

Distribution of Knit-goods Factories.

A group of maps prepared by Edward D. Jones and published in *Leslie's Weekly* with explanatory text deserves the notice of all students of the industrial history of America. Professor Jones offers four charts on which he indicates by the use of dots of various shapes the location of: "The Textile Mills of New England," "The Woolen Mills of the North Atlantic States," "The Cotton Mills of the Southern States," and "The Silk Mills of New Jersey and vicinity." His method is simple and suggestive. Taking for example the fourth chart, one notices the dense cluster of silk mills about Pater-

son, New Jersey, the smaller group on Manhattan island, a small swarm at Philadelphia, and still others in the Pennsylvania iron regions. Paterson, it seems, surpasses all other cities of the new world in the weaving and dyeing of silk, having fairly won its name as "the Lyons of America."

Its prestige draws to it new factories, and its accumulations of skilled labor give it decided advantages over its rivals. Such vast manufacturing centers as New York and Philadelphia have their due proportion of silk mills, but Paterson is the only distinctively "silk city," as Lynn is a "shoe town" and Fall River a "cotton city." The presence of silk industries in northeastern Pennsylvania comes as a surprise to the general observer, for that is a famous iron and anthracite center. Yet it seems that the textile and mineral industries have some vital connection. The silk operatives of northeastern Pennsylvania are the daughters of the brawny miners and forge men. It was a sagacious economist who perceived that a section which required a vast male laboring population for the development of its rougher industries must provide a surplus of women and girls for employment in textile work. The "throwing" branch of silk manufacture, which is the chief employment of these mills, requires a less skilful class of labor than that which is demanded for the more delicate products of the seaboard mills. Touching briefly upon the facts brought out by the other charts, we note that of the twelve or thirteen hundred knit-goods factories in the United States no less than two hundred and fifty are in the immediate vicinity of Philadelphia, a city which leads all others in the production of woollens. In cotton, New England still

holds its supremacy, though the progress of the industry southward has been rapid within the past decade. One-fourth of the eighteen million working spindles in the country were, in 1899, located south of the Mason and Dixon line. The highland regions of the

Carolinas, Georgia, and Alabama, with their cheap labor and power and convenience to the raw material, are growing rapidly in importance as centers of cotton manufactures. The southern-made goods are for the present mostly those for which that section affords a natural market, yarns, sheeting, and the heavier and coarser

grades. The industrial map of New England is especially noteworthy, so diversified and so numerous are its factories. Indeed the origins of our industrial development in almost every mechanical or textile department are found in that small section, however widely they have since migrated. New England has still many points of advantage which Professor Jones enumerates: "long experience, a trained labor *personnel*, established names, and strong trade connections. All the supplemental industries whose existence smoothes the way of the manufacturer are found here. There are architects experienced in mill-construction; machine-builders and repairers, chemical dealers, buyers of wastes, etc. There a concern may devote itself to spinning, weaving, bleaching, dyeing, or printing, and be certain of finding other establishments into which its specialty fits."

