

Draw-loom. (*Weaving.*) The draw-loom was the predecessor of the *jacquard*. It is used in figure-weaving. The number of the *heddles* being too great to be worked by the feet of the weaver, the warp-threads are passed through loops formed in strings, arranged in a vertical plane, one string to every warp-thread ; and these strings are arranged in separate groups, which are pulled by a *draw-boy*, in such order as may be required to produce the pattern. The groups are drawn by pressure on handles, the required order being determined by reference to a design, painted on paper, which is divided up into small squares.

A mechanical draw-boy has been contrived, to dispense with human assistance. It consists of a half-wheel with a rim grooved so as to catch into the strings requiring to be pulled down. The half-wheel travels along a toothed bar, with an oscillating motion from right to left, and draws down the particular cords required for the pattern.