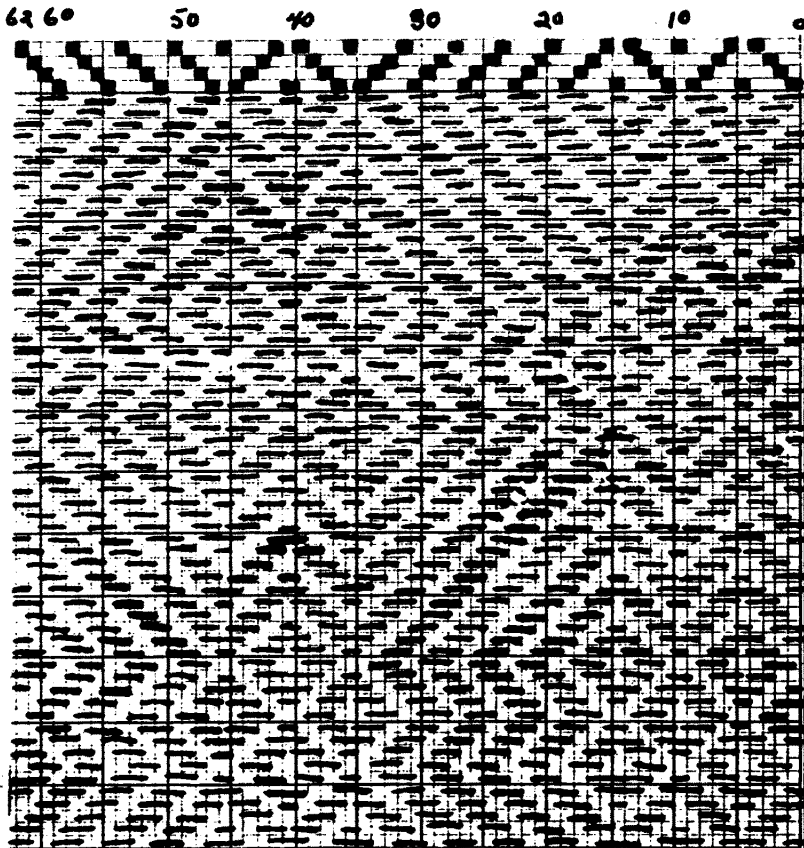


Handweaving News

A Variety of Threading Drafts for the Four Harness Loom.

As it has been some little time since I have included in the News any four harness drafts, I am sending you some this month which I hope you will find useful for Christmas gifts etc. The pattern draft given below was drafted from the photograph of the linen on Page 76 of the book entitled, "Early American Textiles" by Frances Little, by Mrs. Evelyn Lauer one of our subscribers. The book states that this was of the wedding linen of Sidney Howland (of Mayflower descent), woven in the early 19th century. Mrs. Lauer has used this for towels, and has kindly drawn out the pattern and given the arrangement and treadling as she used it on her No.600 loom.

Thread the No.600 loom as follows;-



1,2,3,4, repeat 3x, then 9 pattern repeats as given at the right, then to end thread the first 30 threads of the draft. This takes up 600 threads, or 10 spools of 40/2 linen. Weft used was No.14 half bleach.

Only one shuttle was used and no plain tabby shots were used, Just one shot on each pattern shed in the order as given below, for levers of Struoto table loom.

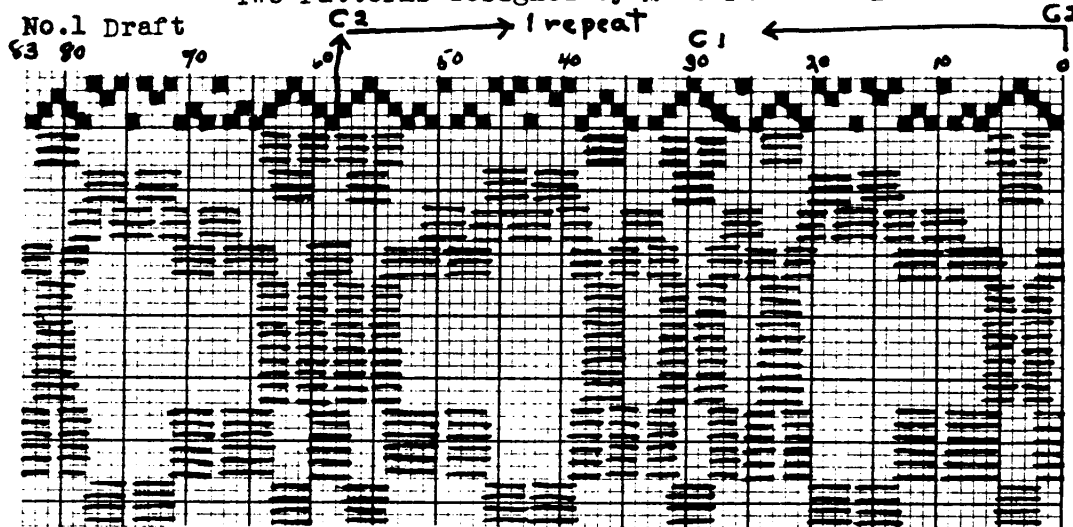
Treadling;-

3-4,1-4,1-2, 2-3, repeat 4x. Then 3-4,1-4,3-4,2-3,1-2,1-4,1-2,2-3, 3-4,1-4,3-4. Now 2-3,1-2,1-4,3-4, repeated 4x. Then 2-3,1-2,1-4,1-2, 2-3,3-4,1-4,3-4,2-3,1-2,1-4,1-2, 2-3. Repeat from the beginning until of the desired length.

This would also make an attractive luncheon set woven of 40/2 linen like the warp. Bags would be nice woven on the same warp of rayon or fine silk chenille, or of fabri yarn.

(Note that the pattern is twill combined with "Rose-path" as described in the June News.)

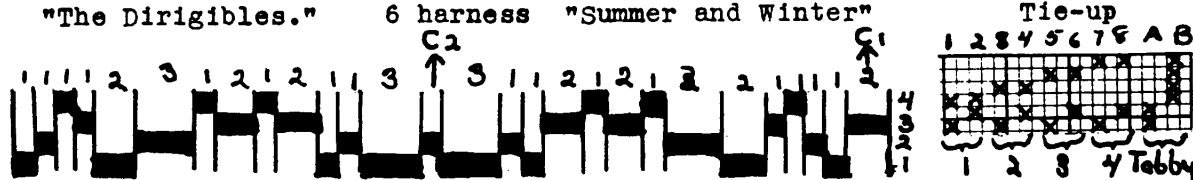
Two Patterns designed by Mrs. Florence Bratten.



This rather unusual pattern draft is capable of many different variations. It can be used for bags, for borders for towels, or for an all over pattern for upholstery material with good results. Only one half of a wide border is shown at the left. One repeat is 58 threads and note that the draft can be centered in two places, one at thread 30, and the other at thread 1 where the draft begins

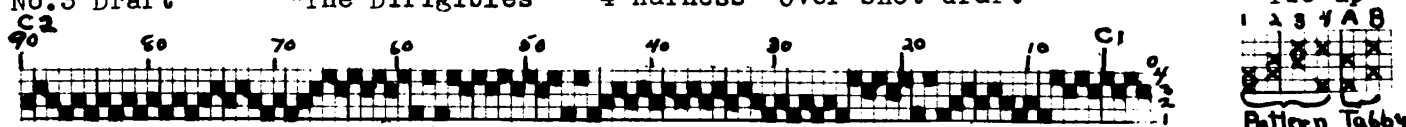
To thread into the No.600 loom with a warp of 600 threads, thread from thread 11 back to thread 2, then 10 full repeats of the pattern from 1 through thread 58, then to end thread from 1 to 11. The treading for the pattern as shown is as follows;- 1-4-3x; 12-3x; 23-3x; 34-3x; 14-10x; 34-6x; 12-4x; center, repeat back to beginning in same order.

No.2 Draft "The Dirigibles." 6 harness "Summer and Winter"



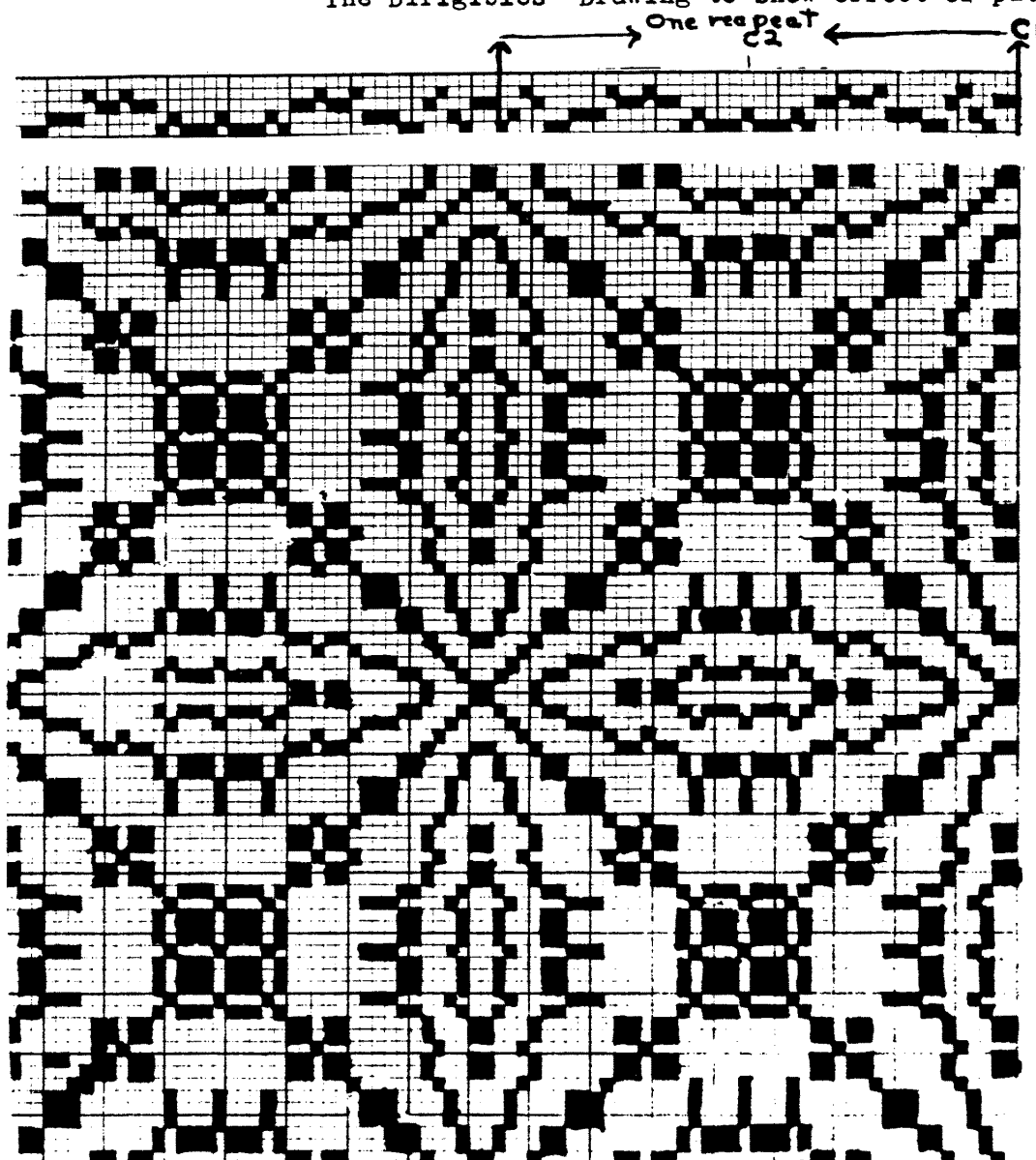
This draft is drawn out on Page 3 so you can get the effect of the pattern design. The draft given above is the short pattern draft for a six harness loom to be woven in the "summer and winter" weave. Only one repeat of the pattern is given, and the C's indicate the places where the pattern centers. In planning for a coverlet, its center should come on one of these pattern blocks. Each unit of the above draft represents 4 threads, - begin to thread, 1,5,2,5,1,5,2,5, for the first two block unit, for the next one block unit 1,3,2,3, then the next 1 block unit 1,4,2,4, etc. This can be used for the key draft for the over-shot pattern draft given below.

No.3 Draft "The Dirigibles" 4 harness Over-shot draft



In this draft only one-half of one repeat is given. For full repeat, thread from 1 to 90, then 89 back to 1. Note that the pattern can center on either thread 4 or thread 90 as C1 or C2. This helps in planning to put this draft on your loom. These center blocks are also marked with C's on the draw down of the pattern on the next page. The 4 harness draft follows the same order of pattern blocks as the 6 harness draft above. To write this 4 harness draft, 4 threads were used for each unit of the pattern blocks on the key draft, but an extra thread has to be added occasionally to keep the correct tabby alternation. The key draft starts on the 3rd pattern block, and is a 2 unit block, so write 3,4, 3,4,3,4,3,4. The next unit is on the 1st pattern block, so write 1,2,1,2; the next unit is the 2nd pattern block, so write 3,2,3,2, etc. The weaving of the pattern follows the same order as the blocks are written, but omit in the weaving the occasional 2 thread blocks which occur, as this pattern is written partly "on opposites." To put this pattern on a warp of 600 threads, begin to thread at thread 32, thread back through thread 1, then thread 2 to 90, 89 back to 1. Then repeat from thread 2 to 90 and 89 back to 1 twice more, then thread from 2 through thread 32. If you thread the first and last thread double in the heddle eye, it will take up your full 600 threads. This is an interesting pattern to use and many variations are possible in the weaving of it. If you wish to make the blocks smaller, you can shorten up all of the pattern blocks by two threads, and get the same woven effect.

"The Dirigibles" Drawing to show effect of pattern



Order of weaving the
Pattern Blocks.

3-2x
1-1
2-1
4-1
3-1
1-2x
2-3x
4-1
3-2x
4-1
3-2x
1-1
2-1
1-3x
2-1
1-1
3-2x
4-1
3-2x
4-1
2-3x
1-2x
3-1
4-1
2-1
1-1

This drawing shows the effect of the pattern when woven, but does not show the exact texture. The order of weaving the pattern blocks is given at the right of the drawing. But for the tie-ups for both the "Summer and Winter" draft and the over-shot, refer to the drafts on page 2. Those of you who are familiar with weaving 6 harness drafts will have no difficulty following this.

Other suggestions for these drafts.

Draft No.2. Try using this for towels made of silk boucl'eyarn, on either a 20/2 cotton or a No.20 mercerized cotton warp. They give the effect in texture of a bath towel and can be carried out in white with pattern in white, and colored linen or mercerized cotton for the tabby between the pattern shots. The mercerized cotton warp is especially nice. Or they can be carried out in colors, peach, blue, green, or rose for the plain body part of the towel, with borders in white with colored tabby. Linen towels on 40/2 warp with No.20 natural linen, No.14 grey linen, or No.14 bleached linen in a rough weave will make an excellent gift. For these you could use either Draft No.1 or No.2. These are very practical drafts and there are many ways in which they may be successfully used.