, on which an additional store will be required, and it is expected that this alteration will affect a great improvement in the appearance of their mill.

Kirkaldy.

A large meeting of millworkers was held on Thursday evening at the Kirkaldy Exchange, which the conference of the Central Federation, held in December last year, gave his opinion. He mentioned that great surprise was expressed at the Conference when it was reported that the wages paid to millworkers in Kirkaldy were — Spanners, 20 to 30s. 6d., preparers, 7s. 10d. to 8s. 2d. and inspectors, 9s. 3d. per week. The Union viewed with favour the efforts made by the Kirkaldy employers to secure an advance of wages, but could not recommend them to strike at the present time. However, they were of the opinion that they should continue their agitation for weekly payments. It is agreed upon the general opinion that there is no danger of a general strike, and the employers would also see their way to advance the wages. It was further agreed that every possible step should be taken to establish the membership of the Union in the district.

Lanark.

Messrs. James Scott and Sons, of the Wavell Woollen Mills, have just given their employees' wages, together with the members of the firm, luncheon at the George Hotel, Lanark. A special dinner was given to the South African merchants, whose examinations were also partaken of by the firm, the men receiving each a sum of money, and the women receiving a box of goods.

Miscellaneous.

THE WOOLEN EXPORT TRADE: ITS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.*

(Continued from page 99.)

By W. W. WHITEHEAD.

It will naturally be said, where then does all our export go? My answer must be — to India, China, Japan, and other countries of the Eastern world, and to those countries of our own flesh and blood. These are the markets to which, if we are to realize our full potential trade, we shall have to aim. If you will find the bulk of our exports go, and these markets must, in course of nature, become much larger in 1891. In 1880 the exports of some millions of yards of woollens, leaving 48 millions of yards which were shipped over the deep sea, and in a great many cases, the yards of worsted goods shipped. Then again I refer you to the South American markets, for instance, one of our best customers, but which, as I have said, is entering upon a long round of trouble with her new manufacturers. There will not permit me to go into the present aspects of our export trade as fully as I could wish, but the question may be asked, Are tariffs alone to blame for the falling off in our Continental trade? I think not, and it needs no great logic to point out some conclusions which we may fairly charge ourselves — want of taste, want of knowledge of the market, want of sympathy with the country, and want of knowledge of the market.

Dalmuir.

A meeting of the creditors of C. W. Patterson and Company, cotton spinners, Dalmuir Print Works, was held in Glasgow on Tuesday last. The state of affairs showed liabilities £2,000 less, and no assets £3,500 less, the deficiency being £3,500.

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Kirkaldy.

A large meeting of millworkers was held on Thursday evening at the Kirkaldy Exchange, which the conference of the Central Federation, held in December last year, gave his opinion. He mentioned that great surprise was expressed at the Conference when it was reported that the wages paid to millworkers in Kirkaldy were — Spanners, 20 to 30s. 6d., preparers, 7s. 10d. to 8s. 2d. and inspectors, 9s. 3d. per week. The Union viewed with favour the efforts made by the Kirkaldy employers to secure an advance of wages, but could not recommend them to strike at the present time. However, they were of the opinion that they should continue their agitation for weekly payments. It is agreed upon the general opinion that there is no danger of a general strike, and the employers would also see their way to advance the wages. It was further agreed that every possible step should be taken to establish the membership of the Union in the district.

Lanark.

Messrs. James Scott and Sons, of the Wavell Woollen Mills, have just given their employees' wages, together with the members of the firm, luncheon at the George Hotel, Lanark. A special dinner was given to the South African merchants, whose examinations were also partaken of by the firm, the men receiving each a sum of money, and the women receiving a box of goods. The examinations were also partaken of by the firm, the men receiving each a sum of money, and the women receiving a box of goods.

* A paper read before the Textile Society of the Universities of London and Edinburgh.
THE TREATED MERCURY.

August 28, 1890.

An interesting problem, and one which promises to have a far-reaching and beneficial effect upon the textile industry generally, is now being worked out in Lambeth, in London. It consists in the treatment of the various kinds of flax and hemp, the permeation of such material with a spirit of oil, and the treatment of such fibers for the purpose of rendering them water-repellent and fireproof. The result is to be expected to have a material effect on the various branches of the textile industry, and to lead to new methods of manufacture and production.

The treatment of flax and hemp fibers is accomplished by means of a spirit or oil, which is applied to the fibers in such a manner as to penetrate the fibers and render them impervious to water. This treatment is accomplished by means of a special apparatus, which consists of a series of rollers and cylinders, and is operated by means of a steam engine. The fibers are subjected to a series of treatments, each of which is designed to render them water-repellent and fireproof.

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THE NEW COLOURED WEAVING LIST.

A new standard list of prices for coloured goods has just been arranged, the final settlement being had with Messrs. W. B. P. Perkins, of Manchester, Messrs. T. S. B. Perkins, of Birmingham, and Mr. Langston, of London. The negotiations have been in progress for some time, and it was only last week that the letter of agreement was signed. The new list is not only more uniform, but it also provides for the payment of the full price on delivery, and for the payment of the balance in three equal monthly instalments. The goods are to be marked with the date of delivery and the name of the agent responsible for the sale. The list is accompanied by a schedule of prices, and a copy of the agreement is enclosed.

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRIES OF DUNDEE.

(Continued from page 117.)

Very much of the services which has attended the spinning of jute may be attributed to the ingenuity of the textile manufacturers of Dundee. George Warrall of Blytheston Street, one of the chief difficulties in the preparation of the jute fibre for spinning and winding, and the skilled and expert jute workers, who are so valuable and so much sought after by the textile manufacturers, are also to be found in Dundee.

The machinery suitable for the production of jute is very simple, and the jute is spun as an ordinary cotton. The jute fibre is cut into short lengths, and then passed through the spinning frame, where it is combed and drawn out into thread. The thread is then wound on to bobbins and sent to the weaving sheds, where it is woven into cloth.

The power-loom for weaving jute did not at first meet with success in Dundee. The earliest power-looms were of the type which were used in the cotton mills, and they were not well adapted for the purpose. However, in 1828, a meeting was held in the city, at which a number of mill owners and manufacturers discussed the possibilities of producing jute cloth on a power-loom. The meeting was well attended, and it was agreed that a committee should be appointed to investigate the matter further.

The committee consisted of a number of prominent Dundee businessmen, and they were instructed to visit other jute producing areas, such as Calcutta and Riga, and to report back on the possibilities of producing jute cloth on a power-loom. The committee's report was published in 1829, and it concluded that jute cloth could be produced on a power-loom, but that it would require a new type of machinery.

The committee's report was influential, and it led to the establishment of a jute and hemp mill in Dundee in 1830. This mill was the first in the world to produce jute cloth on a power-loom, and it was a great success.

From that time on, the textile industries of Dundee have continued to flourish, and the city has become one of the world's leading centres for the production of jute cloth. The mills in Dundee are now equipped with the latest machinery, and they are able to produce high quality jute cloth at a low cost.

(To be continued.)

THE TEXTILE MERCURY.

Dundee has been the centre of the jute industry for many years. The town is situated on the banks of the River Tay, and it is well supplied with water power. The jute mills are located on the river, and they are able to take advantage of the natural water power. The jute mills are also well supplied with coal, and they are able to produce jute cloth at a low cost.

The jute mills in Dundee are equipped with the latest machinery, and they are able to produce high quality jute cloth at a low cost. The jute mills in Dundee are also well supplied with skilled labour, and they are able to maintain a high level of production.

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(To be continued.)
COTTON.

MAHONRI, FRI., AUG. 28.

With the close of the cotton season the cotton growers of the southern states are beginning to think of the new crop, and the prospect of a very large one is giving them considerable relief from the depression that has prevailed during the last few months. The cotton market is still quiet, and the prices are not much different from those of last week. The demand for cotton is not heavy, and the prices are likely to remain steady. The prospects of a large crop are likely to keep the prices at a low level for some time to come.

MANCHESTER.

SALES continue to be limited in extent both with distributors and manufacturers, and prices are unchanged, although the weather for the last week has been favorable for the growth of cotton. The demand for cotton is not heavy, and the prices are likely to remain steady. The prospects of a large crop are likely to keep the prices at a low level for some time to come.

Woolens and Worsted.

BRADFORD.

The condition of the wool market has not changed for the better. Both buyers and dealers are still in a waiting attitude. Cross-bred wools are unchanged in value. Yarns are stagnating, and spinners are contemplating the necessity of running their machines in short time. The atmosphere of report is that buyers are cautious and that the prospects of the piece market are not encouraging. A desultory trade is in progress for the States, the suspensio of the Tariff Bill still interferes with business. There is no present change in any direction. Good lines in these goods have moved off to good effect this week. The whole trade is quiet.

Glasgow.

Messrs. Banksy and Co., in their report, dated 19th August, say—

Wool.—No new feature in the wool market this week. A fair and moderate business is being done at late quotations.

SILK.

The supply is large, and of good quality, with a strong competition. Prices are fairly maintained.

Flax and Jute.

At the flax harvest may be described as completely gathered in the whole of Belgium and Holland, and in France, it is possible to give some reliable information about the result. Up to the 30th June, the flax crop was 45,000,000 pounds. This number is still increasing, and the present figures show that the crop will be about 50,000,000 pounds. The condition of the flax is very satisfactory, and the prospects for the future are good.

SILK.

LONDON.

THURSDAY, London Produce Clearing House, 80, Cannon St. Trades August 22nd, 12th, September 12th, 23rd, October 20th, November 17th, December 18th, 29th, January 12th, 23rd, February 19th, March 22nd, 31st, April 21st, May 4th, 13th, June.

DUDDING TRADE REPORT.

WEDNESDAY, 28th AUG., 1892.

Report of the official quotations and prices of the various staple commodities, as published by the London Produce Clearing House, for the week ending August 22, 1892.

BULK, BURK.

The market yesterday was very disappointing. New York advices lower prices, with rather a large ced on. The American trade does not, as expected, revive, and the large production tells the moment the season is nearing its close.

OIL, OILS.

Jute, too, falls, notwithstanding the rapid rise in exchange. Although, ten days ago prices were largely done at 431/2s, are now offered at 421/2s, and some business is said to have been done at 42s. Yarns are sound enough, and in good condition. For Liberian and Texan oils, prices are 2s. 3d. per lb.