THE TEXTILE MERCURY

March 5, 1892.

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Ireland and England.

Turning to Ireland we find abundant evidence of change during the period under review. We know that once upon a time Bandon was a centre of the cotton trade, until the competition of English power looms swept it away. One firm in 1825 employed 350 weavers, some on condurations, others on calicoes, and four years later there were 1,500 to 3,000 cotton weavers in the locality. Wages were reduced to 5s. or 4s. a week, but still Manchester travelling and court textile manufacturers had their hands full. The town now contains one solitary textile firm—that of Messrs. Mason, Foster, and Son, who, with a couple of hundred spindles and 40 looms, still manufacture some of the most finished calicoes in the directory. Messrs. Williamson and Son are set down as possessing 65,000 spindles and 2,000 looms. The York Weave Company has 50,000 spindles and 1,000 looms, while the Ulster Spinning Company has 46,000 spindles. The Brookwood Company, which produce a standard black calico, have 2,000 spindles and 250 looms.

Emigration to the United States.

The United States Government is again linking its Immigration Laws. Mr. Foster, Secretary of the Treasury, has laid before the House of Representatives a report of the Special Immigration Commissioners who recently went to Europe to investigate the subject of emigration from Great Britain and Ireland to the United States. This was the precious Commission which charged the English Government with having and maintaining an organisation for shipping off all its discontented subjects to that debatable land of the Free, over which such heavy born political fighters as Blaine, Harrison, Blad, and Foster, at the gross cost of life and limb, are undermining the English Government and accompanying these documents, Mr. Foster inquires attention to them, and expresses his opinion that any additional legislation ought to include the provision of double the cubic air space at present provided on emigrant vessels for each emigrant, which of course would be equivalent to doubling the passage rates; raising the head tax from 50c. to a dollar, and transferring it to the steamship companies, the fund thus provided to be employed in further regulating and preventing the immigration of alien contract labourers. The shipping companies should also be compelled “to enter into a bond of not less than $1000 per vessel, to cover damage done to the passengers” by lowering rates. In the twenty years of the time of their landing to have been landed contrary to the laws of the United States. Not content with these precautions in the country where the laws hold sway, Mr. Foster would institute some system for the preliminary inspection of immigrants before embarking from European ports, which he believes to be absolutely essential to the proper regulation of the immigration business. If such system of foreign examination could be placed under the general supervision of commissionaires and inspectors appointed by the United States, and responsible in a general way to the American consuls in the various countries of Europe, I believe that much assistance might be derived from the voluntary and efficient cooperation of the consuls and other agents of the various transport companies. We trust the European powers will think twice before they permit such a step to be taken to the detriment of their citizens.

Silk Men on the Silk Trade.

Although it is said that some of the Macclesfield mills are sadly short of weavers to assist in the execution of the orders for Window scarfs which have come for the current season, commercial prospects in the silk trade are not so rosy as a report in the local Journal makes it appear. At the Borough Police office recently Mr. Kershaw made some allusions to the present state of the trade. He said there were never more prosperous times than 50 years ago, when people were never earning better wages, and when all the shopkeepers were doing well. There had recently been a certain fashion sprung up, and he never saw anything develop so rapidly as the present silk trade had done. If the branch of the trade repeats itself to anything like what has been before, Mr. Kershaw thinks there will be good reason for congratulation twelve months hence; although if it were only to last for twelve weeks he would be better for him if he had never known the trade. Foreigners are now said to be pouring into our markets some of the finest materials. The object of Macclesfield manufacturers is to produce in order to keep as long as possible, and so give to the home manufacturer a constantly producing better goods than the foreigner, as the purchaser will eventually be prompted to favour of native productions. Such is the view of some who are discussing the question of foreign goods with our own. And yet, not so long ago, an experienced manufacturer, who has been in the business for many years, gave the following replies to questions asked him concerning the competition of those self-same weighted silks from abroad.

“Here, said the manufacturer, showing a silk handkerchief, * is an article of my own production that becomes fashionable in the trade. Immediately it becomes the fashion in England it becomes the fashion in all the countries of Europe to make it, and it is now an article a little lighter, which completely takes my business. I have been in the English or French trade for 40 years, and against none at 20s. A retail purchaser coming into the warehouse would never ask the question whether it is English or English, but looks at the price and takes it in his pocket. Naturally, retail, the manufacturer asks, to attract the price. If you take the weight and d horrible smell, are evident. To the Frenchman, however, the moment he holds it, lifts it down so low that I cannot complete with it. In my own trade I have introduced inferior goods, which has been copied, and each time I have had as few cut from under me by foreigners involving. We do not know whether Mr. Kershaw (for we are quoting this gentleman) remembers when and where he made these remarks, but they are certainly his. In view of the well-known tendency of the retailer to buy the cheapest article where appearances are equal—a tendency which is extremely marked in his decision that I will suggest to many that if Macclesfield adopted some foreign methods the turnover in silk would be enormous, and between 50,000 and 75,000, would increase considerably. A town of over 20,000 inhabitants, practically dependent upon one industry, has nothing to boast of when the turnover in the one instance does not in 12 months equal that of a single Manchester firm of merchants we could name. Mr. Foster, I might add, is a young man who is in the business, and would have the merit of extreme simplicity. It would only need an equally simple complement to make it agreeable all round, which would be to prohibit emigration from the States as far as so that Europe might be equally freed from Americans, there is a widespread conviction that all those who have come over here are not exactly angels of purity and light.

For town, of course.—Ed. T. M.
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over is concerned. Leaving this branch of the subject, and returning to Mr. Kershaw's speech, the somewhat sensational remark was made by the Hon. Mr. Kershaw that manufacturers present at the meeting were making more money than all the rest of his competitors; in the town put together. A name of Blackburne, a name of manufacturers, but it does not appear in the list of those in attendance, so that the largest firm in the town is not presumably referred to. As there are about forty manufacturers in the town, it requires a stretch of the imagination to believe that one of them makes as much money as the remaining eighty-nine with an unequal distribution of talent or of luck is incredible. Some further remarks of the ex-Mayor were to the effect that for years manufacturers and workpeople had been labouring at a very small figure, and that large fortunes (Mr. Compトン to the contrary, notwithstanding) had not been earned by manufacturers. All these statements are interesting as coming from well-informed authorities, and although we have mildly criticised some of them they are worthy of reference here. It is possible that silk manufacturers, with, we presume, the one exception mentioned by Mr. Kershaw, are not prepared to admit that Mr. Compトン's statement about their rolling in wealth is correct.

"Twenty Per Cent. Profits." A Correction.

Mr. Kershaw desires us to correct a statement erroneously credited to him in a report of his speech on the occasion referred to above, and at which we hinted in the early portion of the preceding note. The speaker was made to say that every single thing that he brought out was 20 per cent, because he had no competition. What Mr. Kershaw wished to be understood as saying was that he was paying 15 to 20 per cent. advance to weavers of new goods—a different thing altogether. We have heard of profits of 20, 25, and even 33 per cent, in some branches of the trade, and in all the branches of the trade. The misreported speech has given rise to much annoyance, for it appears that the two effectively good-natured friends always on the front on such occasions, have sent marked copies of the papers containing it to silk buyers in London and Manchester. The Trade-Unionists, some of Mr. Kershaw's competitors are probably included, must, as practical men, have known that an error had been made. In the case of the petty menees in which people are prepared to descend in order to injure any other trade competitor. No doubt the correction thus publicly made will remove any cause for annoyance on Mr. Kershaw's part.

TRADE-UNIONS AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The policy of modern Trade-Unionism in relation to the public interest is typically shown by an address to the electors of the London County Council. It emanates from the Gas-workers, the Potters, and the Federation of Trade and Labour Unions. The address appeals to all workers in the Metropolis to do their utmost to secure the election of only those candidates who have spoken clearly of such subjects as sweating, trade union rates of wages, and the legal eight hours day. It continues—

The County Council election, from the workman's standpoint, is more than a party struggle. With it is a bond and hotter question for every voter, and we call on all men to vote for the candidates presented by the Gas-workers, for the Potters, and for the Federation of Trade and Labour Unions. The address appeals to all workers in the Metropolis to do their utmost to secure the election of only those candidates who have spoken clearly of such subjects as sweating, trade union rates of wages, and the legal eight hours day. It continues—

You will be told by those who wish to betray you that the proposal you are demanding will mean much money, and that the benevolent men who put on your shoulders the forms of increased rent. But

AGITATION AMONGST SILK OPERATIVES.

At length the long interval of peace which has prevailed amongst the silk operatives in this county, and Staffordshire have enjoyed promised to be disturbed by the activity of the ever busy professional agitator, who has not hitherto annoyed employers in Macclesfield or attracted their attentions, at least for some considerable time. The deputation of the Weavers' Union in the first named town preceded the advent of a long era of peace—we will not add, of prosperity also—in the silk metropolis, employers not having had to face the frequent and serious disputes which have been faced by manufacturers in other portions of the country. They are not to have matters all their own way any longer, however, if the London and Counties Labour League can help it, that having been given upon itself to organise the power-loom weavers of Macclesfield through its organiser, Mr. J. Simpson, and the Local Committee, under the leadership of Mr. S. K. Compトン. The last-named official, at a meeting of operatives held at the Bridge Inn, Brook Street, Macclesfield, on Wednesday, said there was a growing opinion that the houses and lives of the workpeople were not so comfortable as they ought to be, although they have believed that the silk trade of the town was never better than now, that the masters were making plenty of money, and that the operatives were not participating in this prosperity.

The union argument was begging the question to induce his hearers to embark on the policy of agitation, without which certain officials in London would not be prepared to act for State aid. Is there not a single capitalist in an area of forty miles by 12 in the County of Macclesfield, with enterprise and capital enough to give himself the opportunity of founding a spinning mill of such a kind as would supply the needs of this population of knitters, who would provide him assiduous customer for its productions? Surely there must be. But if not, could not a small joint-stock mill be established and each of these 4000 families take one or two shares, which would provide all the capital required? This would render them independent, and the example they would set would do something, if only to give the spirit of local patriotism to the papermakers, which seems to possess almost the entire population. The money they are begging for is simply the outcome of the industry and enterprise of other people, and they ought to be ashamed of asking for it.

CREDIFIELD AND CHICAGO.

The manufacturers of Credifield have just given a proof of their loyalty which must have touched the heart of their Imperial master. They had steered clear of the ostensible connection with the World's Fair at Chicago, but when it was in some way hinted that the Emperor did not approve of the proposed abdication, they at once changed front, without it would appear, even attempting to justify their conduct by argument. The language made use of by a local paper purporting this sudden alteration in the attitude of many of its supporters towards the American Exhibition is sufficiently curious to merit quotation. "In disregard of all previous affiliations to the contrary a large number of velvet firms of Credifield have approached nearer to a determination to exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair. This diplomatic statement must, in political diction, as it has been appropriately designated, indicate plainly enough that logic has had nothing to do with the conversion of the manufacturers of Credifield to the important firm of Wm. Schröder and Company, who have set the example, and doubtless many will follow across what an admiring German contemporary calls the golden bridge built for them by the Emperor."

THE DOMESTIC KNITTING INDUSTRY IN DONEGAL.

Last week a correspondent of an Irish paper, who has had a long residence acquaintance with the Donegal hand knitting industry, stated that within an area of 12 by 40 miles 6,000 families are engaged in this industry. He suggested that the Computed Districts Board should build a mill for the spinning of the yarn used in the country. If this were carried out, it would, give a welcome stimulus to one of the few native industries that is in a fairly thriving condition. We wonder when it will strike Irishmen that it will be best to do something for themselves instead of being regularly clamoured for State aid. Is there not a single capitalist in an area of 40 miles by 12 in the County of Donegal, with enterprise and capital enough to give himself the opportunity of founding a spinning mill of such a kind as would supply the needs of this population of knitters, who would provide him assiduous customer for its productions? Surely there must be. But if not, could not a small joint-stock mill be established and each of these 6000 families take one or two shares, which would provide all the capital required? This would render them independent, and the example they would set would do something, if only to give the spirit of local patriotism to the papermakers, which seems to possess almost the entire population. The money they are begging for is simply the outcome of the industry and enterprise of other people, and they ought to be ashamed of asking for it.
their masters would send them. It had never been charged to the slave owners that they did not feed their slaves, but it was almost an impossibility for workpeople now to cloth and feed their children alike as themselves properly.

He knew that wages were a great deal better than a weaver's, and it was almost an impossibility for him to do it. The movement to end the evils of the system of the trade, he believed, had been started by a branch of the League for power-loom weavers, to whom the League intended to conduct their labours at present. If weavers were to feed their children, the question of the future would be settled too. It is intended to get them to feed their children, and that there is a scheme which may perhaps be left to consider itself. The opinion, however, prevails that the weavers are dying out.

With reference to the prevailing depression of employment in the mills of the town, he expressed the hope that the weavers would be able to get their work done, and that the mills would be able to maintain the workmen. The mill-owners had been very slow in finding a way out of the difficulty, but he trusted that they would shortly find a way to do their duty.

Another Meeting in the Home Trade

In another column appears a brief reference to the resolution passed at a meeting of the trade-unionists in the Dale Street Warehouse Company, Ltd., of Manchester, on the subject of winding-up. Coming so closely after the closing of several other old-established houses, the news of the collapse of the Dale Street Company may give rise to feelings of anxiety as to the future of the home trade. It may be remembered, however, that the Dale Street Company has been struggling financially for some time against the tide. And that the conversion of Robert Faulkner and Company into a limited concern must have gone well with the house. There is a strong impression of opinion that there is nothing in connection with the fate of the Dale Street house that need cause alarm. The firm has been crippled for want of capital and the departments it had been too numerous for such a comparatively small concern, the energies of the directors and others having been scattered instead of being concentrated in a more limited field.

This is the age of the specialist in commerce, as in science, and the recent history of the Manchester home trade shows that for industrial purposes of making headway in face of the competition of the new firms, certain branches must be taken up and made a study of. There are examples round us to-day of firms who have prospered in this way. One is a dress goods house which has long been looked upon as a face concern, and a third makes a speciality of underclothing, aprons, pinafores, and other articles of the kind. In analyses like this point their own moral.

The Textile Union in Bury

The trade-unionists in Bury are just now doing their very best to prove the truth of their remarks made about a month ago in regard to the aggressiveness of trade-unionism and to which Mr. Mailin was at first inclined to take exception, but only made by emphasizing the truth of what we said. Surely if there was an aggressive act ever performed, or a most important piece of conduct ever attempted, it was that which is now being carried out by the federation of spinners and cardroom operatives of Bury. The leaders of the movement, so that "the time has arrived, so and so," and the policy adopted by them and put into practice this week, goes to show that when they consider the time has arrived, they will do their utmost to ride rough-shod over all and every thing before they will relinquish the aim and end which they have pursued. The non-unionists have, they say, been weaving for some time past the benefits which have been obtained by the means of trade-unionism, and which, therefore, ought only to be enjoyed by trade-unionists—people who have paid towards their achievement. But whether this conclusion be correct or not—which we are not inclined to admit—there can be no doubt that whilst the house-April 25, 1891. the course becomes trades-unionists to seek to place the ethics of the trade from which they allege they are suffering on a class of men who have nothing whatever to do with it, and to endeavour to do an injustice to that class of men by making them suffer for the act of people in their employ. The employers must either either the non-unionists to join the trade-union societies, or else discharge them; such is the tenor of their argument. They forget the fact that one of the great advantages of the trade-unionists in the past has been against compulsion and force being used by employers to attain any object they sought. And now, preposterously, the employers, they are prepared to permit the use of a weapon which, if anyone else had so much as suggested its use, they would have been up in arms against, and done their utmost to annihilate, not only the weapon but its users.

We are pleased to see that the meeting of masters on Tuesday evening refused to depart from the neutral position they had taken up, thus which a more logical position cannot be desired. They do not object to the operatives joining whatever union they may think fit, so long as they do not take it as a tool of trade-union officials to bring about that which the latter desire, and consider it so part of their duty or province to coerc the operatives to join any union that wish to have nothing whatever to do with. They rightly believe that the matter is one which does not concern the employers and employees, in fact, there are indeed only one between the non-members and employers and the two sections should settle it amongst themselves without being compelled to inflict injury upon an irresponsible body of men. The operatives, through their leaders, have asserted that the line of conduct they have been followed by employers in the Oldham district, and they give their authority for such statement the secretary of the Cardroom Operatives' Association, who, when that statement came to be examined by Mr. A. R. Rostron, the employers' secretary in Bury, according to the statement from Mr. Andrews, the masters' secretary at Oldham, who assigns that no such demand has been made of any individual firm connected with Oldham Employment Board, and that whatever may have been done at any of the mills in the Oldham district has been accomplished not by the influence or direction of the employers in any sense of the word, but through the overlords and the unionists themselves in the mills in question applying the necessary pressure on their own behalf, or perhaps by the natural resistance of the non-unionists to be the cause of trouble which would do, not only themselves and the unionists, but the trade of the town a great deal of harm. Frequently have the unionists of Bury declared that a strike is the last thing in the world they desire, and yet here we have them busying themselves in order to meet some excuse by which they can get at variance with the non-unionists, to have something wherewith to create that employment for themselves which they seem to stand in need of at the present time. If, in addition, we heard, or were informed that the spinners gave in their notices at three of the mills in Bury and Bolton on Wednesday, the cardroom operatives on Thursday morning—without our volume—liking to ask the trade-union secretaries whether they will be receiving during the whole of whatever period the strike may be without
work, their full wages or salaries; or will they, like the operatives, go on "short commons," with the promise of the following day's performance providing the strike is bound to entice, and which they will in this instance at all events have no need to withstand. If the strike should come about, it is likely to proceed with great severity, as in the three mills in question, the masters will probably resort to a "shut down" of the whole of their establishments, whereby thousands of workpeople would be involved in a serious dispute, simply because about 50 operatives out of nearly 400 refuse to be coerced into returning to their work. Those without work, with no assurance that any will be forthcoming, with no prospect of return, and looking upon the situation as one in which every Englishman, except perhaps a trades-unionist, holds so dear.

GERMAN RIES VAN WINKELS IN RUSSIA.
Reuter's special correspondent, who is traversing Russia to learn the extent of the industry and the measure of the famine, has just unearthed some particulars that will be of regrettable interest to all the textile industries. It is well known that about a century ago a considerable portion of Germany took place from the Fatherland to Russia. It is amongst these that the special correspondent of Reuter's speaks of as having arrived. Writing from Larafot, on the Azov sea, he says:

The German colonies on the Volga number about 200,000 souls, nearly all they herd, are long established as Protes- tan tists, Catholics, and Methodists. With the exception of the last mentioned, they all come over during the summer months, in response to a mandate issued by the Empress Catherine. In that respect, Catherine promised them the same privileges as the Russian subjects, the most notable of which were immunity from military service, self-government, and religious free- dom. These privileges were granted "na vek," which means "for ever," but the phrase has recently been reenacted, by the government. It is clear enough why the expression is to this extent, and why the privilege has been carried to a degree of perfection in which no parallel can elsewhere be found. It would be inappropriate to burden this article with long lists of figures showing the number of spindles and looms there are within the country's borders, or the number of people, men, women, boys, and girls, turning the operation of these machines as they are steadily fabricating yarns and cloth. Such a table would yield an inadequate presentation of the claims of Lancashire for a high place in the estimation of the civilized world, because this country is directly and indirectly the parent of nearly all the mechanical industries that distinguish the present age from all the ages of the past. The invention of the new machines for spinning and weaving cotton in Lancashire directly suggested their application in the same or modified forms to the woolen, worsted, and linen industries in rapid succession; and from Lancashire as a centre these developments upon ancient methods have spread in every direction. Such a success was bound to have an important influence upon the non-textile industries, if only by way of suggestion, and it is from these germinal ideas that the impulses have been derived which have led to the supersession of nearly all our manufactured forms of industry by mechanical ones, during the present century that has now entered its last decade. From this influence, and the fact that it has been carried, and practically took our competitors another ten years to find out the dimensions of the industrial revolution that England had accomplished, is a great step gained; and it practically took our competitors another ten years to find out the dimensions of the industrial revolution that England had accomplished, even when we outstrip them in political ones.

It was in these valleys that the spirit of mechanical invention descended in search of a home congenial to its tastes. It is in them that she inspired the men whose names have been so oftentimes mentioned, and whose labours inaugurated a new epoch in the world's history. Kay, Hargraves, Crompton, Cartwright, Roberts, Boulton, and many of their successors whom we cannot even mention, have contributed to the perfection and achievement of their greatest mechanical accomplishments. And it is here that the highest developments of their genius tell to be found, the industrial palaces which are almost every town abound in, and which directly and indirectly furnish abundant and well paid employment to their dense populations, and great rewards for the captains of industry and the merchant princes who deal in their productions.

But it is not only by the production of yarn and cloth that Lancashire is distinguished. Investment stimulated the production of these articles on an enormous scale, and the demand for machines by which to fabricate them laid the foundation of our great machine-making trade. Almost every centre of spinning and manufacturing has its appropriate machine-making establishment. In the annals of the world, and in Lancashire, it has grown to such vast dimensions that, if permitted the enjoyment of her entire advantage, without obstruction, it is capable of supplying the world's requirements in textile machinery. But in spite of much opposition that cannot be disregarded, the Lancashire commercial and industrial position, and commercial standpoint, is succeeding in serving the wants of most countries, and it is a matter of pride to the nations that the machinery of Lancashire, in its perfection for the purposes of which it is required, is far away in front of all competing nations.

The attainment of this eminent position by Lancashire has only been secured by a fortunate concurrence of circumstances, which have long passed away, and can never be repeated. These were, that Lancashire led the way in mechanical invention, as stated above; and that the comprehensive period of 60 years it had a smooth and uninterrupted progress, being meanwhile engrossed with the doings of the French Revolutionists and the subsequent Napoleonic wars. Hence a good start was gained; and it practically took our competitors another ten years to find out the dimensions of the industrial revolution that England had accomplished, even when we outstrip them in political ones.

Lancashire remains the most important centre of mechanical invention and industrial activity and development, and the country derives and maintains its reputation.

Lancashire as a geographical expression, and with such a name on it, who does not actually know it, ideally covered with cotton mills, weaving sheds, forges, and machine-shops, and the same class of people almost religiously believe that within its borders it is impossible to engage in any manufacture of revolving spindles, clustering looms, or spinning wheels.

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they were received into our spinning and weaving mills. Thus, Germans, Russians, and Spaniards were taught our trade. This, however, occurred only on a small scale prior to the French wars, after which they came in shoals. It is useless to discuss how the wisdom, or otherwise, of our course of action in relation to that movement; it has been carried out, and we cannot roll back the current of events and begin anew. Suffice it to say that every country now has a district in competition with Lancashire, and never fails to call in the aid of the State to its assistance if our rivalry presses it hard. Each and all have one or more striking advantages when compared with the worst among them, which do much to neutralise those we possess over them; whilst, when it is remembered that the State is at large, as individuals and nations, cannot be carried away by 300 or 400. It is very much better to have a few of the best in France, will sweep away every vestige of our little trade that remained.

We do not care upon the present occasion to enter into the question of our national policy in relation to this matter, as we desire to point to another factor which is of great importance in the situation. This is the conduct of our working classes, who seem to have given themselves over body and soul to a number of fussy businesspeople, who, owing to the circumstances of their lives, have an opportunity of observing the way of life and the habits of the inhabitants of the world of conflicting interests beyond, and have certainly not sought to attain any place. Yet they have been forward and have assumed the leadership of the establishment of all the establishments of their employes, and have organised the former and terrorised the latter. As to professional politicians, seeing this usurped power in their hands, have paid court to them, with the result that they have given laws made whereunto come every one who opposes them. They were not only associateable, and boycott discontented workpeople, as is now occurring at Wigan and Stonebridge, and compel the workpeople to carry absolutely the highest wages of any in Lancashire engaged in the same class of work to leave it, on the allegation of being "spinning bad," as at Accrington. They go to an employer and demand that he shall dismiss half his staff of workers because they have not joined their Union, or the remainder will strike—which means they will neither work themselves nor permit others to work. Such a demand has been made at three large mills in Bury during the past few days. Cases of the kind we have indicated are of daily occurrence in the cotton trade, all of which are the outcome of the feeling of uncleanliness and insubordination to the absolutely necessary principles of order that form a part of and are inseparable from modern industries. This action is a revolt, not against tyranny but against organised industry itself, and can, if persisted in, only have one ending—the utter ruin of their employers and themselves. The trade unions now in power are blind and prove a blessing to Sancho, who are but informed pulling down the whole fabric of civilized industry upon their head, the death of everybody else, without even the motive of revenge for any injury done them.

Now, we ask, how with such prospects as these in front of them can employers in the textile industries of Lancashire expect to maintain in the pre-eminent position it has attained, mainly by the genius of its inventors, the enterprise of its capitalists, and the steady industry of a generation of workers who managed their own affairs and never permitted either secretaries, treasurers, or delegates to dictate to them what they should strike, or who kept such officials rigidly in their places as the servants and not the masters? This position cannot be maintained under such conditions. Consequently, we have only to ask whether the workers of Lancashire desire to destroy the grandest industrial system the world has ever seen, and perish themselves in the ruins? If not they must change their policy.

Designing.

THE ANALYSIS OF PATTERN.—V.

FANCY COMBINATIONS.

(Continued from p. 251.)

Another type of combinations, at times of great interest in the country, is what are termed "fancy twills." It would be a difficult matter to draw a definite line between these and the latter at times very extensive; but if the term "combination twill" be substituted for "fancy twill" its meaning is quite clear. In Design 1, a typical example of a combination twill is shown, consisting of the combination of six end sateen and Mayno or Campbell, forming a twill running at an angle of 45° provided equal quantities of the warp and weft are used. In Design 2 an example of a combination twill is shown, consisting of the combination of an upright twill running in one direction but an ordinary twill in the other, as shown in Designs 11 and 12. Now, a glance at Design 9 and 10 will show that, in the latter instance, the ordinary twill effect has been made the basis of the combination, while in the former case the upright effect has been utilised for the same purpose. Thus it is evident that a knowledge of the weaves combined in these two cases will account for an apparent impossibility, since these weaves are of a stripe type of effect, all the remarks made with reference to stripes are equally applicable here. Particular notes should, however, be made of the method of combining the weaves employed, and also of the number of ends and warps occurring, which point may often be decided by the curvature of the threads and pick as already explained. Another point to which attention should be directed is that in such combinations as given in Design 13, a common practice is to make the fabric of woollen or worsted weft except every other pick, which is mohair; thus a favonial twill is developed on a woollen or worsted ground.

BACKED CLOTHES.

Attention must now be directed to fabrics backed with warp or weft for the purpose of obtaining extra weight, warmth, and handle. In the first case we shall have two series of warp threads and one series of weft; and, in the latter case, one series of warp threads and two series of weft threads. The following is a common practice in analysing these clothes:

1. Ascertain whether backed with warp or weft.
2. Ascertain the relative proportions of fine and backing threads or picks and counts of the weft.
3. Ascertain the structure and texture of the fabric in one piece.
4. Ascertain the backing threads.

No further reference to the first three is really requisite, but the fourth may probably be considered more fully. In tying the backing to the face, of course, under any circumstances the conditions of perfect tying must, if possible, be observed, whether warp or weft is employed. In Diagram 13 there is an interesting fact concerning the backing of the two and two twill; a is a thread taken from the face, leaving as backing two and two twill, a, indicating the tying of the first thread, and b and c, showing the tying of the second thread. It will at once be observed that a and c always come into relatively the same position, a being repeated twice to c once. This leads us at once to decide that the backing is tied to the face as in an end sateen order, since, as shown in Design 14, this matter ties on every other pick. We need scarcely note that it is almost impossible to analyse these cloths successfully without a complete theoretical knowledge of the underlying principles and some practical experience; for, in addition to the many difficulties, it is found in practice that at times the surface of tying is quite remarkable, a slight variation in the position materially influencing the result.

DOUBLE CLOTHES.

The principles governing the construction of these are very similar to those governing backed cloths, the only difference being that there is a distinct back cloth formed. The analyst should proceed as follows:

1. Find the face weave or design.
2. Find the back weave or design.
3. Find the relative proportions of warp and weft to the backing warp and weft with the counts of each.
4. Find the method of tying, whether warp or weft, and the method of distribution.

With reference to this latter proceeding, Diagrams 14 to 17 demonstrate a very simple method of doing the work.
been tied to the face by means of the backings warp, & indicating this tie which is a much more marked curve than is A, where no such tie has taken place. Design 15 is the plain employed.

COTTON DRESS GOODS DESIGNS.

So much skill and care has been expended on designs and colourings, that the woven cotton material at a very short distance might be taken

for wool or satin, the goods so made hanging quite an easily and gracefully and manufactured from silk fibres. The present year will show some of the finest specimens of cotton goods ever exhibited, and that they will be fashionable goes without saying, seeing that they are being made up in advance of the time when they can be worn. Ottoman, satin, damask, chambray, gingham, and

made up either as a blouse, vesting, or skating. That is truly a marvellous fashion of the dress, causing the wearing of costly material to play a subordinate part, but so it is, and manufacturers must bow to the flat. In respect of colours as usual all the delicate enduro shades and spring blues are sought for, but as is natural in the early primrose and cross-tie tints will lead, to be later in blended with pale or dark violet—one of the most tasteful arrangements in the eye that can possibly dwell upon in feminine costumes whatever made up of cotton or more expensive materials. Where cost is no object the most lovely of all dress goods are cambrics if of good design and shining colorings, forming the prettiest of all spring dresses, being exquisitely fresh, giving grace and beauty in every modulation of the drapery.

Design 4 is constructed for a fancy zephyr stripe, with a small warp spot for ornamentation (see draft and pegging plan). The distances between the figures may be increased or decreased by repeats of the draft and ground, 44 dents per inch, two in a dent for plain ground; spotting 4 in a dent; ground warp 4 twist, spotting in two-fold 4 twist, every little twist possible, weft so picks per inch of 30's soft spun. As a guide we have marked the shafts on the pegging plan in numerical order, so that the pattern may be drafted without any mistake; 22 light mauve, 22 white, all white, the figures to be only on alternate white stripes; 22 light mauve and 8 of white on the plain shafts 1, 4, 5; then a double end in a brindel of dark chocolate on 7th shaft; 2 white ground on 8 and 2 shafts which makes the 4 in a dent; a double end in a brindel of chocolate on 6th shaft; 2 white on plain shafts, 2 double chocolate end on 7th shaft, and two white plain, and double chocolate end on 6th shaft with two white plain completes one figure. For the alternate stripe, 8 white, 22 light mauve, on the 1, 4, 5, plain shafts; double end chocolate on 6th shaft; 2 white plain double end chocolate on 6th shaft; 2 white plain double end chocolate on 7th shaft; 2 white plain, and double chocolate end on 6th shaft with 8 white on plain shafts, the repeat commencing with the first 22 of light mauve. These particulars carefully followed will give exactly the drafting of this pattern. Any other arrangement may be made—the chocolate changed to green, the size of pattern increased or the figures placed on each stripe if required; we have simply indicated what can be done, and consider the design worth notice.
Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, etc.

THE PREPARATION OF WOOL FOR PRINTING

The printing of wool piece goods is assuming a large proportion, and on all sides one hears of cotton print works taking it up. Owing to the manner in which the manufacture is being carried on, the demand for wool goods has increased enormously, but it is so great that the production goes on extending in the same proportion as it is. The preparatory work for printing consists mainly of two operations—bleaching and mordanting.

BLEACHING.

The goods are run through a black washing machine with two rows of squeezing rollers, filled with clean water at 35° C. The water for this and the following washing machine must be soft, and if not naturally, should only be used after softening. Then follows the real washing in an exactly similar machine, the first being worked with a small roll and a little potash, while the second contains only soap. The first bath contains 4 gms. of soap per litre of water, and the other two 2 gms. per litre. The temperature of the bath is 48° C. After running through this machine, the bleaching follows without further washing.

This is done in a continuous apparatus, similar in principle to a paper machine, but not so wide, having brick walls for its sides. A large top is provided, and a bottom roll, on which, when working, are slightly warmed to prevent condensation.

The goods enter the machine near the small rollers, and then pass over smaller rollers, to finish the work in the apparatus by the same method. The sulphur chamber is built wide enough for two widths to run side by side. The burnt sulphur—flat pan, which can be fed from without, is charged in the apparatus, and when heated, the machine has two sliding shutters, which render it possible to add fresh sulphur while working. Two small windows in the walls, to overlook the inside working, and a tightly shutting door, are also required.

To prevent sublimation of the sulphur upon the cloth, a wood trough, covered with lead and felt, is laid over the pans. Owing to the pans being very low, very little settling even on the felt, the passage takes lasting ten minutes. On leaving the apparatus, the cloth is very hard, and the acid is washed out by cold water, which is drawn off with an exhaustor. For light goods, this process is twice repeated; for heavy goods, three times. These operations have been made to replace the sulphur by a bleach with a liquid mixture, which on turning out turns a finely bleached as with sulphur. With peroxide of hydrogen an excellent result can be obtained.

After bleaching, the goods go through a washing machine, and are then mordanted. Formerly this was done by passing through a tannate of soda, and then through sulphuric acid, but latterly this has been replaced by the chlorine treatment. This is largely owing to the fact that the natural colouring matters have been replaced, for the greater part, by artificial ones, which on tin-mordanted wool give comparatively very good results, but only mordant black gives good results on chlorinated wool. The change to mordant black has been further aided owing to the fact that with genuine black, it leaves the other colours, especially white, absolutely pure, whereas with mordant black, the effect is less distinct.

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LACE JACQUARD-CARD PREPARING MACHINE.

The Jacquard Syndicate, 13, Archburtch Lane, London.

Those who are connected with the textile industry will be aware that the preparation of cards for Jacquard engines is a long and tedious process, and one in which they would gladly see an improvement. This improvement has now been effected by the invention of a most ingenious machine for superseding the human brain, eye, and hand in the preparation of these cards. To render a description of the improvement clear it will be necessary to explain briefly the ordinary method of preparation. As the first place the artist design which is to be reproduced upon the fabric is transferred to a sheet of paper, and the outlines of the pattern are traced in thin white lines by cross-stitches. The pattern is then painted in and the sheet is handed to a skilful artisan known as a reader, who commands a high rate of wages, and places the designs before him on a frame to which is attached a number of strings. These he skilfully manipulates and interlaces them in accordance with the pattern which will in time appear in the curtain or other article to be manufactured. This pattern is of course not static, being a very long affair, occupying for ordinary patterns an average of four or five days, while with complicated designs from a week to two fortnights will be occupied. It moreover demands unceasing care and watchfulness on the part of the reader, for all errors are often crept in to human fallibility. These errors are only discoverable when the first or sample curtain is made and they then have to be corrected. The string pattern having been completed, it is placed in a machine and from it are punched the series of cards for the Jacquard. This process occupies about a day, which has to be added to the time occupied by the reader. When the cards have been punched they are strung together in regular order referring to the right hand scheme set up in the Jacquard. Any errors of pattern discovered in the first, or sample curtain are remedied by corrections to the corresponding points in the prepared cards.

The new system is the invention of Messrs. Pearson and Son, who have taken some nine years to develop into its present practical form and to perfect, Mr. Pearson being the primary inventor. In this system the artist’s design is traced on a thin sheet of transparent India-rubber, which is stretched in a frame that can be expanded or contracted to scale with mathematical accuracy to suit the size of pattern required. The design is traced on the rubber sheet with a specially prepared colour which always remains soft. When the tracing has been completed a finely perforated sheet of zinc is laid upon it and the design is directly transferred from the rubber to the metal. The pattern is then filled in with a thick paint, which enters and stops up all the holes within the lines of the design, and then, by rolling, the through the holes, while the others pass over the painted surface of the zinc, the holes in which, being blocked, cannot be entered. The strings are pulled by the levers belonging to those needles which pass through the holes, while others, the intermediate pieces of mechanism by means of which the combined cards are flashed at the other end of the machine. The blank cards are automatically led to the punches and delivered into a receiver when punched, and the machine is automatic from first to last. The pattern has only to be placed in position and the machine started, when it will work out any alternative—except being occasionally supplied with cards—and if the pattern has been transferred from the zinc to the cards.

The rate of production in this machine is very remarkable as compared with that of the human reader. A pattern of 500 lines will take the latter a fortnight to read and punch by hand, while the Jacquard machine will punch the same number of lines in about one day. Beyond this, there is a great saving in labour, whilst errors are impossible providing the design has been properly drafted. This machine is now at work at the Anglo-Scottish Mills, Beeston, near Nottingham, at which the inventors are engaged, and where those interested may inspect it in operation, and also see the ordinary process of reproduction. The factory, which is among the largest in the country, belongs to Messrs. Frank Wilkinson and Co., and is engaged entirely in the large furnish trade. About 1,500 hands are employed, and 17 lines, having an aggregate of about 1,000 horse-power, are engaged in the machinery. Messrs. Wilkinson are adopting the new machine, by which they anticipate effecting a saving of about £1,500 per annum. This will readily be understood when it is stated that with the machine one reader will take the place of 17 or 18 hands, consisting of readers, punchers, and correctors. So far the machine has only been used for making cards for lace curtains and similar goods, but it is equally applicable to the preparation of cards for other textile fabrics. In fact, arrangements have been entered into with Messrs. Hattersley and Co., Leeds, builders of looms, for its adaptation to the woolen, linen, and other trades using Jacquards. It has therefore a very wide range of application, and it is certain that this most ingenious invention will certainly mark an important era in the history of textile manufacture. The Jacquard Automatic Reading and Punching Syndicate, of 13, Archburtch Lane, London, will furnish further information.

TELEPHONE.

Messrs. Woodhouse and Kawom United, Limited, 10, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. have published a useful set of illustrated price lists of telephones and transmitting apparatus. The firm have taken advantage of the changes that have recently taken place in connection with the telephones, whereby they are able to manufacture them at prices which bring them within the reach of all classes. A low price for domestic business use. Special prominence is given in these lists to domestic telephony, and full particulars and price lists of apparatus are given with clearness and brevity.

The firm were present at the 8th Annual Exhibition of the Electrical and Telephone Manufacturers’ Association, and again this year, and enquired on about a good number of members. The lecture pointed out that what was meant by the term “telephone engine” was simply an expansion of the compound engine, while a quadruple engine was an expansion of the triple engine. The triple expansion engine was introduced in a practical form in 1874, being then used for marine power, but it was not a success, mainly on account of the construction of the “wakers” and the engine not being of suitable type. Four years later another triple expansion engine was tried with a marine boiler, and was fairly successful. In 1883, however, the triple expansion engine proved entirely successful as a marine engine, and since that date it had been largely used. The late Daniel Adamson was the first to apply the triple expansion engine to land purposes, mainly with only moderate success, but now he (Mr. Hodgson) was convinced that by adopting that type of engine the coal could be saved.

The lecturer went on to deal with the technicalities of the subject at some length. After a brief discussion the evening terminated with the customary vote of thanks.
and afterwards dried. It is necessary to have a flow connected with an exhaustor over the chine bath, otherwise no workman can attend to the machine. It can happen that by running the machine too slowly some pieces become too strongly chlorinated, which if it occurs is easy to rectify, owing to the rough hand of the goods. Such pieces should be then employed for other cloth. The faults occurring in good printing are seldom attributable to faulty mordanting, but mostly to the steaming, which must be reckoned as one of the most difficult points in the process.

**ANILINE BLACK PRODUCED BY AGEING.**

The aniline black produced on the cotton fibre according to Lightfoot's recipe does not rub, but it injures the fibre, and this has always been an impediment in the application of his process. The explanation of the cause of the rendering of the fibre is as follows:—II, as Nietzki believes, the black is a tetramine-acid, its formation is expressed thus:—

\[ 4CH₂N₂H₂ + 4C₂H₂N₂H₂ + 4CH₂ \rightarrow 2\text{NiC₂H₂N₂H₂} \]

According to this the original mixture, even if it was perfectly neutral, becomes strongly acid by the decomposition of the aniline in the black, and the acid produced on the contrary in the dyeing process tends to convert it into oxycelloside.

In order to prevent this reaction, alkaline bases, in the form of organic salts, such as acetates, etc., must be added to the mixture for the protection of the fibre. The opinion of Camille Köchlin, that the presence of acetates hinders the formation of the black, is modified in so far that the development of the black is not hindered as long as there is less than one equivalent of combined mineral acid. The best result is obtained with one equivalent, thus supporting Nitzki's hypothesis, according to which if 1/3 of the acid of the aniline salt becomes free on the formation of the black. If the amount of the base is less than half equal, the fibre is scarcely protected by it; if it is more than one equivalent, a black is no longer obtained. Perhaps the results here given will cause a renewed application of Lightfoot's method in dyeing.

**RECIPE FOR DYERS.**

The following are mostly translations from foreign sources. We do not guarantee the results from these recipes, but give them for the purposes of selection, as well as to show their foreign competitors are doing.

**ANILINE BLACK DYE.**

For 100 lb. cotton, mordant in a decotion of 20 lb. soot, 2 oz., and 1 lb. for a cold bath of 2 lb. tartar emetic; then in a new bath with 2 lb. alum, 2 lb. copperas, 2 lb. borax for a cold bath of 2 lb. tartar emetic; then in a new bath with 2 lb. alum, 2 lb. copperas, 2 lb. borax for a cold bath of 2 lb. tartar emetic, and so on until the work is obtained.

**BORAGEY FOR COTTON.**

For 100 lb. cotton. Make a solution of 2 lb. of amyl nitrite with 4 lb. of sodium nitrate, and add this solution to the cotton, then wash, and dye with 1 lb. of sodium dichromate, and 4 lb. of sodium sulphate, then add 4 lb. of sodium chloride, and dye for 2 hours. The work will be excellent.

**OLIVE OIL.**

For 100 lb. cotton. Make a solution of 2 lb. of amyl nitrite with 4 lb. of sodium nitrate, and add this solution to the cotton, then wash, and dye with 1 lb. of sodium dichromate, and 4 lb. of sodium sulphate, then add 4 lb. of sodium chloride, and dye for 2 hours. The work will be excellent.

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15 lb. copperas, 2 lb. tartar emetic, and 2 lb. sodium sulphate, and 2 lb. of sodium chloride, and dye for 2 hours. The work will be excellent.
Heywood.
In their quarterly report the Committee of the Heywood & Heywood Spinning Co., addressed to non-members, say—"The time has almost expired when trade operations (apart from the necessity to let put-out non-members) repay the benefits which they have spent their time and money to obtain. The new Factory Act is only another step. But, as you may have seen, the Act has been placed to the reserve fund, and £150 carried forward. As an estimate last week, Michael Hasley, Hasley & C. have decided to proceed with the present and pension scheme for their employes at Moss Vale, Hasley, with Mr. T. Driscoll, and a firm of actuaries to prepare tables, etc. Since the vote was taken it has been strongly represented to me that the number of the workpeople are members of sick societies, and it is estimated that this portion of the scheme will be dropped.

Kidderminster.
Mr. Edmund Potter, of Kidderminster, has been engaged by Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co. to report on their mill's business.

Leicester.
On Sunday night Mr. G. R. Hibbert, one of the Leicester Town Councils, visited Boston to inspect the weaving machines in the town. He was accompanied by Mr. Broom, of the Boston Technical School, and the teachers of the town's weaving class. The report of the town's weaving class is being considered by the local authorities.

Manchester.
The cotton weaving side of the town is threatened by the reports of a strike in the district. The strike is expected to start on Tuesday afternoon.

The arbitrators' award is to be announced on Tuesday. The arbitrators are of opinion that the strike will be averted, and that the workers will return to work.

On Wednesday the report of the committee of the National Weavers' Association will be published. The report is expected to be favorable to the workers.

Nottingham.
A meeting of the Nottingham Chamber of Commerce was held on Monday. Mr. B. M. Nicholl, president, in his speech, said:—"I am sure that my fellow members will be greatly interested in the report of the committee of the National Weavers' Association, which will be published on Wednesday. The report is expected to be favorable to the workers.

The supply of coal here is already falling short of the demand. The price of coal will probably be raised to 5s. per ton.

Stockport.
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SCOTLAND.

Miscellaneous.

Dundee.

One or two more manufacturers have agreed to begin short time in their works on and after today.

Mr. J. Watson, who was long interested in the trade of Dundee, was the author of "The Life of the Beggars of Scotland." These people, the best of all British colonists, are found in all parts of the country; and many of the Scotch and English towns, and countries, and control affairs and give the prevalent tone to society. The Scotch, however, it is declared, have been in the history of the country, it is natural enough to find them credited with the inauguration of that industry which has had the chief influence in making the Australians, in proportion to their numbers, the richest people in the world.

The history of Australian wool-growing began in 1793, when Mr. John M'Arthur, of Sydney, purchased a sheep from the Cape of Good Hope. The success which crowned his venture, in the shape of a rapid improvement in the quantity and quality of the wool that these sheep produced, was such that, M'Arthur, 10 years later, sailed for Europe to secure some Spanish merino, for which he believed the quality of the wool from pastoral Aus-

Dunfermline.

In the nine hours' experiment made by Messrs. Hay and Robertson, the Executive Manager, Mr. B. J. G. Ross, has turned out very successfully both from the end-works and the middle. The experiment has lasted for four months, and Messrs. Hay and Robertson have just posted a note expressing satisfaction with the result. In order to further benefit the workers they have made an alteration on the present system, and there shall be done during the summer months three instead of two shifts, while the working hours will be only 16 a day and a half.

Glasgow.

Mr. J. Boon has succeeded Mr. Potter as manager of the Glasgow Cotton Spinning Co. He was recently manager of the firm of Messrs. John Fish, Limited, Blackfriars.

At the annual meeting of the Glasgow Cotton Spinning Co. on Monday, the chairman explained the cause of the dividend for the past year being less at 4½ per cent. than for 1893. At the commencement of 1894 the company operated a second large mill, and during the whole year they had been training workers, with the result that there had been no adequate production of yarn for the wages paid. Moreover, there had been an unprecedented fall in the price of yarn.

The report, which recommended a dividend for the six months at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum, was adopted in the firm of William Watson and Son manufacturers, Hawick, and is very popular in the border district.

Kirkcaldy.

Mr. Linton, Auchinleck, is about to open the North Mill and Robertson's mill, the former being owned by the firm of Messrs. J. and A. Robertson, and the latter by the firm of Messrs. R. and W. Robertson, both mills being situated on the banks of the River Leven.

Paisley.

Messrs. I. and P. Coats, Limited, thread manu-

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SHEEP FARMING IN AUSTRALIA.

In every phase of Australian development, but none more so than in the case of the sheep, there is a remarkable concurrence of fortunate events and the early settlers. The Government of the day supplied them with all the convic-

labour they desired in the guise of "assumed servants," and for 20 years they saw their flocks increased and clipped and sent away their wool, with little expense to themselves. About the year 1780, over-production reduced profits until fat sheep were sold at a shilling a head, and the business became almost a veritable one. The discovery of gold drew hundreds of thousands to Victoria and New South Wales to seek their fortune and the sheep. When the ensuing increase again brought supplier and demand into equilibrium, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheapest in the world, no longer brought high prices. The sheep flocks were exported to various parts of the world, the price of wool, and later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the Australian wool, at one time the cheap...
various fields are called—some of these "padocks" contain 50,000 sheep, and when the season is dry, the sheep are fed from one to another as necessity may demand, he keeps, them in excellent order; and he is always ready to do his best for the comfort of his flock. He has learned that to place little dependence upon the yearly rainfall, and store in "dams" (as he calls them) the remainder of the water at hand, will make the difference in the abundance of one season against the possible disaster of the next. When grass is plentiful and rank, he gorges quantities of it in stacks or silage pits, and ensures a siege of two or three years of famine in an untroubled mind. Losses he has in these seasons, of course; but they are slight compared with the ruin which often threatens him in former times, and one good year at present means more to him than two bad ones. It is a matter of com- gratulation, however, when the seasons of ripening and of rain follow each other in due order. The average squatter is not an emotional person; but he is nevertheless accustomed to rejoice loudly when he hears the thunder of the down-pouring of the autumn rains reverberating upon his roof of corrugated iron, promulgating for the lambing season and consequent strength to their offspring. It is astonishing to look forth over the expanse of the sheep's barren plains and observe how suddenly they revive at the touch of the showers. In a few hours the brown wastes of burning sun have violets in delicate green, and in a week the grass is in knee-deep, and the shepherds, like the artists of New Orleans, are attended by the elder Weller at the Elks' Restaurant, and dressing "swellies" visibly before our eyes. Those who do well, which is all the whole, and in which which afford elsewhere four seasons, brings to pastoral Australia but two—those of shearing and lamb- ing. Both are periods of feverish activity and anxious toil, while between them life is easy and pleasant. The shearing season, although lasting only two or three months in any one year, comprises in its complete round nearly half of the year. It is during these months that the hot and humid season in the hot districts of northern Queensland, where the commencement of the shearing season, although lasting only two or three months in any one year, comprises in its complete round nearly half of the year. It is during these months that the hot and humid season in the hot districts of northern Queensland, where the commencement of the shearing season, although lasting only two or three months in any one year, comprises in its complete round nearly half of the year. It is during these months that the hot and humid season in the hot districts of northern Queensland, where the commencement of the shearing season, although lasting only two or three months in any one year, comprises in its complete round nearly half of the year. It is during these months that the hot and humid season in the hot districts of northern Queensland, where the commencement of the shearing season, although lasting only two or three months in any one year, comprises in its complete round nearly half of the year. It is during these months that the hot and humid season in the hot districts of northern Queensland.
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summer rains have been copious, and a rich crop now attests the generous amount of moisture, and March has come and gone without its expected showers, there is trouble ahead, and much anxiety is felt about the future; while throughout the province, the cotton, already overripe, is crusted upon the useless ground, growing weak, and when their hour of trial comes fails in thousands and the crops are lost; their situation is of course deplorable, and their prospects for the coming season do not augur well. The cotton growers are eager to sell, but the buyers are few and the prices low. The merchants who control the trade are in a dilemma, and the position of the growers is critical. The situation is described by the local correspondent as “unbearable.”

The Stalybridge Borough Court was crowded on Monday forenoon, the prisoners being heard out of the present and the complaint in the following. The prisoners were charged with the charge of maliciously damaging the mill. The charge was brought by the mill owner, George Black, who alleged that the prisoners had destroyed his property by setting fire to the mill.

Mr. Crompton, on behalf of the accused, submitted that the evidence was insufficient to prove the charge. He stated that the prisoners had been acting in self-defense and were not guilty of malice.

The case was adjourned to a later date for further consideration.

INIMITATING WORKPEOPLE AT HALIFAX AND STALYBRIDGE.

Two or three cases of considerable interest in the town and neighbourhood were heard before the Halifax Borough Magistrates. The first was a case of assault by Joseph Payne, of Union-street, South, upon Henry Jones, of the same street. The accused admitted the assault, and was fined 2s. 6d. for assault with intent.

The second case was one of malicious mischief, the accused, an unknown person, was charged with maliciously damaging a wall.

Mr. Crompton, on behalf of the accused, submitted that the evidence was insufficient to prove the charge. He stated that the prisoner had acted in self-defense.

The case was adjourned to a later date for further consideration.

INDIAN IMPORT DUTIES ON COTTON GOODS.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on the 4th February, Mr. G. M. Cooper said they were passing through rather critical times with an exchange at 7s. 13½d., with scarcity in some parts of the province, with a vast output in the North-West under the absolute necessity of storing for the coming year, and it was evident that we were setting the example for the rest of India, and that some measure of control would be necessary. The Indian Government was well aware of the necessity for control, and was considering the matter at the present time.

Mr. Cooper also spoke of the increase in the import of goods, and the necessity for control to prevent the import of goods into India. He said that the Government was considering the matter, and that they would take steps to control the import of goods.

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Letters from Out Readers.

THE TAXATION OF MACHINERY.

To the Editor of The Textile Mercury.

Sir,—I am pleased to be able to inform you that Mr. J. Fulford, M.P., has been fortunate in getting the Bill for the Exemption of Machinery from Taxation, presented by this Society, put down as the first order of the day for the 6th April. Although we have the support of a most earnest and energetic body of members of the House of Commons, it is of the first consequence that those outside Parliament who are interested in the measure should use their utmost exertions to influence their friends in Parliament to be in their places to support the bill.

The opposition, although numerically insignificant, is the most determined character, and there is no doubt that the measures which it is so energetically using for the purpose of killing the Bill are intended to arrest the progress of the Bill, as well as to make it more difficult to those interested in it.

Any of your readers who will undertake the preparation of petitions for the House of Commons can have forms of these and all the necessary information on the subject.—Yours, &c.

G. H. TUNETEN DAVIES.


THE TEXTILE MERCURY.

COTTON.

Manchester, Friday.

The cotton trade taken all in all, is at the present time in a condition that may be said to be unparalleled in its history. The production of cotton from the States of the American Union in the present year is growing by leaps and bounds, in a manner that would have been considered as impossible a few years ago. The world is now in the midst of a great cotton famine, which has caused a great increase in the price of cotton. The cotton trade is now in a state of extraordinary activity, and the trade is now in a state of great excitement.

The cotton trade is now in a state of great excitement, and the trade is now in a state of extraordinary activity, and the trade is now in a state of great excitement.

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EIDERDOWN—Spinning still continues to be in great demand, and the prices for eiderdown are high, which is causing a great stir in the market. The eiderdown trade is in a state of great excitement, and the trade is now in a state of extraordinary activity, and the trade is now in a state of great excitement.
only those manufacturers having Government contracts on their books expect a quiet condition at this time. But there is no such change as to make the market appear quiet, and the condition of business has been described by all in the trade as unsatisfactory.

Huddersfield.—The attendance of buyers has been small, and though a slight improvement has been noticed of late, compared with the depression which has prevailed throughout the season, the trade is, however, very indifferent. Sellers report a great quantity of goods being returned to the country, and a very keen competition prevails. There is not so much machinery unemployed in the mills, although some of the smaller firms have been forced to lay off hands.

GLASGOW.—Orders for cotton and wool continue very steady, and the market is firm. Prices are, however, lower than last season, and buyers are having a very keen competition. The market is firm, and there is little change in the prices of goods, but the demand is very good, and there is little movement in the market. The manufacturers are hopeful, and expect a better time in the near future.

Hosiery and Lace.

NOTTINGHAM.—Specialities are in firm demand, and the general run of goods is quiet, but the market is steady. The manufacturers are hopeful, and expect a better time in the near future. The trade is firm, and there is little movement in the market.

Leicester.—Yarns for spring goods are brisk, and the trade is firm. The manufacturers are hopeful, and expect a better time in the near future. The trade is firm, and there is little movement in the market.

Dundee, Wednesday.—The market continues firm, and the condition is satisfactory. The trade is firm, and there is little movement in the market. The manufacturers are hopeful, and expect a better time in the near future.

Notices of Removal and Change of Firm.

E. K. Dutton & Co. (late Dutton & Fulton) have changed their address from 32, Cornhill, City of London, to 110, Sport Hill, City of London. This change is effective from the 5th instant.

Patents.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL AND CHANGE OF FIRM.

E. K. DUTTON & CO.
(Late DUTTON & FULTON),
CHARGEDER PATENT AGENTS,
Removal from 32 Cornhill, City of London, to 110 Sport Hill, City of London.
Each of the following Specifications may be purchased for the sum of five shillings, and may be obtained at the Patent Office, Whitehall, London, for the price of 8d., or may be ordered on the Postal Card by adding 2d. to the price.

Specifications Published.

1551
1554 Newark. Strengthening ends of hobbins, 2500M. Cutting pile fabrics.

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