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COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS IN SWITZERLAND.

A law has just been passed by the Federal Assembly of Switzerland, restricting foreign travellers, or rather that section of them who would in this country be described as hawkers. The native travellers of this class are taxed in many of the cantons, and the object of the law is to prevent foreigners enjoying untaxed privileges denied to the citizens of the Republic. Exemption is, however, accorded to foreign travellers entitled to national treatment, provided they do not travel with their wares, and only do business with succourants. To those foreign travellers not entitled to national treatment, the price of the licence is fixed at 200 fr. for six months, and 300 fr. for one year, when business is only done with merchants. When orders are also taken from private individuals, the prices are 500 fr. and 900 fr. respectively. Foreign travellers are required to produce themselves with a certificate signed by the competent authority of the country in which their firm is established, stating that they are authorised to carry on business in that country. The law is also provided that the permit will be granted when the licence enabling them to travel in Switzerland can be obtained from the authorities of the first canton of entry. The permit is then reserved by the law to refuse to licence any foreign traveller in Switzerland in which Swiss travellers are either refused permission to travel or are only allowed to do business on certain conditions. It is to be feared that this new arrangement may be intended to visit Switzerland for business purposes and who might be liable to fall under these conditions, would do well to carefully ascertain how the new arrangements might affect them, so that they may avoid inconvenience.

OLDHAM AND THE WAGES QUESTION.

Our Oldham correspondent writes:—"The wages question is being very quietly discussed in Oldham. On the part of the employers it may be said that for a few months they have had the matter under consideration, and the action which has been taken by the Employers' Federation seems to have given satisfaction. So far as can be ascertained at the moment there is absolutely no indication that the full 35 per cent. of the wage replies will be given in this district. However, a meeting of the spinning trade is called for Friday (last) evening to consider the position of affairs, and no doubt it will be decided the employers will do their own interests, at which it is anticipated the course recommended by the committee of the Federation will be confirmed. As regards the operatives, they are not in any way alarmed at
the prospective reduction. They are prepared to await the result of the employers’ pâtrisies, and the old intimation of a reduction coming to hand, then, they believe, will be the time to seriously consider the situation. There is a strong feeling that the employers are merely making a question as to working horse for a stoppage, in the same way, they allege, as the Stalybridge strike was utilised. They strongly hold that the remedy for the present depression is not to be found in the enforcement of production, but more in the supply of work. Having overtaken the demand; while a wages reduction, it is said, will not go one step in the direction of relieving or remodelling the trade. There is every probability that the 0.3 per cent. demand will be resisted, though there is a possibility of a compromise from the operatives in the way of compromise—say, five per cent., or restoring what the employers conceded in the January of last year—coupled with a very strong feeling on their part that in any case the demand will cause a stoppage. If this come to pass it will mean, if all the mills in the Federation, which employ 57,000, are to be thrown idly, and about £50,000 per week lost in wages. However, it is too early in the situation to say anything like accurate opinions as to the outcome of the issue."

Ramp Once More.

This tantalising yet impracticable plant continues to allure people to its cultivation and treatment, with little result other than disappointment. It is constantly being tried somewhere or other with new and sanguine hopes, while the strong belief that it always slowly transforms itself into deleterious mirages, and ultimately disappears altogether. The last candidate for this reward that we have heard of is California. Referring to this matter our Consul writes:

"A good deal of interest has been manifested here (the coastal district of San Francisco) in the past year in the culture of cannabis. The attempts to introduce it into the Southern States have not been very successful, owing partly to the moisture of the climate, and chiefly because the machinery necessary to prepare it for market had not been invented. It has been demonstrated that the dryness of this climate will admit of the production of the strongest leaves of hemp. It is estimated that 150 years ago or more, fairs were important institutions and great centres of exchange, where every description of commerce was carried on. It is difficult to say what all the names of "fairs," but it may be conjectured without much strain that owing to the flocking to these places at the proper time of all manner of manufacturers, the principle of competition had great free sway, and articles were disposed of more nearly at their intrinsic value than when sold at rates that were often those of monopolists in the villages and small towns of the country at that time. With the thin population of the country it as then, only few places could maintain either a manufacturing or distributing centre without the imposition of such high prices as made the articles appear disproportionately dear when compared with the cost of production. But the village fairs came round, and enabled consumers to serve themselves with their requirements at "fair" or competitive prices, which were much more reasonable than the monopolist or unfair prices at which they could only purchase articles at other times. Thus the careful housewives of the seventeenth century and the early part of the eighteenth before the new order of things made their advent, would husband their resources until in due season the fair came round, and then lay in the stock usually needed for a year's consumption, with something for contingencies. In those days pack horses were the principal means of transport of merchandise from one

part of the county to another, and large numbers of these were kept by transporters and manufacturers to travel over the county in every direction to these fairs, at which, when their wares had been disposed of, they purchased the productions of the neighbourhood when they differed from their own, and would thus make a profit on their "returns," as well as reduce the price to the customer. Thus the manufacturers of one district were forced to become merchants in the wares of others—a comptition which was beneficial all round. This method of conducting business, it was said by many, had doubtless been in vogue from the time when the country began to emerge from feudalism. Equally without doubt it served the requirements of the time very well. To the present day fairs are known as fairs are only such in their extreme decadence; it would surprise a modern reader to learn of the large amount of business once transacted in them, even when compared with the colossal scale on which it is done in these times. Perhaps the greatest of all could not be the Great Harwood, Bury, and Turton will be those of which the elder generation of East and South Lancashire and perhaps the Manchester can be the most familiar; though, we believe, these have been on the wane for some years. Robinson Cruze."

Fair and the Textile Trades.

The old institutions known as fairs are rapidly passing away, if indeed they have not already quite disappeared in all but the name, and in a few instances where they still survive mainly as entrepots where agriculturists meet to buy and sell farm stocks. There is no older institution that is 150 years ago or more, fairs were important institutions and great centres of exchange, every description of commerce was carried on. It is difficult to call them "fairs," but it may be conjectured that owing to the flocking of people to these places at the proper time of all manner of manufacturers, the principle of competition had great free sway, and articles were disposed of more nearly at their intrinsic value than when sold at rates that were often those of monopolists in the villages and small towns of the country at that time. With the thin population of the country it as then, only few places could maintain either a manufacturing or distributing centre without the imposition of such high prices as made the articles appear disproportionately dear when compared with the cost of production. But the village fairs came round, and enabled consumers to serve themselves with their requirements at "fair" or competitive prices, which were much more reasonable than the monopolist or unfair prices at which they could only purchase articles at other times. Thus the careful housewives of the seventeenth century and the early part of the eighteenth before the new order of things made their advent, would husband their resources until in due season the fair came round, and then lay in the stock usually needed for a year's consumption, with something for contingencies. In those days pack horses were the principal means of transport of merchandise from one

Shorebridge Strikes.

The Stourbridge town council refers, and which is, or rather was, the site of the fair described, is not the Worcestershire town of that name, but a small village on the river Stour and about two miles from Cambridge. The existence of this important fair at this insignificant place is one of those things which, as that ancient man Lord Dunmore might have said, no sayer can understand. But so it was, and so frequently were important fairs located in similar insignificant places that it cannot be regarded as singular. Decoe came across it in his tour through the counties of the same name, and he includes a description of it in the record of his observations. This fine old writer was one of the earliest of modern tourists, and it would be strange if his modern imitators, with their high dignity and quality to picking one another's pockets, and biting one another as much as possible, and that with such eagerness as that it might be said that they acted without respect to faith, honour or good name, published whatever else may change, there is evidently little change in horse racing manners. But this en passant, the present Newmarket had made its appearance through Stourbridge through Shorebridge without the former, and the study of its features and characteristics was much more congenial to its terrors than that which the world might be said to be a mixture of Newmarket, which made him "sick." He says:"
is the whole nation, but in the world; nor, if I may believe those who have seen them all, is the fair at Lancaster, the most magnificent fair in the North of England. Even with the best and most enterprising provision of all which have not yet ceased to unfold.

The picture we have culled from this favourite of a grand old writer will enable us to measure and appreciate the progress which has taken place during the years that have intervened since, in the early days of September, 1722, he passed through the busy scene of Stoneleigh Fair to the words: "This is a place of Universal wonder and Universal admiration, an inspection of which he dwells with pleasure.

The former article, says he, is largely bought by the northern manufacturers, "it being a great part of their back carriage into Yorkshire, Lancashire, and all the north country, and to all those counties; may be late, since the Union, even to Scotland." Great quantities of these "returns" also go by water carriage from the same port to all parts of the country. Of wool he says:-

The next article brought thither is wool, and of several sorts: white wool, out of Lancashire, where the largest staple is found; the sheep of those countries being of the largest breed.

The layers of the flax, and of the wool are chiefly indeed the manufacturers of Norfolk and Suffolk and Essex, and it is a prodigiously good article.

Here I saw what I have not observed in any other county of England, namely, a pocket of wood. This seems to be first called so in mockery, this pocket being so big that it loaded a whole wagon, and reaches the largest extensive parts of it, bringing the goods both before and behind, and these uniformly weigh a ton or two the day; they all universally eat, drink, and sleep in a hole.

The quantity of wool only, which has been sold at this place at one fair, has been said to amount to fifty or sixty thousand pounds in value, some say a great deal more.

By these articles a stranger may make some guess at the immense trade carried on at this place; what prodigious quantities of goods are bought and sold here, and what it brings in from all parts of England.

I might go on quoting a world of several sorts of English manufactures which are brought hither to be sold, or at all sorts of wrought Iron and brass ware from Birmingham, or Sheffield, or glass wares and stockings from Nottingham and Leicester; and the making of many other things of smaller value every morning.

To attend this fair, and the prodigious extent of goods which come to this place, is a matter so much as fifty hackney coaches which come from London, and ply night and day to bring people to Southwark; or from Cambridge; for the goods of the people of York, when the goods are large, and wherever brought from London on wagons to supply the little river Thames, and to row people up and down from the town, and to transport goods.

It is not to be understood, if the town of Cambridge cannot receive, or entertain the number of people which come to this fair: not Cambridge only, but all the towns round are full; say, the very barns and stables are turned into stores, and made in fit as they can to lodge the meaner sort of people; so for the people in the booths, they all have beds and seats, and in their booths and tents, and the said booths are intermingled with taverns, coffee-houses, drinking houses, eating houses, tea-houses, and all is there for the people, besides, the business which it is to be expected every morning, with beef, mutton, fowls, beef, bread, cheese, eggs, and all such things, and go with them from tent to tent, from door to door, and where what part of my observations of any kind, either dressed or undressed.

In a word, a city of commerce, and a city of character, and there is the less disorder and confusion, I believe, that can be seen anywhere with so great a concourse of people.

Towards the latter end of the fair, and when the great body of wholesale business begins to be over, the gentry come in from all parts of the country; and though they come for their diversion, it is in a little money they lay out, which generally falls to the share of the retailers, such as toy-shops, goldsmiths, drapery, ironmongers, wickers, milliners,商人, etc., and some house coach they reserve for the poorest class, drosh, reapers, etc., such like, of which there is none, though not considerable like the rest. The last day of the fair is the horse-fair, where the whole is closed with horses, and in which it is divided into several parts of people, to which they are offered at the end of the week, and is not much above a week since, there are scarce any left that there has been such a thing there, except by the heaps of dung and straw which is left behind, and to the earth, and which is as good as the farmer's falling in the plough, and as I have said above, pays the husbandman well for the use of it.

Such a picturesque of the internal commerce of the country, and especially of that relating to the distribution of the products of the textile industries of that time. It must be remembered that 172 years ago we had no rail- ways or canals, and that only highways. The coach horse was then the great means of transport, and the noble animal played the role in this country that the camel did then and still continues to perform in eastern lands. Our

highways and canals did not come into vogue until from 60 to 100 years later, when the industrial revolution was giving daily increasing manufacture. There are now no signs of which have not yet ceased to unfold.

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Here are objections from Halifax, Leeds, Wakefield and Huddersfield in Yorkshire, and from Rochdale, Bury, etc., in Lancashire, with quantities of Yorkshire cloth, kerseys, perclins, cottons, etc., with all sorts of Manchester ware, furnishings, and things made of cotton goods, of which there are several large shops, that they told me there were near a thousand horse-packs of all sorts of goods in the shops of this city. While these took up a side and half of the Dale at last; also a great many of them were taken up by the common people's wares, such as tuckings, tallow, Under

The article in Blackwood's Magazine last month on the "Prospective Decline of Lancashire" was warmly commented, and to which we referred our readers for a review, immediately created a considerable sensation throughout the cotton trade districts, and evoked a goodly amount of comment or more or less valuable, but mostly the latter, from the fact that the commentators had in very few instances the requisite practical knowledge of the matters discussed. This, however, is alleged of Mr. J. C. Fielden, of this city, who has followed Mr. Abraham Wright, the popular "Maga" on the same track. The result, of course, is much what might have been expected: no two men ever yet gave quite exactly the same account of a fact, or a series of facts, that came under their observation, and this instance is another edition of the old story of the travellers and the slanders that travel together. The result, in one word, is the out and ruthless Mr. Fielden, challenging his opinion, and declaring it is a golden one. Mr. Fielden does not like the pessimistic tone of Mr. Fielden's article, and he made the reasons that induce him to conclude that the latter is wrong in the views he entertains. It may be wrong while it is against the writer's views, and it is really remarkable in relation to the interests of employers and employed in the cotton trade of Lancashire, and especially at this juncture, to reach sound
calico is the kindliest, as it is the cheapest article of clothing." Here again we concur.

We close, however, come to a point at which we must diverge, in a very large degree upon that of the continued well-being of the cotton trade.

It would, perhaps, be going beyond what the circumstances warrant to place these two writers in any sort of affinity, neither one another, though a slightly combative tone pervades Mr. Fielden's article. But, as we know they have been personally well known to each other for many years, and for a long period of time co-workers in politics and various social movements, they cannot possibly be regarded in any other light than as the more friendly opponents where opposition at all comes in. Like Mr. Abram, Mr. Fielden is a Lancashire man, and has dwelt all his life within its borders. Unlike the former, however, Mr. Fielden has been for close upon 40 years intimately and actively engaged in one capacity or another in the cotton trade. As the "Spirit of the late Mr. Wm. Brittle, of one of the Stanley-street Mills, Blackburn, and an expert in cotton mill calculations, he was actively engaged in drafting the original Blackburn Statute. He was on the side of the employer, whilst the late Mr. Edward Whittle, the first secretary of the Blackburn Weavers' Association, then newly formed, acted in like capacity for the employee. This list, and that included on it as a basis, have governed the cotton trade since 1855. Mr. Fielden, who had become an employer before the outbreak of the American Civil War, has, for a cotton family, did yeoman services in the way of obtaining, organizing, and dispensing relief. In one capacity or another he has ever since been active in the cotton trade. He truly observes, therefore, that the readers of dear old "Mag' may find it interesting to have a view of the manner in which this question is regarded by one who has been so closely "engaged in the thick of the business during this long and terrible depression which seems to have become chronic."

Mr. Fielden states the value of the cotton trade to the country as being £50,000,000 annually, of which fully £30,000,000 go to the operatives engaged therein. In both the cases, we believe, greatly underestimates the importance of the cotton trade to the country, because he only takes cognizance of the benefit directly accruing to the persons engaged or employed therein, whilst he overlooks the fact that there are a large number of subordinate minor industries directly dependent for their existence upon the cotton trade itself, and gives no credit to the trade for the benefit the country derives from the repeated expenditure of the sum mentioned amongst the other trades and industries whose energies are devoted to providing for the various wants of the entire population of the cotton trade districts. Of course we might pursue this much further, but it is not necessary, as its further ramifications can easily be followed. We agree with Mr. Fielden that a correct diagnosis of the ailment of the trade may lead to the discovery and application of remedies. We are free, however, about Mr. Fielden's capabilities as the qualified physician who will give the diagnosis so much needed, and should hesitate to accept his prescription as a specific. He agrees with Mr. Abram in stating that the trade is not distressed "because of any change in the general demand for the goods produced." He affirms, which is no less, that the world's consumption of cotton is steadily increasing," and that this "increase during the past twelve years has been 20 per cent. In countries of the earth having unhesitatingly over 1,000,000,000 of a population bring about a decline of the Lancashire cotton trade, says he are: 1st, protective tariffs; and, foreign competition; 3rd, the competition of calico from India.

Let us briefly review Mr. Fielden over his arguments on these points. He says it is unnecessary to repeat "that the last 20 years has witnessed the continuous growth of the Lancashire cotton manufacture," practically in all countries populated and governed by European races. It would be idle to deny this patent fact. Mr. Fielden does not say that the manufacturers of Lancashire have not developed their country, but that it has really its origin in the brilliant series of mechanical inventions that have rapidly followed upon one another since John Kay invented the fly shuttle in 1733, down to the present day. Our productive powers steadily grew throughout the intervening period until, under the operation of unrestricted economic principles, we successively defeated the many wars of every European state, and then carried our industrial and commercial conquests over every continent. Our one-half, or 500,000,000, of the people Mr. Fielden mentions may have a vague "want" or "requirement" of calico, but not having the wherewithal to pay for it, have not import it. "Requirements" of this kind are not of the sort of which Lancashire manufacturers can take cognizance.

The first cause, and I think the most important cause of an increasing demand for cotton goods "could be looked upon as assured, because it does not exist at present, and is merely a contingency of the future, which may never come to fruition as a fact. Should such ever arise Lancashire will have in all probability secure a share of it. The "real" wants of the world are the actual wants of the moment, and the production of the trade at the moment has gone beyond it.

Mr. Fielden proceeds to affirm the well-known excellence of Lancashire mills, and the skill of its manufacturers. He maintains that the processes o manufacture, and the naturally advantageous location of the industry. All these claims may be admitted to be perfectly correct, and we affirm them as strongly as Mr. Fielden. But we deduce from these facts a conclusion very different from, if not opposite to that drawn by Mr. Fielden. Without these advantages, Lancashire cotton trade would never have attained the commanding eminence we know it occupies, and which has caused this country to be the envy of the world. It is very probable that in these advantages will be found the germs of its decay. In the face of them Mr. Fielden asks, "Why has the Lancashire trade declined?" He evidently feels that these circumstances assure the continuance of its pre-eminnence. We do not feel so assured.

If men all over the world would consent to leave economic principles perfect freedom of operation, the prospects of Lancashire maintaining this position would be good indeed, at least for a considerable while forward. Mr. Fielden evidently and very properly takes pride in the fact that "operative per operative, loom per loom, spindle per spindle, working any given number of hours per day, there never was a time when Lancashire was more completely supreme over the producers of other countries than she is now." This is all very true, and so is the succeeding statement that: "Never were her mills better or more economically managed, her labour better organised for productive purposes; her productions were never more varied in design, never better in quality, never lower in price." Here again we are true preservatives, and so of others following. But in the deductions he makes Mr. Fielden goes hopelessly astray. Summarizing Mr. A"ram's conclusions, the causes that are operating to
BLEACHING, DYEING, PRINTING, etc.

THE MECHANICS OF DYEING.—II.

The principal advantage of dyeing cotton or wool in the raw condition is that the dye-stuff has more chance of penetrating the whole substance of the fibre. The dyeing is thus more complete and thorough, and when the dyed cotton or wool is subsequently woven into cloth the colour of the latter is more solid-looking and more especially to wear.

DYING COTTON IN THREAD.

The next form in which cotton is dyed is that of continuous yarn. The process is the same as that done with the cotton yarn in three conditions: first, when in hanks; second, when in the form of warps; third, in the form of cloth, or when wound on bobbins. The manner of dyeing the yarn in each of these three forms will now be considered.

Dyeing Hank Yarn.

This is the form in which the great bulk of the cotton is dyed, and in which the worst of the fewest difficulties. It may be carried out by either the cylinder or machine form, but it is not necessarily older the mode. Hand dyeing of hanks is comparatively simple matter. In old works a tub was used, of such a depth that when hung on sticks the hank of yarn hung straight down. As a rule no means of heating the water in the tub is provided for, so it is not necessary in cotton dyeing to carry on the operation at the boil. The method of working is almost too well known to need description. A number of sticks are provided, long enough to stretch across the tub; these are usually marked off, one being a smooth, hard wood, and smoothness of the sticks being essential. One is laid on the bottom of the tub, the operative dips the yarn in the dye liquor, and turns the hank over on the stick, so as to bring what was on the bottom to the top. In doing so he does not simply lift and turn the yarn, but gives it a forward movement, which causes the yarn to pass in and out of the dye liquor, as it is dropped. This movement has a tendency to open the yarn and thus effects a more thorough impregnation of it with the dye liquor. He does this with other lots of yarn until there are as many sticks full of yarn as the tub will hold; then he repeats the operation of turning, beginning with the first one, and this turning over and dipping is continued until the cotton is dyed. The surplus dye liquor in the yarn is wrung out, and the hanks are rinsed in clean water and then dried. By this plan only a comparatively small quantity, say 50 lb., of yarn can be dyed at one time, and only then with such dye-stuffs as do not require the dyer to be carried on at the boil.

A better plan is to provide rect.
angular vats, of a width just sufficient to take the stick, deep enough for the hank to hang straight, and of the amount of space that must be dyed. These vats are provided with a perforated false bottom, under which passes a steam-heater, for the purpose of heating the dye liquor. Usually two men are employed on these vats, and they can do four or five times the quantity of yarn capable of being worked on by one man with a tub. On each stick is hung a hank on either end, one on each side of the vat, lift up the stick with one hand; each takes hold of half the yarn and turns it over, and then the stick with the yarn on it is dropped again; at the same time it is pulled a little to one end of the vat, so as to leave free working space. This process is repeated until all the yarn which is being worked is turned over, when the process is restarted again, and the turning is continued until the yarn is dyed. The liquor in the dye vat is then run off, clean water is run in, and the yarn washed, wrung out, and placed to dry on loose mats. A better method of hand dyeing; it is effective, and the dyeing is usually level; the only objection arises from the limited quantity of yarn that can be dyed by one operation, and the fact that, owing to the inconvenience caused to the operatives, the process cannot well be carried on at the boil, which is essential in dyeing with the direct-dyes, so largely used.

Many and various machines have been invented for dyeing yarn in the hank form. Some of these have been constructed to work on much the same principles as underlie the hand method; and others work on entirely different lines. An endeavour will be made to describe briefly but clearly the principal makes of hank-dyeing machines, noticing in the first place those which approximate in the manner of their working to the hand method.

The first machine to which attention will be directed is one made by Corron, a well known French machinist, who has an agent in Manchester. This machine was exhibited at the Manchester Jubilee Exhibition 1858, an ordinary dyer's rectangular vat (of any length to suit the yarn the dyer wishes to work at once) is used, and the peculiar mechanical apparatus is fitted to this. The yarn is hung on poles of a peculiar shape, the object of which is to imitate as closely as possible the movements of hand-dyeing which have been referred to above. The mechanical arrangements consist essentially of a pair of dyes, which move backwards and forwards along the vat. The machine can be set so as to lift the poles with the hanks thereon completely out of the vat, giving them a quarter turn, which opens out the hanks and drop them again into the vat. This is done in succession until all the poles have been dealt with, whereupon the machine automatically reverses itself and the discs travel back; in so doing they lift the hanks from the vat, but without turning them, and when the end of the vat is reached the motion is again reversed and the hanks are treated as before, this cycle of movements being continued until the dyeing is complete. As the machine is automatic in its movement, very little attention is required on the part of the operatives. It does its work very well, the dyes being very effective. In this case the mechanical points from a dyer's point of view.

Another machine, made by an American firm, and also a machine made by a Yorkshire firm, work in a somewhat different manner. As with Corron's machine, an ordinary rectangular vat is employed, and this is arranged the moving mechanical parts, the essential feature of which is a number of moving endless chains, some of the links of which have fingers or hooks attached to them. The hanks are hung on poles or sticks, and placed in the vat at one end, and by means of the endless chains they are moved forward along the vat; at the same time the sticks are caused to revolve, so that every part of the hank passes through the dye liquor. When the hanks are thus moved forward along the vat, a pair of hooks on another pair of chains catch hold of the hank stick, lift it and the yarn out of the vat, and carry it into another vat. Here it is taken hold of by another pair of endless chains and carried backwards over the vat to the front end, where it is placed in the vat to carry it back into the vat. This cycle is continued until the hanks have been dyed; when it is washed by running the dye liquor out of the vat, running in clean water, and continuing the same cycle for a short time longer.

Much of the efficiency of this machine depends on the turning of the endless chains to work in unison together; unless this be done trouble will result, and constant supervision is therefore required to see that the chains work smoothly and efficiently in work and their capacity is great; they would be improved if some arrange.

THE TEXTILE MERCURY.
made from two fibres is that of obtaining even shades, the difference in the affinity of the various fibres for dye being so great that if immersed in the same dye-vat they will often come out dyed in very different shades. In the solution of these problems the various dye-stuffs which are used in dyeing knitted fabrics will be considered.

(To be continued.)

A REACTION OF THE LIGNO-CELLULOSES.

Messrs. Cross and Bevan communicate to the Chemical News the following, which has an interesting bearing on the theory of dyeing:

The solution which is obtained when potassium ferricyanide is added to ferro chloride solution is of a greyish coloration, and on adding potassium cyanide the dyed fibre is bleached and the coloured matter remains in the solution. This solution exhibits great affinity for the dyestuffs and is capable of absorbing large amounts of dyestuffs without the modification of the greyish color, and by further investigation of these fibre compounds may be produced into one of the most powerful of all the dyestuffs which are used in dyeing knitted fabrics.

Trials of the process made by Mr. Cross and Bevan, in the laboratory, have already been tried and the results are promising.

COLOUR MAKERS' AGENCY CASE.—In the Chancery Division on Thursday, Mr. Justice Chitty gave judgment in the case of "The Jiudean Rain" against "The Rain of the Bersheba," in which was decided that the plaintiff was entitled to damages for infringement of the plaintiff's patent. The defendant was ordered to pay damages of £2,000, and to deliver up to the plaintiff all the copies of the work which had been sold or offered for sale during the time of the infringement.

DESIGNING.

THE WEIGHS OF FINISHED CLOTHS.

(Continued from page 62.)

The weights of finished cloths may be ascertained by the following formula:

Let W = the weight of the cloth in the grey, and let Y = the weight of the cloth in the finished state.

Then, W = Y - Y' - Y''

where Y' is the weight of the cloth in the grey state, Y'' the weight of the cloth in the finished state, and Y' the weight of the cloth in the grey state.

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THE TEXTILE MERCURY.

List VIII. shows a convenient system of recording results in cloth manufacture, which the analyst will do well to study, and further develop by recording all the cloths coming under his supervision.

NEW DESIGNS.

MUSLINS, ETC.

Muslin and light sephyr cloths are increasing in favour, especially in the finer makes with 60's twist. Design A will require a dobby, being on 21 shafts, 72 to the round. The pegging plan for this design is numbered in progressive order, so that the pattern which we give may be followed accurately, the numbers indicating the shafts; the draft is not for any particular pattern, but merely to show how it may be drawn in on the plain and figured shafts. Any other arrangement may be adopted for convenience: the three sets of plain shafts can be brought together in front, or the figured shafts in front; this, of course, would require an alteration in the pegging plan, but being numbered it would not be difficult to follow the change. A good fabric would be made with 90's twist for warp and weft, 40 dents per inch, 80 picks of weft per inch, woven all grey and bleached or piece-dyed; good beetle finish. For coarser goods, calender finish would be more suitable; perhaps it would be found an advantage to use a weft a few counts less than the warp, so that the figured stripe may have a bolder development. Warp pattern: 80 threads on 1, 2, 3, 4 shafts; 70 threads on 5, 6, 7, 8 shafts; 17 threads on 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 shafts; 30 threads on 5, 6, 7, 8 shafts; and repeat from the first 80 threads; the pattern all two in a dent. From these particulars it will be seen that a great diversity of stripe effects can be produced by drafting.

The figured stripe portion is not very prominent, the latest idea for this class of fabrics requiring very little ornamentation. We have given suggestive particulars, which may be improved upon according to circumstances; the design can be altered to give plain ground with the figure for a small stripe effect, in which case 13 shafts would suffice—four for the ground and nine for the figure. A very good effect would be produced by having a few brown and white printed ends throughout the plain ground, and weaving with bleached warp and weft. A very irregular block of print would be suitable—one thread in every third dent, drawn in on plain shafts.

SCOTCH PLAID PATTERN IN COTTON.

This is made with a 4-shaft twill, weave or cassimer, two shafts up, two down, 40 dents per inch, two in a dent; 36's twist for warp; 72 picks per inch of 90's weft; all cotton, best quality of material, and good fast colours that will wash. Pattern: 72 silver grey, 10 cardinal, 16 dark brown, 10 silver grey, 10 grey, 10 red, 10 dark brown, 10 light blue-green, 10 dark brown, 10 cardinal, 16 light blue-green, 10 cardinal, 16 dark brown, 10 cardinal, making a total of 48 warp threads, nearly 7 inches of a pattern; sett check the same, 51 inches in the reed, 1½ finish at 90 inches wide.
Machinery and Appliances.

WHAT THE AMERICANS ARE DOING IN CARDING.

It has fallen to our duty of late to deal with numerous improvements in carding machines as made and introduced to the English trade by English machine-making firms. These, of course, as a rule have been quite on what may be termed well-known English lines. In America they have a way of their own to some extent, which differs from that here. Whether it is a better one or not we think is open to question. The American papers just to hand have brought a description of "the latest" improvements in card construction, and are making a song about the same. We transfer the description from Wade's Fibre and Fossil and leave our readers to draw their own conclusions:

THE NEW MASON DOUBLE-FEED CARD.

The new Double Feed Card, which has recently been placed upon the market by the Mason Machine Works, of Taunton, Mass., is a decided novelty in the field of cotton carding. It is also a device by which the speed of the stripper can be regulated, so that the waste is reduced to a minimum. An improved high-speed comb has also been devised for this card, and by means of it a convenient and fine adjustment, preventing wear between the comb shaft and its driving mechanism, can be secured without removing the comb box. The oiler is of a new design, and is arranged with a view of greatly facilitating the operation of the card. What the builders regard as the most important feature in the mechanism of their new Double Feed Card is the automatic stop motion, which absolutely prevents the card from running with a single lap or with one lap run out. This device not only performs this important function, but it also rolls the cotton in a manner entirely at the same instant with the feeding and deflouring mechanism, instead of allowing them to run as long as the cylinder continues in motion, which we learn is the case in cards of the ordinary pattern. This automatic stop motion is also to be regarded as a valuable safety feature, and as it effectually prevents any foreign substance, such as pieces of leather, sticks, nails, etc., from getting on the card and damaging it, as well as causing delay in the carding operation. This stop motion is so adjusted that it will clear open the feed rolls, and when any foreign substance, as above mentioned, happens to get into the lap, it will act instantly, thus checking the operation before the obstruction has reached the card, and preventing all injury and loss to the carding machinery, and further, it is a genuine product of American inventive genius. A general idea of its mechanism and mode of operation may be obtained by referring to the accompanying illustration. The distinguishing feature of this new and improved cotton card is its double-feeding device. It is not the ordinary top flat feed card with a limited amount of cleaning capacity and carding area, although somewhat resembling it in certain respects; but, as the builders claim, it is a top flat card, having a cleaning capacity at the licker-in double that of any other modern card, and it has a cylinder and doffer area fully equal to that of the modern revolving flat card. The cylinder is 40 inches in diameter and 40 inches wide, and the doffer has a diameter of 24 inches. The design and construction of this new machine has received special attention from the Mason Machine Works, whose reputation for first-class work is well known to the trade. The working parts of the card are carefully screened and protected, and in addition to these features a number of improvements have been introduced, which we believe have not hitherto been applied to any carding machine. The iron flat of the new card is more heavily and firmly constructed than has been the custom hitherto, while the cylinder, licker-in, and doffer are each made in a single casting with the arms attached. The licker-in is in this, the frame, which is cast solid with the arms and barrel. By means greater rigidity and firmness is imparted to the machine, and by this fact alone there are constructed in separate pieces and fastened together by means of bolts. Another important improvement is seen in the arrangement of the stripper, by which the flats nearest to the feed are stripped at regular intervals; in fact, twice as often as those nearest to the doffer, and there to the mechanism. Such an advantage as this will be readily appreciated by carders. The rolls can be adjusted to meet the demands of any grade of stock, and as a result, additional value is given to the card. By means of this new cotton card with these modern improvements and the use of two laps instead of one, which are fed to the card at half speed, the stock is carded in a most thorough manner, and while the feed rolls work more slowly, the licker-in are driven at the usual rate of speed. The former, therefore, have only one half the quantity of cotton to operate upon in the same interval of time as compared with cards of the ordinary pattern, and it is evident that in this way they can supply the stock to the cylinder in a more uniform condition. As the greater part of the foreign substance found in the cotton is removed by the licker-in, the flats may be worked less frequently, thus saving a large quantity of good stock, which would otherwise have to be taken out as waste. As to the superior efficiency of this method of employing a double lap in securing even carding and clearing, the hoists say that no question can be raised, as many first-class carders have acknowledged. They add that the same is true of the method of adjusting the comb in which much finer work may be turned out than is possible with the ordinary revolving flat card. They call attention to the fact that the latter card the flats in revolving carry their dirt with them, and, consequently, contain a larger quantity of foreign substance in the doffer than at the feed end of the card. This, they claim, is not possible with a properly arranged top flat card, of which the new Masson Double Feed Card is an example. We may mention that patents have been secured, or are pending, covering all the new features and improvements to which attention has been called. Any further information desired may be obtained by addressing the Mason Machine Works, Taunton, Mass.

ALUMINUM SHUTTLES—An Austrian paper says:—"A striking and useful novelty, for which patents have been or will be taken out in most of the manufacturing cities of Europe, is the aluminium shuttle. It is said to be characterized by exceptionally quiet and steady movement; it does not strike on the loom as much as about 80 to 850 grammes, only a moderate pressure is required to operate the pick. Other advantages of considerable magnitude it never runs, never breaks, and never scales off. Moreover, it never maps the threads of the warp, and does not injure the reed. It is provided with a durable spindle like the steel shuttle. Good permanent steel point is appropriately attached, so that wearing away or loosening will but very rarely happen. One very notable advantage is the possibility of using the metal over again in case the shuttle should become unusable; aluminium has only to be melted down, and it is applicable once more for industrial use, which means, assuming the metal to retain its present value, about two fallings per shuttle."

Foreign Correspondence.

TEXTILE MATTERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

BOSTON, JULY 16th.

The results of the year's trading are of special interest for several reasons, to which I propose referring in the course of my present letter. I have before me the figures relating to the dry goods imports at the port of New York since the commencement of January last, which set out in vivid contrast to many of the results I refer to the startling character of the decline in imports of silk velvet. Up to Thursday, the 14th inst., the imports of these goods were valued at about $180,000. Last year our purchases for the corresponding period were more than twice as great, the value being in round numbers $390,000. Here we have a falling-off in four months in imports, which in 1851 compared unfavourably with those of the preceding year. For the week ending July 7th about $12,000 worth of velvets were entered for consumption, the figures being slightly in excess of those for the corresponding period in 1851. In fact, there is no difference, however, is very small, and the figures given show how serious has been the falling-off in the demand. It is true, however, that since the beginning of the year there has been a largely increased enquiry for the goods. The week's imports referred to are at the rate of over $60,000 a year. As to the less said the better. Last week's imports were worth $214,000. There should be hope for Bradford in the results which have been achieved by shippers of woollens and worsteds during the year. The high-water mark of 1851 has, of course, been regained, nor would it be fair to question the achievement of such a result within so short a period. But the carded yard has already been beaten, and there is balance in hand, in so speak. As thus:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woolens</th>
<th>$1,430,000</th>
<th>$1,410,000</th>
<th>$1,146,000</th>
<th>$1,051,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

We have been able to increase our woolens during the period of six months and a half. The result might have been better, but on the whole there is much to be said for the carded yard. Below I append figures for other articles representing the imports during the period referred to. The amount in dollars:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wools</th>
<th>1852</th>
<th>1851</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shells</td>
<td>$482</td>
<td>$638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beds and blankets</td>
<td>$128,555</td>
<td>$181,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpets</td>
<td>$38,090</td>
<td>$70,043</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COTTON GOODS.

Cotton Muslins, 1,156,347
Cotton Dungarees, 2,747,237
Embroidered muslins, 1,458,793
Burlap, 2,243,096
Laces, 3,821,044
3,821,044

Saat, 9,320,000, 5,282,257

Silk goods.

Piece silk, 1,775,000, 1,059,007, 1,223,257
Silk ribbons, 2,275,000
Silk capes, 225,000
Silk frocks, 1,050,000
Silk taffetas, 1,450,000
Silk shawls, 2,500,000
Silk handkerchiefs, 1,425,000
Silk hosiery, 2,750,000

Linen goods.

Linen, 1,720,000

Textile shipments of hosiery.

As far as the principal articles are concerned, the only decreases are in cotton goods and carpets. The table is worthy of more than passing notice when considering the foreign trade of the United States during the past 17 years as follows:

Seersucker, 560,000
Burlap, 1,725,000
Muslin, 2,243,000

The decrease of the American demand is more than the product of all other causes. The decrease in the consumption of cotton goods has been more than offset by the increase in the consumption of woolen goods. The decrease in the consumption of woolen goods has been more than offset by the increase in the consumption of silk goods. The decrease in the consumption of silk goods has been more than offset by the increase in the consumption of linen goods.

IMPORTS OF WOOL.

According to the Department of Commerce and Labor, the imports of wool into the United States during the past five years have amounted to 500,000,000 pounds, an average of 100,000,000 pounds per year.

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The textile mercure
July 31, 1897

Bradford.

Mears, George Hamilton & Co., limited, power house makers, of Kirkla Ha Weir, started full time on Tuesday, running short time for about twelve months. All the boxes made as of old running full time.

Jos Thorne, Edwin Morell and Son, of Morton Mills, Bingley, worsted spinners, have sum- moned a meeting of their principal creditors, the firm finds themselves in financial difficulty. The liabilities are said to amount to £2,200, and the assets to £1,500 realization, to £6,000.

The following are the results of the examination held at Thornhill's Mechanics' Institute by the City and Guilds. Grades: First, Second, Third, Honours Grade: Secondclass. Newton Field. Ordinary Grade: William Gardner, C. F. Hain- worth, T. K. Hewitt, Ralph Waddington.

An ordinary meeting of the council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce was held at Waddington. The members present were Messrs. James Greaves (presi- dent), E. F. Arnold-Foster (vice-president), Charles Faircloth (treasurer), Frederick Robinson, Bernard Cohen, Elderman Smith Feather, William R. Goddard, Gordon, F. H. Mitchell, Henry Scorer, H. H. Dover, Henry Melford, and E. F. Hall. The principal busi- ness was the consideration of the question of establishing a second cotton freight depot, and for which purpose 20, 350 printed postcards had been issued asking whether their addresses were in favor of a collective exhibit, whether he was willing to furnish specimens of manufactures, and whether he was willing to subscribe to such fund. Eighty-five replies had been received. Of these 14 were neutral or indifferent, and 12 were for a collective exhibit, and 9 against it. Subscription to the guarantee fund were promised to the amount of £20, in addition to the offer of Sir Henry Mitchell. Sir Henry Mitchell had been seen, and suggested that a special meeting be called to settle what should be done in the present inaction. When with the view of giving the proposed exhibit at Christmas, and a few meetings and a meeting and Henry Mitchell's suggestion, moved that a special meeting should be called for next Thursday to consider the subject. He expressed very little hope that any benefit would result from the meeting. Mr. Fawcett seconded the motion. Mr. James Fawcett said he had heard that manufacturing goods in America had gone down in price. If the Americans could sell their goods at a lower price than we could, they would sell a large part of the doctrine of the tariff, he thought it would be detrimental for English manufacturers at Chicago.

Johnston.

The strike of silk-sellers employed at the works of Messrs. Osker and Co., Limited, which began in the early part of last month, continued to be in full force now in its twenty-eighth week. A somewhat unexpected development took place tuesday. During the past few days one or two young men has gone on strike at silk-sellers at Alexander Mill, with the result that the firm treated them with contemptuous neglect, three days, meeting each morning and follow the young men from their homes to the mill, and in the evening, would leave them from the mill to their homes. Some of the young men are in the ranks of the infantry and their situation is somewhat trying.

The trade unionists employed at the Chevin Hat mill,Warsop, in the Lancashire, have given a notice to their intention to refuse to work with firemen non-unionists, who are employed in the trimming departments.

The number of members on the funds of the corporation, it is understood, is now 628, and a number of £4.0.0 looks as if the amalgamation. The expenditure exceed the income.

The workpeople of Messrs. W. and G. Oakes, Limited, in the Manchester, have given a notice to their intention to refuse to work with firemen non-unionists, who are employed in the trimming departments.

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Nightingale.

The death is announced of Mr. J. H. Towle, which took place at Dersley, near Derby, on Wednesday. Mr. Towle, who was 58 years of age, for many years a successful manufacturer in cotton spinning at Dersley, will be much regretted. He was a man of mark, and his death is a loss to the trade.

Mr. Frank Warburton, of Oldham, has been appointed caretaker at the Cotton Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., to succeed another member of the firm, Mr. R. W. Martin, who has resigned his position. Mr. Warburton has occupied a position of 20 years at the factory.

The members of the Crompton Cotton Co., Ltd., at their general meeting, on the 24th inst., accepted the resignations of Mr. E. T. Brown, manager of the factory, and of Mr. J. W. Martin, bookkeeper, and appointed Mr. T. W. Martin, to succeed them.

The work of completing the mills in course of erection in this district is now in full swing. The workmen are hoping that by the time the mills are filled with machinery and cotton, they will be ready for their duties. The workmen are also hoping that the wages paid will be increased.

The weather during the past week has been favorable, and the harvest is now in full swing. The harvest is expected to be good, and the cotton will be harvested in plenty.

On Sunday last a considerable number of members of the Spitalfield Textile Society paid a visit to the Cranbrook Technical College, and were kindly shown round the various departments by Mr. Armstrong, head master of the weaving department. The weaving shed was first visited, where several of the looms and weaving machines were in motion for the benefit of the visitors. The lecture, experimental, and dyeing rooms were also inspected, and the science and art rooms.

The following is a list of the candidates who have passed the examination at the Spitalfield Textile School of the City of London Institute:—First Class:—H. M. Reason; Second Class:—H. J. Cheetham, T. R. M. Reason, and W. J. Reason; Third Class:—H. L. Reason, J. R. Reason, and W. J. Reason.

A very peculiar suicide is reported from Lodi. A man in that town is said to have thrown himself from a window because he was unable to attend to his extensive orders, and consequently was obliged to allow large lots of goods to pass into the hands of others.

The importation of cotton from America into this country is being checked, and the quota of the goods is now stated to be 40,000 bales. This is a considerable decrease from the previous year, but it is expected that the supply will be ample for the requirements of the trade.

[Letter from a Reader - No name provided]

Sirs,—The Indian Factory Commission of 1809 gave abundant proof of the pernicious way in which that practice had been carried on in India, and that the defects were treated as dead letters in that country. Mr. Lord, president of the Bombay Millhands' Association, has forwarded me a copy of his journal, the Don Bandha, of the 9th ult., which contains a new Factory Act being so carelessly administered in India as to afford a serious grievance to the operatives. In it he says:

"The laxity allowed in enforcing the requirements of the law in the interests of the mill-hands has had its result, and mills... and factories may be seen working on Sundays here as well as in the mofussil. This breach on the part of owners of mills... and factories must, sooner or later, be put stop to if Government seriously intend the Act... the present measure... instead of remaining a dead letter."

He urges that, with the mills being inspected in the exercise of their full powers, and the owners compelled to advertise ahead for an excellent opportunity for putting their houses in order once in a quarter. He complains that, although the Act required females not to work in the mills more than 11 hours a day, with a recess of 11 hours—a man's work in India, which women actually work for more than 12 hours, and we have serious doubts whether in all cases get the benefit of an hour and a half daily."

"He has been informed that the inspector never visits the mills on Sundays, and he asks how the letter of the Act is to be put out by the facts of the case, which is in strength reason for believing, a full inquiry into the subject should be at once instituted, and efficient measures taken to ensure that the provisions of the Indian Factory Act shall no longer be evaded. I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

HOLT S. Hallett.

Chilworth-street, W.

Registration of Lace Designs a Farce.

[Letter to the Editor - No name provided]

Sirs,—Will you kindly indulge me with a little space, as I have a paper to call the attention of the lace manufacturers' special attention to the remarkable decision in the lace registration case on which the Indian Assizes last Monday? It is an important decision, which ought to be an irreparable stimulant to organise as once a court of reference, where all trade questions can be referred and settled without the enormous cost and delay as at present. It was obvious early in the case that the Lord Chief Justice would settle the case upon a point of law, which, to any practical mind, will appear most trivial, and almost amounting to a nullity. As Mr. Mallett carefully pointed out that when a piece comes off the machine and is sent to a finisher it is very incomplete, and before it is fit to be offered for sale it has to be put through a series of expensive processes, and in the condition the finisher receives a piece from the manufacturer it is only suitable for mopuage or distress. It cannot be sold for anything else without being put by the finisher through the various processes which are indispensable to make it suitable for sale. And it is evident a piece in the brown is not a sale as contemplated in the Act, because it is incomplete and unsaleable in the form in which it is delivered to the finisher by the manufacturer, and in many instances the finisher's expenses in bringing the piece is made saleable after receiving it from the manufacturer are actually more than the manufacturer's cost of producing it. But since in embroidery, top in the rough, or in the brown, or whatever it may be called. To say that sending a piece from the factory to the warehouse in a bag, in an unsaleable and useless form, is a sale under the Act, is in my opinion, as the Act distinctly avers that a completed and salable article, if sold without a registration ticket, shall be disqualified, and if it is otherwise produced it is, by the Act... that it was published prior to registration. There was no reference to the registration being done at all. There were five different widths, not merely two, and the greater number of pieces being of the same pattern and size, but that the designs appeared to be different in the different widths, no matter what width. Mr. Mallett, continuing, expostulated to his lordship the process of marking, blending, and pressing lace. He enumerated the various factors by which Mr. Stanger: His experience had been chiefly with houses, not with warp machines, but the greater number of pieces being of the same pattern and size, and not of the same, but that the designs appeared to be different in the different widths.

Mr. Mallett: The same specimen? Mr. Stanger: No, it was a novel process. Mr. Mallett: It was a new design as could be got. The chief point in the ticking was that the point was really quite clear; it was really a question of the custom of the trade. The ticking was of all the usual houses, and was not, if they had heard of any history of blanket manufacturing, and where obtainable?—Brit.

miscellaneous.

Alleged Infringement of a Lace Design.

At the Nottingham Assizes, on Monday, before Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, the case of Woolley v. Broad was heard, in which Messrs. John Woolley and A. H. Woolley and Co., lace manufacturers, Nottingham, sued A. J. Broad, lace manufacturer, for two further copies of £30 each for the alleged infringement of a lace design.

Mr. Dagdile, Q.C., and Mr. Daniel (instructed by Mr. Speed) were for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Stanger, instructed by Mr. Creasy, and Mr. Trueman, for the defendant.

Mr. Dagdile, q.c., for the plaintiff, said that as an action to recover two further licences of £50 under the Trade Marks Act, 1883, in respect of a registered design numbered 120,009, the plaintiffs were John Woolley, lace manufacturer, of Nottingham, and A. H. Woolley and Co., lace finishers, of Nottingham, and the defendant was A. J. Broad, lace manufacturer, of Paris. It seemed that the custom of the Nottingham lace trade was to make lace in the brown and send it to be blanched, finished, and made ready for sale. That was what happened in that case. In the first place there was an arrangement by which John Woolley was bound to submit to A. H. Woolley and Co. any new designs which he might acquire for the purpose of seeing whether they were new and good enough to be registered, it was agreed that a design was to be registered that would not infringe any existing or new arrangement made by John Woolley was bound to manufacture for A. H. Woolley and Co., and not to sell, The practical effect of that was that A. H. Woolley and Co. had a monopoly of the whole sale of that particular design, and woolley was the agent to make it. It seemed that in that particular design, which was executed by Mr. Woolley, John Woolley registered the design No. 120,009, under the arrangements with A. H. Woolley and Co. Defendant, a lace manufacturer, of Nottingham, was to supply the firm of woolley for manufacture which he considered suitable for his market. Now between the date of the design in question, and to have given an order to a firm in Nottingham to manufacture it for him. The designs would be produced, and he would expect evidence that would assist his Lordship in coming to a decision as to whether or not the firm was doing that in a case similar to that now before the Court could not possibly arise. Some of the great firms both manufactured and finished the goods in question, the case was no different.
THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS AMENDMENT ACT.

At a meeting of the Municipal and County Engineers’ Association at Bury on Friday last present, Mr. H. Boardman, M. Inst. C.E., Engineer to the Liverpool Corporation, said that this Act, which came into force on the 1st of January last, imposes an important addition to the duties of municipal engineers and works inspectors. The new Act extends the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, which does not extend to Scotland or Ireland, or generally to the Metropolis. The new Act is to be administered partly by the inspectors of factories, and partly by the sanitary authorities, the latter expression including both urban and rural sanitary authorities, and also boarders or vestries in the metropolis having like powers, the only exception to this being under Section 9 of the Act, which deals with the inspection of factories and workshops, for which, under sub-section 4 it is stated that it is to be carried out by the sanitary authorities. The inspection of the Public Health (London) Act, 1875, applies to the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878.

Section 43 of the Act contains a definition of ‘factory’, which is evidently meant to be comprehensive. The definition is stated to mean any premises wherein any persons are employed, or are intended to be employed, for the purposes of any trade, manufacture, or preparation of any article for sale. The Act is also similar in its provisions to those of the Public Health Act, 1875, which does not extend to Scotland or Ireland, or generally to the Metropolis.

The new Act is to be administered partly by the inspectors of factories, and partly by the sanitary authorities, the latter expression including both urban and rural sanitary authorities, and also boarders or vestries in the metropolis having like powers, the only exception to this being under Section 4 of the Act, which deals with the inspection of factories and workshops, for which, under sub-section 4 it is stated that it is to be carried out by the sanitary authorities. The inspection of the Public Health (London) Act, 1875, applies to the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878, and the Public Health Act, 1878.

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Some means also of the firms who finished returned the articles to the manufacturer fires. There were consequences from these fires and the dangers from the smoke and another. There was a recognised understanding in the trade, just as those might be between a leather seller and a tailor, in dealing with number. As an evidence of the large trade in lace, it had been stated that lace of a particular design was manufactured in a certain time and another. A number of these lace goods had been exported to the principal customers, by which it appeared that large quantities of these goods were sold and shipped to the Continent and other places, where it was sent to be finished and shipped back to the place where they were sold. This arrangement would be got out of the Act of Parliament. The change in the Act was a most satisfactory. The words formerly were “delivery,” and now they stood “delivery on sale.” The amendment had been framed specially to meet the hardships. Upon the second point, that of giving the Act of Parliament, he had no fault to find with the words, with the old law.

Mr. Dugdale made an application with respect to costs, owing to an adjournment from last Autumn, but the application was not granted.

This terminated the business of the Assemblies.
THE TEXTILE MERCURY

COTTON.

MANCHESTER, Friday.

The outlook for the cotton trade is not in any way respect clearing or cheering. The long-continued adverse and unprofitable state of our commerce, as indicated in our cotton spinning branch in Manchester, has taken steps in order to devise some measure of relief. The meeting held on Friday last, at which we referred, and a general conference of the proprietors, was held in the expectation that some relief to the manufacturers would be afforded by the adoption of some of the measures suggested. The measures suggested include the following:

1. A reduction in the rate of duty on cotton goods to 5 per cent.
2. A reduction in the rate of duty on cotton yarns to 2½ per cent.
3. The establishment of a cotton exchange, to regulate the market.
4. The establishment of a cotton bank, to advance money on cotton goods at a moderate rate of interest.

The above measures were generally condemned by the manufacturers, who consider that they would not be sufficient to effect a real turning point in the cotton trade.

The following prices of cotton futures are quoted by the Liverpool Cotton Association:

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The following prices of cotton futures are quoted by the Bombay Cotton Association:

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The above prices are generally considered as being at a low level, and are expected to continue at the same level for some time to come.
A page from a newspaper article about textiles and clothing. The article is discussing the quality and price of woolens and worsteds, the market conditions, and patents. There are also brief mentions of other textile-related topics such as hand weaving and the quality of cloth. The text is dense and technical, with references to specific manufacturers and textile products. The overall tone is informative and analytical, typical of a technical or business-oriented publication.
THE TEXTILE MERCURY.


