

Foreign Correspondence.

TEXTILE MATTERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

BOSTON, JUNE 14TH.

THE GREAT CARPET LOOM PATENT SUIT : FINAL JUDGMENT.

The great suit of the Webster Loom Co. v. Higgins, which has been proceeding for many years, has been finally settled. Ten years ago, when a decision had been rendered in the United States Supreme Court in favour of the plaintiff, the late Mr. E. S. Higgins is said to have remarked "Well, we'll fight you ten years more, and then beat you!" The prophecy was an unusual one—for it came true. On the 17th ult., Judge E. Henry Lacombe handed down the final decision of the court, as follows:

The Webster Loom Company v. Emma L. Higgins, Eugene Higgins and Josephine Brookes, as Executors, etc., of Elias Higgins, deceased:

This cause having come on to be heard upon defendants' motion for final decree, NOW THEREFORE it is, on motion of Livingstone Gifford, Esq., counsel for defendants, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the complainants do recover from the defendants the sum of six cents, for infringements committed on the patent on which this suit is brought. And it is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the defendants do recover of the complainants the costs in this suit, to be taxed since the entry of the interlocutory decree, and that the defendants have execution therefor against the complainants.

As the Webster Loom Co. have filed no exception to the Masters' report, there can be no further appeal. The case settles the rights appertaining to the Johnson loom, and is one of considerable importance to carpet manufacturers.

THE HANDKERCHIEF INDUSTRY IN AMERICA.

Belfast, Glasgow, and other centres, still lead the way in supplying the beautifully printed and embroidered handkerchiefs which are sold in this country. The McKinley tariff did not have the immediate effect anticipated of causing a spurt in the trade here. The finer grades of ordinary handkerchiefs are still principally imported, American manufacturers having attained perfection in the lower and perhaps some medium grades only. Since 1890 there have been more hem-stitching machines at work in the United States. The usual claims of superiority for the native article are made by the trade and other journals, which do not get the advertising patronage of Irish firms. It is only those European industries which find mention in the advertisement pages of our dry goods organs that are superior to the native manufactures. If you want a puff here, it can readily be obtained by paying for it—the bigger the "ad," the bigger the puff. British manufacturers have so far refused to be caught this way, but the announcements of a few German manufacturers appear regularly in the columns of at least one of your New York contemporaries. The embroidered handkerchief trade is not yet a large one with us. There are only a few machines at work, as it is found the Swiss houses hold the position, even with high duties, which favour the native product. The increase in the duties on hem-stitched and embroidered handkerchiefs was 50 per cent., the rate now being 60 per cent. *ad val.* as against 40 per cent. prior to the advent of the McKinley Bill. The trade may eventually become a large one here, but at present it cannot be said to possess important proportions. There is a report that Messrs. Acheson Harden, of Belfast, will open a factory somewhere in New Jersey, but I have been unable to get it authoritatively confirmed.

Of the 85,000,000 yards of carpets now produced annually in the Republic, 47,000,000 are ingrain, 20,500,000 tapestry (Brussels and velvet), and 17,000,000 body Brussels and Wilton. Philadelphia produces over half of this, 46,000,000 yards, valued at \$29,000,000; New York, 19,000,000 yards, valued at \$13,500,000, and Massachusetts, 13,500,000 yards, valued at

\$10,000,000. The cheapening of the product and the consequent increase in the per capita consumption, which is tenfold greater than in 1860, is the direct result of improvements in machinery. Fine tapestries and Brussels can now be obtained at the former cost of the rudest ingrain. The enormous product, 85,000,000 yards, is consumed entirely at home, making a per capita consumption of nearly a yard and a half, far more than in any foreign country.

MISCELLANEOUS.

James Harden, of the firm of Acheson Harden and Co., handkerchief manufacturers and importers, sails to-morrow, per steamship *City of New York*, for a six weeks trip.

Mr. S. B. Heine, of the firm of Neuburger, Heine and Co., importers of embroideries, 468, Broome-street, New York, sailed abroad recently per steamer *Augusta Victoria*.

The failure of the firm of Corn, Kiliske and Co., New York, has disturbed importing circles, as all the leading houses are creditors to a greater or less extent, and especially as it follows so closely upon the Ely and Brother and the Simpson failures.

At the experimental station of the State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn, Ala., an electric motor has been put in operation to gin and press cotton, and for other farm operations. The current is secured from the dynamo in the college not far distant. In ginning cotton by electricity, the fire risk is reduced to a minimum, and the space occupied for power is small. Another advantage is that a motor can be put wherever the power is required, whether it be in the ginhouse or elsewhere. Still another advantage would be that at night the ginhouse can be lighted with perfect safety by incandescent lights; in good picking weather, where there is not very much space for storing the seed cotton, this would be a great advantage.

Two years ago middling uplands cotton sold at 12 5/16c. one year ago at 8 3/4c. and now at 7 13/16c. But this violent decline of 4 1/2c. a pound from two years ago has not seriously affected the cotton goods trade, at least not in the same ratio, simply because conditions are changed. That there has been a fall in prices of light and irregular makes of brown and unbleached cottons to an unprecedented extent is conceded, but where the loss was most felt, production was checked and diversified as in the case of printing cloths. As an offset to the low price of cotton, labour, which is a most important element of the cost, has increased, while the hours of labour in some states are not so many, and hence no very accurate conclusions can be drawn about ruling rates for manufactured cloth. This settling of prices, therefore, must be wholly left to supply and demand, and although the mills generally have never been run with greater speed, on certain lines of goods some of them have their products sold up to October next. One South Carolina Mill is sold 1,189 bales ahead on 4-4 and 7-8 brown sheetings and drills, and two other mills have similar products engaged ahead to the extent of seven hundred bales.

At a meeting of the German Jute Manufacturers' Association, held in Hamburg the other day, it was resolved to continue the short-time agreement, which has been in operation since February 1st, for another period beginning July 1st.

GUATEMALA TARIFF.—From the 8th September next the following articles amongst others will pay 25 per cent. instead of 50 per cent. Customs duty in Guatemala, viz.:—Elastic web of any kind for boots; woollen yarns for embroidering or weaving; cotton thread and-wick or yarn, grey or bleached, for weaving; and red cotton yarn and different dyed cotton yarns.

Designing.

NEW DESIGNS.

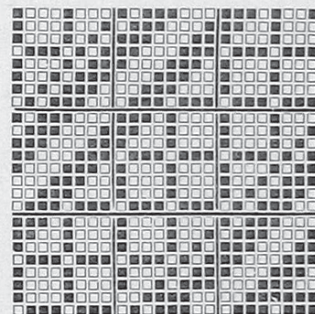
COTTON SUITINGS AND HEAVY CLOTHS.

Designs A, B, and C will be found well adapted for cotton suitings and other purposes; 24 shafts, 24 to the round, straight-

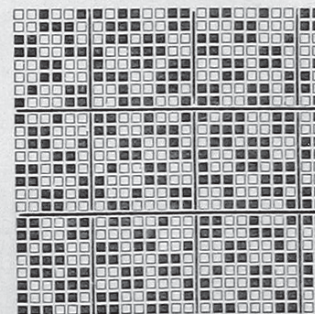
over drafts. Warp 2/24's, in a 16 reed, 3 in a dent, with 48 picks per inch of 12's weft. The warp all one solid colour, such as chocolate, deep purple, dark moss green, dark drab, etc. Weft all white, cream, light straw, or lemon. Fancy blouses, jackets, and vestings, would shew to great advantage if produced from these three designs. All the fancy colours may be used for warp and wefts, provided they are in contrast with each other.

GINGHAM CHECKS.

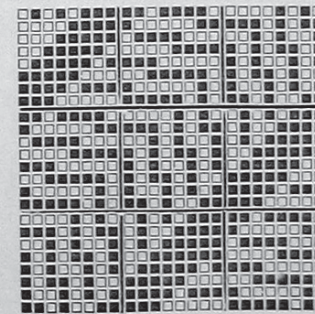
Fancy gingham check patterns, in plain weaves, 40 dents per inch, 2 in a dent of 36's warp, 80 picks per inch of 36's weft. Warp and weft pattern: 24 white, 24 china blue, repeat six times=288 threads; 36 white, 36 dark navy blue, repeat three times=216 threads; 36 white, 12 red, 36 white, 36 pale blue, 36 white, 36 pale blue, 36 white, 36 pale blue. 36 white, 24 dark, 24 white, repeat 6 times=288 threads; 12 emerald green, and repeat the entire pattern from the first 24 white. The total threads for a repeat on the pattern sheet will be 1,104 threads, or nearly 14 inches in the cloth; hence these large-sized patterns require double width or 54 inches when out of the loom. Weft pattern the same as the warp. For variety, dark buff in place of pale blue, dark brown for dark blue, pale blue for green, and dark blue for red. Other colour arrangements may be made; but we advise the pattern to be retained in the order we have given, and white or cream to form the



DESIGN A.



DESIGN B.



DESIGN C.

principal feature in warp and weft. Good bright finish, such as is obtained with metal bowls, which give a finer face and lustre than a finish with paper bowls.

Second pattern : 12 white, 4 mid lilac, 24 white, 4 mid lilac, 24 white, 4 mid lilac, 64 white, 4 mid lilac, 24 white, 4 mid lilac, 24 white, 4 mid lilac, 12 white, 16 mid lilac, 4 small black and white print, 24 mid lilac, 4 black and white print, 24 mid lilac, 4 black and white print, 24 mid lilac, 2 black and white print, 36 mid lilac, 8 dark brown, 24 white, 8 dark brown, 36 mid lilac, 2 black and white print, 24 mid lilac, 4 black and white print, 24 mid lilac, 4 black and white print, 24 mid lilac, 4 black and white print, 16 mid lilac, and repeat from the first 12 white. Weft pattern the same. These patterns will be found exceedingly handsome. Finish as for the first; width 54 inches.

FIGURED STRIPE.

Sketch 1 is an example of a very simple, yet effective stripe pattern, which may be utilized

for various classes of goods, but which we have developed in Design D as a dress stripe pattern to the following particulars :—

Warp.
 6 threads of 2/60's cotton
 67 " 2/36's mohair
 15 " 2/64's cotton or more, according to desired width of stripe.
 16's reed 4's

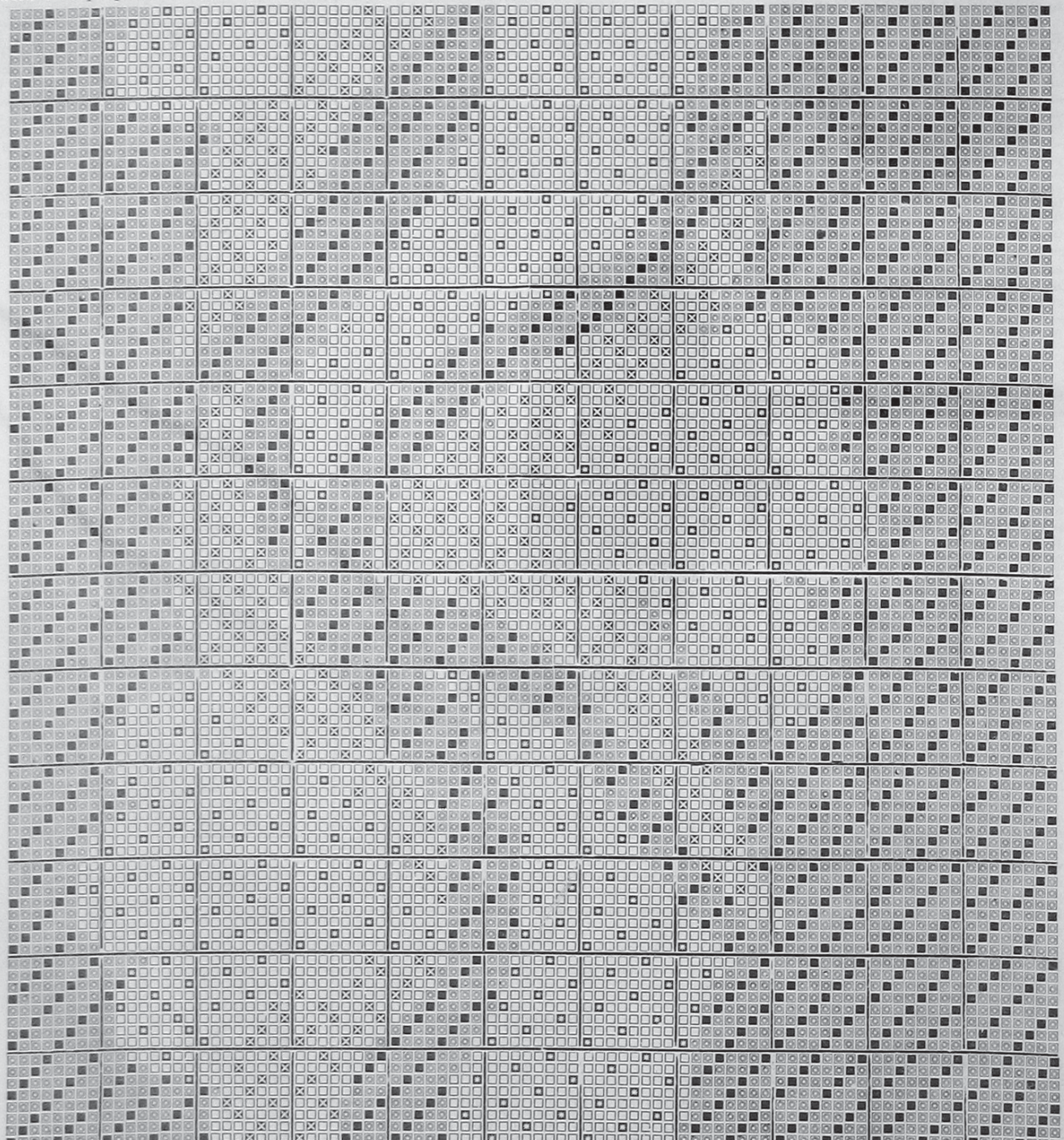
Weft.
 All 40's botany weft, 64 picks per inch.

Another effective method of development would be as a double warp matelasse; i.e., let the cotton warp form the ground throughout the piece and introduce an extra warp of mohair to form the stripe figure.

The method, however, given here will prove very effective, since the bold warp flushes of seven will form a good contrast with the weft twill ground, while the 4-end sateen warp flush will give a fairly good representation of the crape effect indicated in Sketch 1.



SKETCH 1.



DESIGN D.