

Posselt's Textile Journal

A Monthly Journal of the Textile Industries

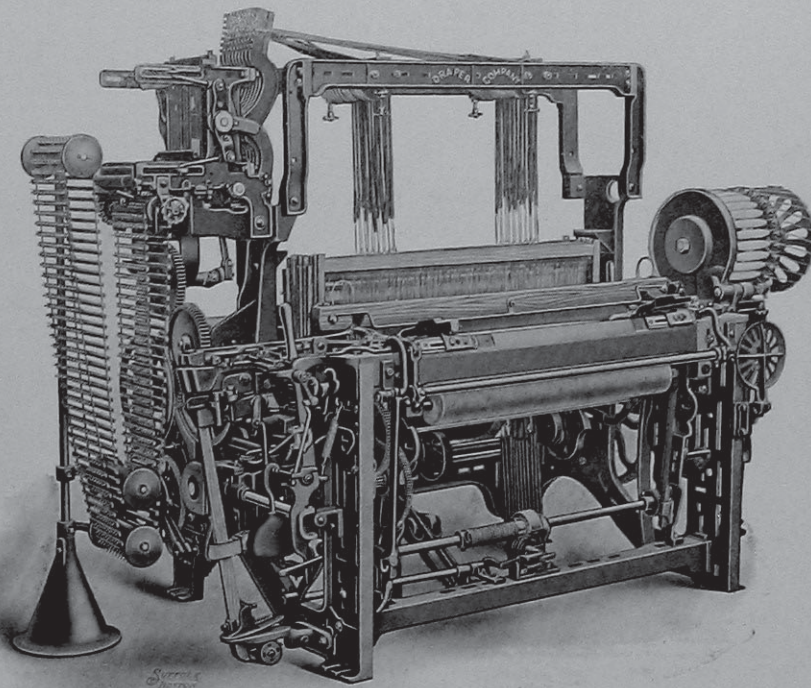
Table of Contents

Dictionary of Weaves : 7-harness	i
The Development of the Silk Industry in the United States.....	113
Scarf and Necktie Silks.....	124
Editorials	126
Designing and Fabric Structure : Fancy Twills	129
Determination of the Value of a Silk Fabric.....	130
Artificial Silk	131
Preparatory Treatment and Weighting of Silk.....	132
Dyeing Artificial Silk by Machinery.....	134
Cotton Spinning : The Ring Frame.....	136
The Manufacture of Linen Yarns.....	138
Dictionary of Technical Terms Relating to the Textile Industry.....	139
The Finishing of Carpets and Rugs.....	140
Directory of Trade Marks Relating to the Textile Industry	141
Stop Motion for Fulling Mills	142
Points on the Shrinkage of Woolens, in Dyeing and Finishing.....	143
The Characteristics of Knitted Textures Compared to that of Woven.....	145
Review of the Hosiery and Knit Goods Trade.....	147
New Design for a Rug.....	147
Buyers' Index.....	vi
Mill News	xviii

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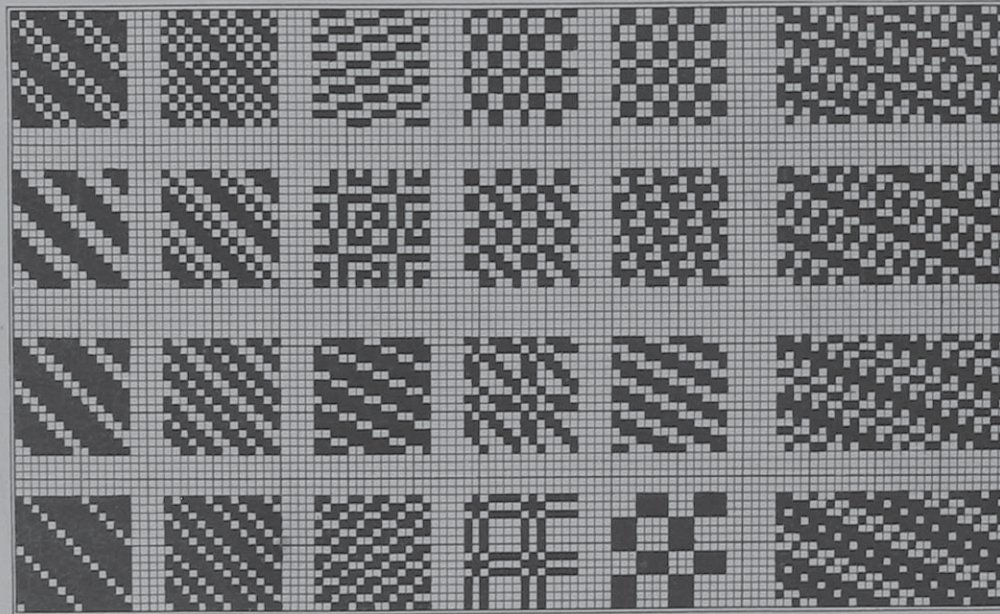
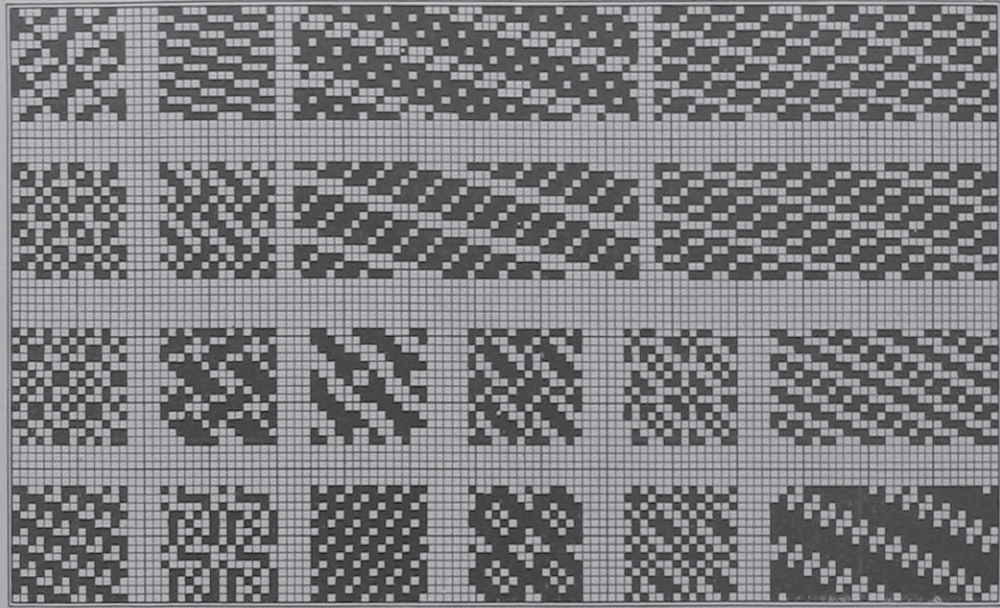
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(The Most Important Addition to Textile Literature Published.)

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SEVEN HARNESSES



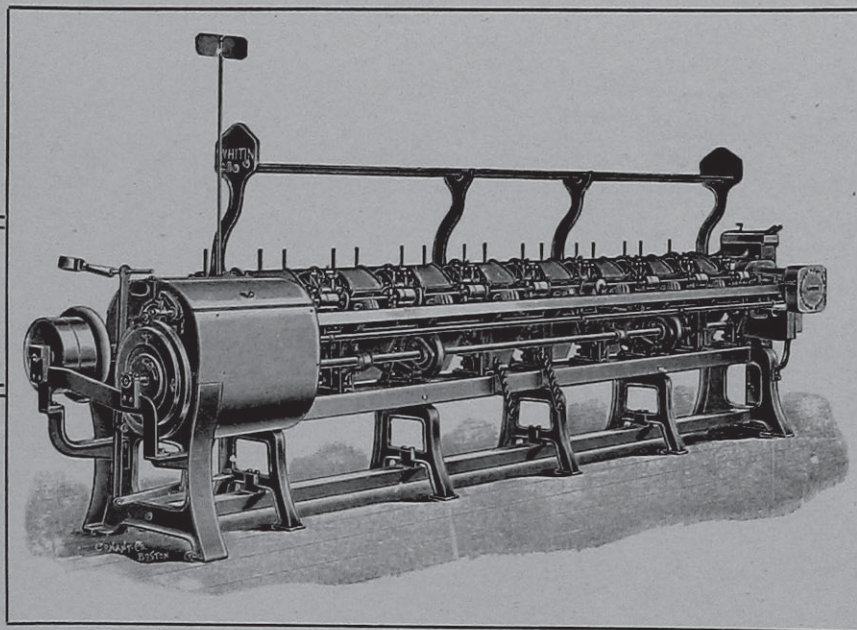
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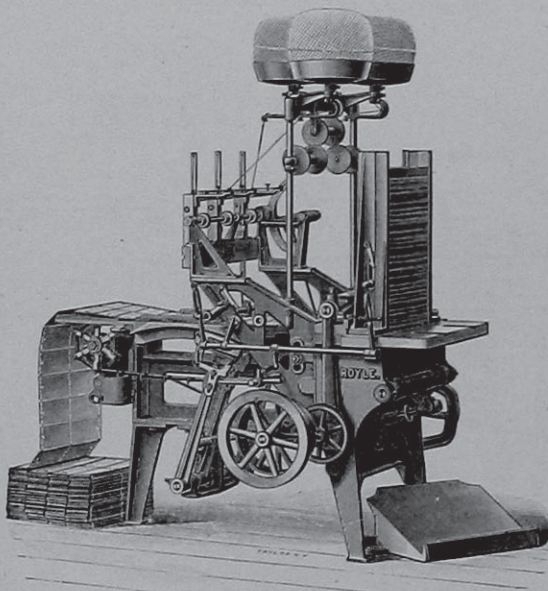
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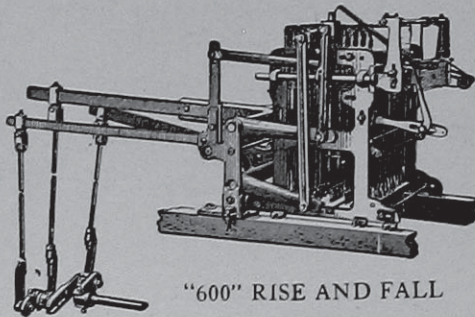
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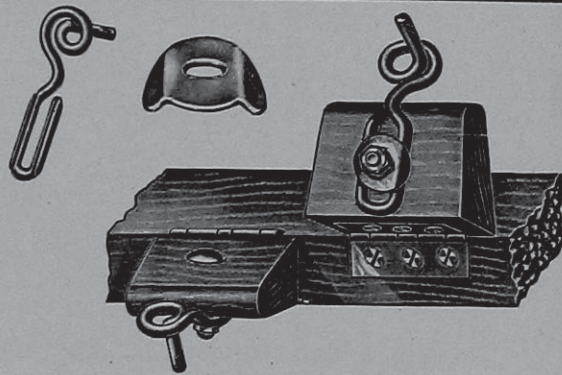
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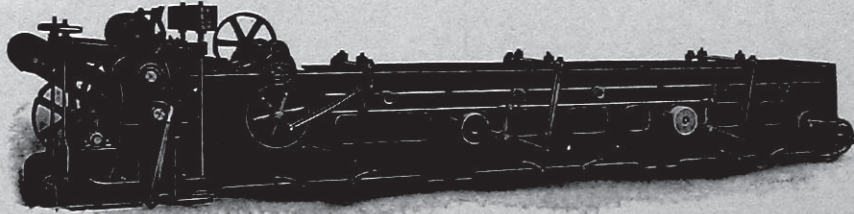
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Posselt's Textile Journal

Vol. VII.

November, 1910.

No. 5.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SILK INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

The development of the silk industry during the past century is of great interest and importance.

During a period of about sixty years—1780 to

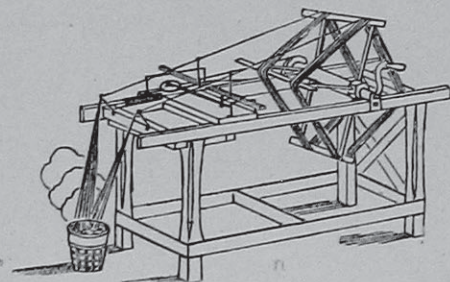


SILK MILL AT GURLEYVILLE, CONN.

Erected in 1814, by Horace and Rodney Hanks, Harrison Holland and John Gilbert; operated by the Mansfield Silk Co., in 1828.

1840—the actual foundation of the industry was laid, and so substantially, that to-day, the manufacture of silk yarns and fabrics represents the investment of billions of dollars, the industry giving employment to hundreds of thousands of operatives.

Naturally, in the infancy of the industry, the production was limited and the machinery crude, however producing fabrics which in those days fully answered the purpose.



JONATHAN H. COBB'S SILK REEL; Invented in 1828.

Connecticut, was the state where the industry was first developed; Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland following.

The fact, that a solid foundation was laid in those days, is attested, that the descendants of a number of these pioneer silk manufacturers are still identified with the industry.

With reference to the type of machinery used, and improvements made, in the early days of the in-

dustry, it is recorded that about 1800, Horace Hanks invented a double wheel for spinning his yarn, and that about the year 1810, he and his brother Rodney Hanks erected a mill at Mansfield, Conn., 10 by 20 feet, which it is claimed was the first silk mill in the United States operated by power.

Later in 1814, they, in conjunction with Harrison Holland and John Gilbert, erected a larger mill at Gurleyville, Conn. In 1821, Rodney Hanks erected another mill for the manufacture of sewing silks at Mansfield, Conn., and associated with him, his son, Geo. R. Hanks; this mill continuing until about 1828, when the project was abandoned, on account of the crude method and machinery.

A new company was then formed to operate the mill and the name changed to the Mansfield Silk Co., who, through improvements that were then made to its silk throwing machinery, by Nathan Rixford, of Mansfield, were able to operate their mill more or less successfully for some time; the company dissolved in 1839 and the plant was then operated under new management.



WILLIAM H. HORSTMANN;

Pioneer Silk Manufacturer, 1815; Introduced the first Jacquard machine in the U. S. in 1824.

The mill at Mansfield, as well as the one at Gurleyville, is still operated by a descendant of the origi-

nators, O. G. Hanks, under the name of O. G. Hanks and Co.

While the industry was progressing, the improvements naturally kept time with the development, and about 1828, Jonathan H. Cobb, of Dedham, Mass.,



MILL AT FLORENCE, MASS.;
Occupied by the New York & Northampton Silk
Company, from their start in 1833 up to 1835,
when they erected a new mill.

who was engaged in the production of raw silk on a small scale, brought out a new reel, which was a great improvement on the *Piedmontese* and the *Smith* reels, then in use, and in 1835 built a mill at Dedham which was operated by the New England Silk Co.

A few years later, the Connecticut Silk Co., of which Christopher Colt was president, was established at Hartford, Conn. This mill was destroyed by fire in 1845.

The incidents in the industry so far, have been confined to New England, but during the same period, William H. Horstmann, a native of Cassel, Germany, who came to this country in 1815, was making great strides in silk manufacturing and in improving the machinery, in Philadelphia. In 1824, he introduced the first Jacquard machine here; one of his two sons, Wm. J., in turn designing and building the first power loom for weaving narrow ware fabrics in this country, simultaneously with its adoption in Switzerland. The business founded by Wm. H. Horstmann and his two sons, Wm. J. and Sigmund H., is now known as The Wm. H. Horstmann Co., Inc., being one of the largest silk manufacturers in the United States, located at 5th and Cherry Sts., Philadelphia.

In connection with the improvements in the narrow ware industry, a mill for the manufacture of silk ribbons was started in Baltimore, Md., about 1829, but due to disadvantages under which they were placed, they were forced to discontinue in a short time.

While the development of the industry in the Middle States was progressing, those interested in the industry in New England were putting forth the greatest efforts to advance the industry.

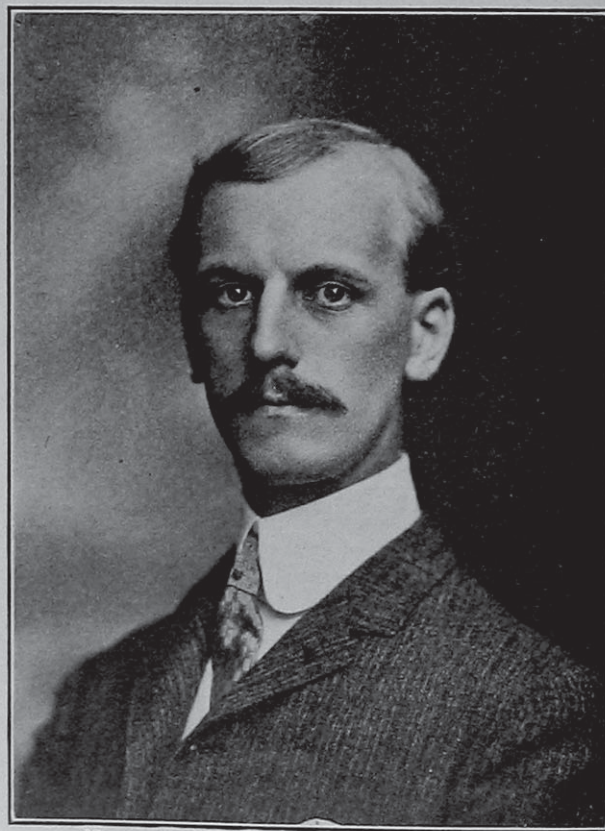
During 1833, the New York & Northampton Silk Co., Florence, Mass., was formed. A new mill was erected in 1835 to take the place of the one shown in

the accompanying illustration, which they had occupied. The mill continued under the management of Samuel Whitmarsh (its founder) for several years, until he withdrew and the plant came under the management of Joseph Conant, who had then been identified with a number of the pioneer silk plants. After several experiments, the plant eventually came into the hands of the Nonotuck Silk Co., who have enlarged and improved the same and operate it, on a large scale, to-day under the name Corticelli Silk Mills.

It was about the year 1838 that the Windsor Silk Mills, at Windsor Locks, Conn., were established; they are still in operation.

During this experimental stage of the silk industry one of our largest and most celebrated silk manufacturers entered the field, we refer to the firm of Cheney Brothers, which was started in 1838, by Ward, Rush, Frank and Ralph Cheney, at South Manchester, Conn., and were known as the Mount Nebo Silk Mills. They operated the mill for a short time and then took up the study of the cultivation of the silk worm. During this time, their plant was practically idle, but in 1841 they installed new machinery and again started the manufacture of sewing and twist silks, and as their business increased, they continued to improve their plant, adding ribbons and broad goods to their output.

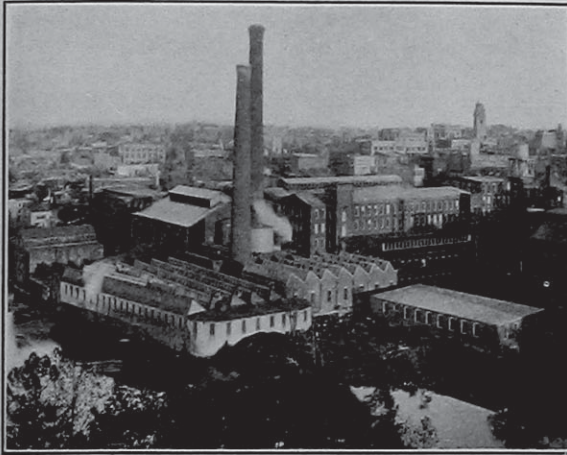
At Mansfield, Conn., Rixford & Dimock started the manufacture of sewing silks in 1838, and in 1840 Wil-



HEBER ROYLE, Sec'y, John Royle & Sons.

liam H. Jones, of North Manchester, Conn., started the manufacture of sewing silk from American raised cocoons. Both of these plants continued in successful operation for a few years, but were forced to disband operation on account of various difficulties which arose.

V. J. Messingner started the manufacture of silk yarns at Canton, Mass., about 1839, and thus laid the foundation for the business, which in later years, became known as Seavey, Foster and Bowman, manufacturers of the famous silk sewing thread.



PATERSON'S MANUFACTURING CENTER.

During the year 1848, William Skinner of Holyoke, Mass., laid the foundation for the present business of the firm Wm. Skinner & Sons, who are numbered among the largest and most progressive silk manufacturers. The mills were first started in Northampton, Mass., and in 1854 were removed to Haydenville and were known then as the Unquomok Silk Mills. In 1874 these mills were destroyed by the flood, caused by the breaking of the Williamsburg Reservoir on Mill River. Mr. Skinner, as soon as he recovered his losses, erected a new mill at Holyoke, and equipped it with the latest machinery. It is in this mill, which has been improved and enlarged from time to time, that the concern is now situated.

At Watertown, Conn., in 1849, M. Heminway began the manufacture of sewing silks, and laid the foundation of the present firm of M. Heminway and Sons Silk Co. Mr. Heminway was the first silk manufacturer to put the thread on spools instead of selling it in the form of skeins.

About this time the silk industry, in Philadelphia, was receiving considerable attention, and in 1850, J. C. Graham started the manufacture of dress trimmings and narrow ware fabrics, and next to Wm. H. Horstmann was the oldest silk manufacturer in Philadelphia. In 1851 Henry W. Hensel established the business now known as Hensel-Colladay & Co., located at Franklin & Vine Sts.

The Sauquoit Silk Mills of Philadelphia were indirectly established in 1856 when the firm of Stelle & Walthall was formed in Paterson, N. J., as throwsters. Mr. Walthall retired in 1861 and the business was continued by Mr. Stelle and his sons, who in 1873 purchased a mill at Sauquoit, Onedia County, N. Y., and started operation under the name of the Sauquoit Silk Mfg. Co. They now operate a fine modern plant at Hunting Park Ave. and Clarissa St., Philadelphia; also plants at Bethlehem and Scranton, Pa.

In 1861, Wm. P. Towles and Godfrey Tallerman

started the manufacture of ribbons, tie-silks and trimmings, in Baltimore, Md., the plant being later known as the Monumental Silk Mills Mfg. Co. In 1873 the plant was destroyed by fire and the company disbanded.

In 1862, John Marr of Trenton, N. J., started the manufacture of silk fabrics, and in 1868, he added machinery for the manufacture of silk spot veilings; it is believed that he was the pioneer in that line of fabrics in this country.

The silk industry in Paterson owes its origination to Christopher C. Colt, a son of Christopher Colt of the Connecticut Silk Mfg. Co., of Hartford, Conn., and to whom reference was made before. Christopher Colt, Jr., was agent of this mill in 1838, and when they shut down, he came to Paterson.

His brother Samuel Colt, had built a large factory there for the manufacture of revolvers, and Christopher Colt, Jr., upon his arrival in Paterson, arranged to use a floor in this building and had new machinery built and the plant put in operation in 1840. This plant it is thought was financed by Simeon Draper—a large dry goods merchant of New York. The mill continued operation for about three months, but on account of financial reverses was forced to close and the equipment offered for sale.



FRANZ ULRICH;
Founder of the Ulrich Co., Paterson; the oldest ribbon weaver in the country.

The mill is still standing, and its location is known as the Old Gun Mill Yard.

The mill through the influence of John Ryle, one of the fathers of the industry in Paterson, and a friend of Christopher Colt, was purchased by G. W. Murray, through the recommendation of Mr. Ryle, for \$3,200. Mr. Ryle in turn was secured as superintendent of the mill, under a contract for three years.

John Ryle's experience dates from Macclesfield, England, where he was employed by his brothers, who were engaged in the manufacture of silk fabrics. In this country John Ryle was first a-weaver for the New York and Northampton Silk Co., when Samuel Whitmarsh was its president.



JULIUS BRANDES MFG. CO., PATERSON.

When the silk business was then founded, the population of Paterson numbered about 7,000.

After the expiration of the three years contract, the firm of Murray & Ryle was formed. In 1846, Mr. Murray's interest was purchased by John Ryle's brothers; Mr. Ryle then being the sole owner of the plant, started several looms on broad goods, and his success was so marked that in 1847 he purchased the Colt Mill, and in 1850, in order to complete his knowledge of silk manufacture, went abroad.

The John Ryle mill had no competition in Paterson for twelve years, from its foundation. The first competitor to enter the field was John C. Benson, who built a small mill on Bridge Street and for three years was Mr. Ryle's only competitor.

The Murray Mill, which is still standing, was built by John Ryle in 1854, is a two story structure, and was at that time one of the largest and best equipped silk mills in America.

Following this, in 1854, the firm of Hamil & Booth started operation on a small scale, as throwsters, with about 20 operatives, they themselves having been brought up in the business. For fourteen years they continued as throwsters under the name of the Passaic Silk Works; in 1868 they started the manufacture of gros-grains and black dress silks. For this venture they purchased the Hamil Mill (still standing) but on account of the backward tendency of the market, were forced to suspend in a few years, although in 1873 they again took up the manufacture of these goods and also that of Jacquard fabrics in 1874.

C. L. Bottom, of Mansfield, Conn., was also a manufacturer to venture in Paterson, but a change in partnership induced him to return to Conn., after a short business career.

The Phoenix Silk Mfg. Co., who still operate

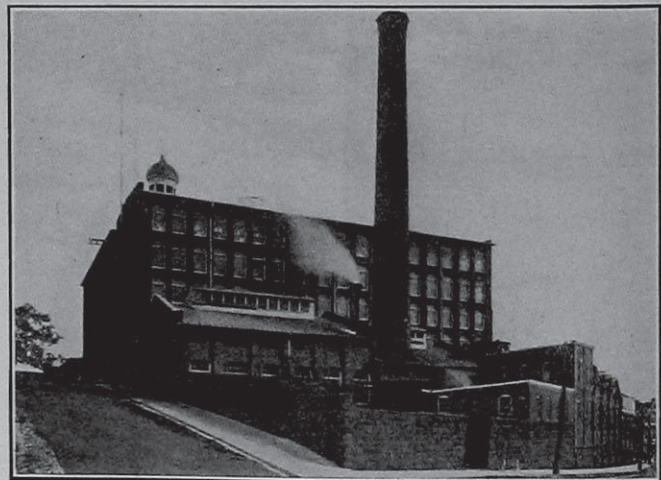
their mills in Paterson, were among the early pioneers, being established in 1862. The career of this concern dates back to 1834, when B. B. Tilt, who was the president of the concern, first became identified with the manufacture of trimmings in Boston, under the name of B. B. Tilt & Co., later Tilt & Dexter, which in reality, led to forming of two of the largest silk manufacturing concerns in Paterson.

Previous to the civil war, the Phoenix Mills were used for the manufacture of cotton fabrics, but on account of the scarcity of cotton were forced to shut down. It was then that Mr. Tilt reorganized the business, and silk manufacturing was started. The new company rapidly rose to a position of importance, and in a short time they adopted Jacquard weaving, which gave them greater prominence than any other of the mills in Paterson. Although they had their reverses, yet to-day they operate two large mills, besides their Paterson plant; one at Allentown, Pa., known as the Adelaide Mills, the other the Tilt Silk Mill, Pottsville, Pa.

Following this, in 1864, the Dale Manufacturing Co. was formed, and they erected the Dale Mill which is still standing. At the time of its erection, it was said to have cost a half million dollars. T. Nelson Dale, Jr., was superintendent of the plant.

J. H. Booth & Co., throwsters, began in 1864, the manufacture of tram and organzine at Paterson.

In 1866 three different manufacturing concerns entered the field—Dunlop & Malcolm and John D. Cutter starting in the manufacture of twist silks, while Mr. Greppo a nephew of M. Bernaud, one of the most famous dyers of Lyons, France, started a dye-house in Paterson. The latter firm later became known as Greppo and Weidmann in 1876. Previous to this time Mr. Weidmann, who was a skilled dyer,

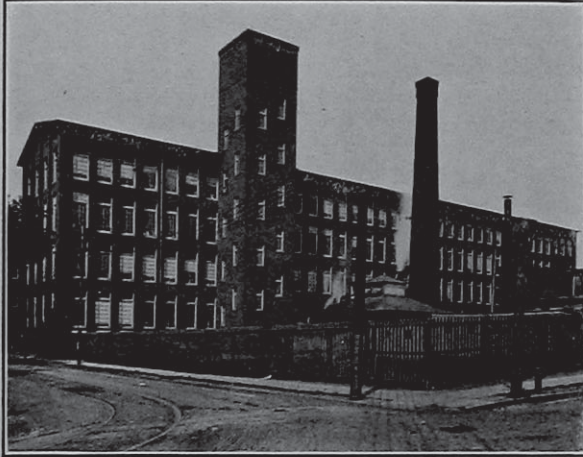


CRESCENT MILLS, PATERSON.

had been in charge of the dyeing of the Dale Mfg. Co. To-day, The Weidmann Silk Dyeing Co. occupies one of the most prominent positions in the silk industry.

Following this, in the year 1867, the firm of Dexter Lambert & Co., commenced operation in Paterson, having removed from Boston, Mass. They

built a large mill to accommodate their business, which at first consisted of dress trimmings and ribbons. In 1874, they added power loom equipment and commenced the manufacture of fancy and plain dress goods. To-day, they operate one of the largest silk mills in Paterson, also branch plants at Hawley and Honesdale, Pa.



DOHERTY & WADSWORTH CO., PATERSON.

The mills of the Wm. Strange Co., were started in 1868, they having come from Williamsburg, N. Y. They first started in the manufacture of ribbons, but later added fancy dress goods. The mills in question are still standing, having been enlarged from time to time and are occupied by a number of individual concerns.

During the year 1870, Frederick Barre, who had been manufacturing ribbons, foulards, poplins and other broad goods, started the Barre Silk Co., who manufactured the same class of goods.

The Hamil Mill was purchased by Mr. Hamil of Hamil & Booth, in the year 1871, and is still standing.

Pelgram and Meyer, manufacturers of broad silks and ribbons, entered the field about 1872, they being still numbered among the progressive silk manufacturers of Paterson.

During 1873, the firm of A. Soleliac & Sons, New York City, removed to Paterson, and located in the Dale Mill, at first engaging in the manufacture of ribbons, but later on taking up the production of gros-grains and colored silks.

Among other concerns identified with the industry at this time were Stephen Lum, manufacturing ribbons; Grimshaw Bros., millinery and tie silks; Joseph Fletcher, twilled silks; C. B. Auer & Co., millinery and tie silks; The Day Mfg. Co., fancy silks; P. and I. Bannagan, throwsters and manufacturers of tie silks. Among the dyers were J. Jackson Scott, See & Shean, and Morlott & Steetheimer, and Greppo & Weidmann.

In the same way, as in Paterson, the industry progressed in other sections of the country.

In 1865 one of the leading mills, for the manu-

facture of broad goods, was started, when John N. Stearns commenced manufacturing fancy silk goods at 213 to 221 East 42d Street, New York City. The business which was started by Mr. Stearns is now known as John N. Stearns & Co., operating mills in Brooklyn and Elmira, N. Y., Williamsport, Pa., and Petersburg, Va.

The first record of a dye-house for dyeing silks for the trade, established in the United States, refers to the Quaker City Dye and Print Works, which were established in Philadelphia in 1865 by August Klauder.

In January 1866, the firm of Givernaud Bros. had its foundation. At that time P. G. Givernaud, father of the present Givernaud brothers, together with his sons, imported machinery from Lyons, France, and started operation with sixty skilled weavers, who came to this country from France.

Givernaud's specialty was known as *Grand Cache-mire d' Amerique* and with the exception of the well known firm of Cheney Brothers, was the first to carry on the weaving of dress goods on an extensive scale.

In 1873, the firm of Givernaud Bros., erected a new mill at West Hoboken, N. J., which was equipped with the most improved machinery of American design. From this mill they established their branch plants at Homestead, and Hackensack, N. J., Allentown, Pa., and Norwich, Conn.

While the industry was developing in the East, the subject naturally was receiving consideration in the West, and it is claimed that in 1869, a silk mill was started in Silkville, Williamsburg, P. O., Franklin County, Kansas, by E. de Bossiere, who started the manufacture of velvet ribbons.

In 1870, the California Silk Mfg. Co., was formed, with a capital of \$50,000, at South San Francisco.



JOHN HAND & SONS, INC., PATERSON.

In 1872, the Union Pacific Silk Co. was incorporated at San Francisco, with a capital of \$250,000, for weaving broad goods.

Coming back to the East, we find that the Norwich Loom Co., Norwich, Conn., who had been engaged in the manufacture of suspender webbings, started the manufacture of silk ribbons in 1870. In 1875, the name of the company was changed to the Uncas Ribbon Co.; E. Oldfield was the superintendent.

Associated with this period is the origination of the mills of R. & H. Simon. Robert Simon was first employed by John N. Stearns in 1870, and about 1871 entered the employ of E. P. Moore & Co., of Paterson. In 1873 he took a position as superintendent of the mills of Benkard & Hutton (now Givernaud

a short duration, that their energies have been lost to history.

Having previously given a sketch of the beginning of the silk industry in Paterson, it will be interesting to consider the Paterson of to-day. A suggestion as to this is shown in the birds eye view, of a portion of Paterson's Manufacturing Center; giving a very clear idea of the modern mill buildings shown side by side with those of earlier construction.

This view is taken from the river, the mills shown being Haenichen Bros., broad silk manufacturers; the large dye-house of Formanns, Stumpf and Sharpe; The Industry Mill, which is occupied by a number of throwing and weaving plants, and the rear of the mills of the Phoenix Silk Mfg. Co. Further up the river is located the Old Todd Mill, the Waverly Mill and the silk dyeing plant of the Standard Silk Dyeing Co., dyers of heavy weighted, bright colored trams.

This locality has been identified with the industry since its origination in Paterson, and all along the race are to be seen the older mills, such as the Old Gun Mill, the Old Adams Mill (now Essex Mills) and the Atherton Mill. On the opposite side of the river, a like view is presented with the various mills and dye-houses.

One of the larger mills of Paterson is that of the Julius Brandes Mfg. Co., situated at Marshall and Dakota Sts. This company have occupied this large mill since 1898. Previous to that time, since about 1892 they had been in the old Adams Mill on Mill St. They now operate a branch plant at College Point, N. Y.; the production of the two plants combined, ranking among the largest producers of narrow ribbons in the country. Occupying part of this plant is the Audiger and Meyer Silk Co., who operate a large equipment on dress and tie silks. Edward Doerken is its treas. and supt.

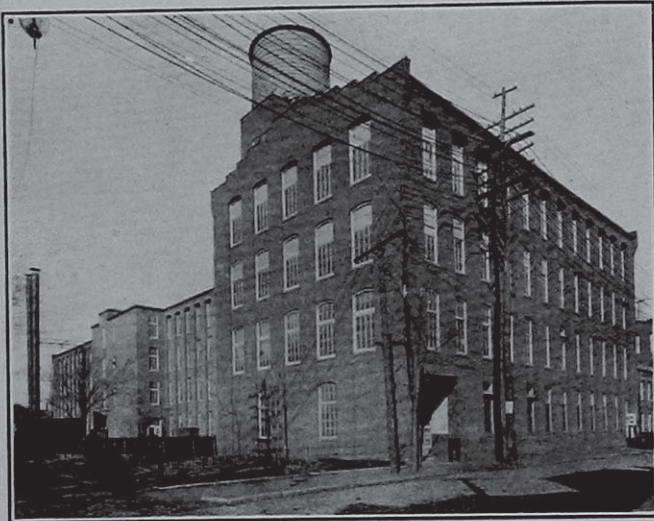
The Ashley & Bailey Co. is another representative type of progressive silk manufacturers, located at River and Putnam Sts. and the Erie Railroad. Besides their big mills in Paterson, they operate other plants at Columbia, Coatesville, York and Marietta, Pa., Hawthorne, N. J. (Hawthorne Silk Co.), as well as Fayetteville, N. C.; producing tie silks, dress silks and ribbons.

The large mills of the Bamford Bros. Silk Mfg. Co., known as the Crescent Mills, on Cliff St., are another indication of the rapid growth of the industry. The Bamford Bros. Silk Mfg. Co., also operate branch plants at Belvidere, N. J., and Wilkesbarre, Pa., and are among the largest manufacturers of ribbons in Paterson.

The Crescent Mill is also occupied by the Aronsohn Bloom Silk Co., manufacturers of broad silks; the Aronsohn Bros. Silk Co., Inc., also manufacturers of broad silks.

A most up to date mill in Paterson is conceded to be the new plant of the Henry Doherty Silk Co., located at South Paterson, and who operate 750 looms, on broad silks.

The large mills of Doherty & Wadsworth Co.,

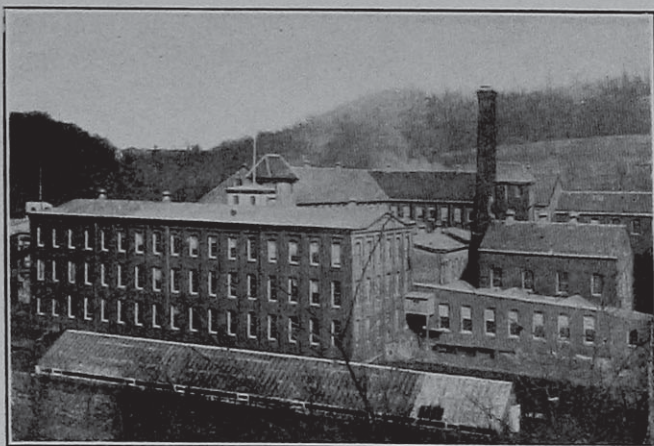


CONGDON MILLS, PATERSON.

Bros.) at West Hoboken, N. J. This in turn, led to the formation of the firm of Robert and Herman Simon, who started a mill at Union Hill, N. J., near West Hoboken. From this plant they gradually enlarged, and some years later erected the large and up to date plant at Easton, Pa., one of the largest mills in that section.

The Silk Mfg. Co. of College Point, N. Y., started the manufacture of tram, organzine and ribbons in April 1872, Hugo Funke being interested in the company.

In the summer of the same year, the Central Village Silk Co., started operations at Central Vil-



R. & H. SIMON, EASTON, PA.

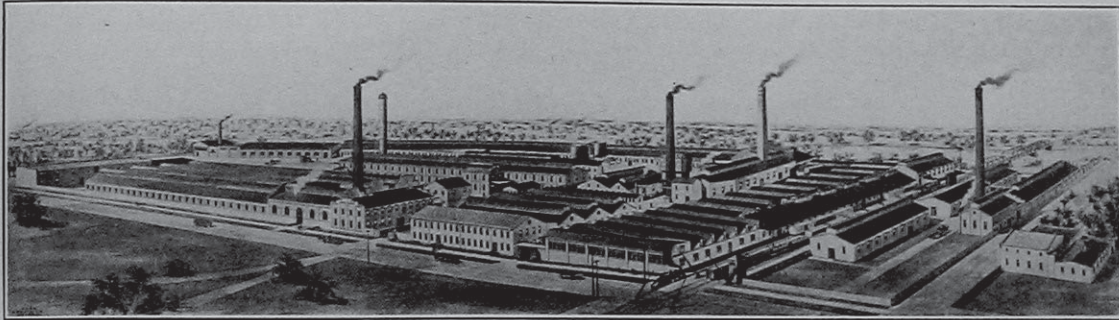
lage, Conn., and also built a small mill 42 by 100 feet at Scranton, Pa., which was later incorporated as the Scranton Silk Co.

While we referred to a great many pioneer mills and manufacturers, who helped to make the industry what it is to-day, yet there were mills of which no record is obtainable, that entered the manufacturing field, but mostly in such a way, and for such

manufacturers of dress and tie silks are also numbered among Paterson's finest mills.

John Hand & Sons, Inc., are also included among the large manufacturers in Paterson. They operate a large mill at West Railroad and Gould Ave., the

One of the representative mills, at the same time one of those identified with the industry in its early stages, is the Sauquoit Silk Mfg. Co., incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania in 1878. These mills occupy a large area at Hunting Park Ave. and Clarissa



THE WEIDMAN SILK DYEING CO., PATERSON.

equipment consisting of 113 broad looms for dress and tie silks and 135 ribbon looms. In conjunction with this plant they also operate a mill at Wilmington, Del.

The Helvetia Silk Mill, manufacturers of silk and velvet ribbons, is another type of progressive silk manufacturers in Paterson. This concern was organized in 1887 and for two years were on Van Houten St., where the business grew to such an extent that they were compelled to increase their equipment. Accordingly they built a mill 130 by 90 ft. at 6th Ave. & 11th St., in the Riverside section of Paterson. In 1894 they added an additional 120 feet and in 1900 another 156 feet. This not being sufficient, they erected a new mill alongside the old mill and in 1907 the business expanded to such an extent that they were forced to open an addition in the Rodgers Mill on Van Houten St., and one in Lehighton, Pa.

In the view of the Congdon Mill, on Van Houten St., another example of the development of the silk industry in Paterson is shown. This large mill adjoins the Phoenix Mills and is occupied by the Holzman Silk Mfg. Co., manufacturers of plain and fancy ribbons; also A. J. Van Riper, manufacturer of dress and tie silks.

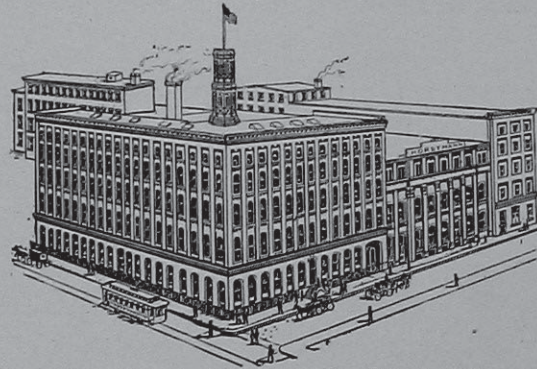
Another indication of the rapid growth of industry is shown by the success of the Meisch Mfg. Co., manufacturers of ribbons, who operate two plants, one at Leslie & Courtland Sts., and their new mill near Tawata Ave. and Jasper St.

These are but a few of the hundreds of silk manufacturers and dyers in Paterson, but sufficient to convey the idea as to the extent and progressiveness of its silk industry.

While Paterson was the centre of activity in the growth of the industry, yet it must not be forgotten that sections of Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut share equal prestige as to their position in the silk industry.

In Pennsylvania, Philadelphia is a growing silk manufacturing centre, there being at the present time over a half a hundred silk mills, some of which were pioneers in the industry, as referred to in the earlier part of the review.

St., and manufacture broad silks and net silk yarns. In conjunction with these mills, which are of the most modern construction, they operate plants at Bethlehem



THE WM. H. HORSTMANN CO., PHILADELPHIA and Scranton, Pa. The equipment of the three mills consists of 1,400 looms and about 150,000 spindles, giving employment to about 3,000 hands. The success



SAUQUOIT SILK MFG. CO., PHILADELPHIA.

of this concern, like numbers of others, is due to the management, and in this direction it is interesting to know that Alex. D. Stelle, is pres., Arthur Ryle, vice-pres., Walter H. Rossmässler, treas., and Edward C.

Rossmässler, sec.; names closely connected with the origin and growth of the silk industry in the United States.

Another prominent mill closely connected with the silk industry is the plant of the Thomas Halton's Sons. This concern is engaged in the building of Jacquard Machinery for silk fabrics, and which its founder, the late Mr. Thomas Halton, started as far back as 1876. The excellent construction of these Halton Jacquard Machines has made them a household word with silk mills, running on figured work. Mr. Hal-

of the heddle, are made by swaging. Owing to its smoothness, and being perfectly flat, the heddle offers almost no friction to the warp threads, the heddle turning only enough to allow the thread to pass through the eye.

Ranking next to Philadelphia in importance to the silk industry of Pennsylvania, are the silk districts of Lehigh and Northampton Counties.

Allentown is the centre, with over twenty silk mills, the largest of which is the Adelaide Mill of the Phoenix Silk Mfg. Co., and of which reference was



THOMAS HALTON'S SONS; PHILADELPHIA.

ton died in 1898, his sons Thomas H. and James D., who for years were closely connected with their father, carry on the business now. In the same mills are located the plants of J. W. Barber & Co., Inc., and that of the Binder-Morrell Co., both prominent concerns in their lines, running on upholstery goods, curtains, novelties, etc. At the right hand side of the Halton plant, is shown a portion of the plant of the Concordia Silk Mills, which run 84 looms on broad silks and 86 looms on ribbons. Ralph Whitley is president and gen'l manager of the concern.

The Steele Heddle Mfg. Co., 2110 Allegheny Ave., is another Philadelphia plant closely connected with the silk industry in the United States. Their flat steel heddle has been one of the greatest improvements made during the last fifteen years, in connection with the weaving of raw silk yarns, also for dyed silk yarns where a medium to strong silk is used. It has demonstrated what twelve years ago was considered an impossibility, *i. e.*, weaving silk by wire heddles. The flat steel heddle is made out of one piece of cast steel, which construction prevents the warp threads from catching in the eye, since the eye is one solid piece of cast steel. The heddle is very thin and the apertures at each end, by which it is supported on the rods of the harness frame, together with the eye

made in the review of the silk industry of Paterson. The Adelaide is engaged in the manufacture of broad silks and ribbons, operating 1,700 broad looms and 250 ribbon looms. Close to Allentown are the two Bethlehems, with seven silk mills, Catasauqua with three silk mills, as well as numerous smaller places containing one or two silk mills. In Lehigh County is also located Emaus, which contains three prominent silk mills, as well as Slatington with two.

The chief city of the silk industry in Northampton County is located in Easton, and which has eight silk mills, with five silk mills in Phillipsburg, N. J., and which is across the Delaware.

One of the largest and most prominent silk mills of Northampton County is the concern of R. & H. Simon, Easton, and to which also reference was made when dealing with the founding of that concern. They operate in their Easton plant 20,000 spindles and 472 looms, on dress silks, ribbons, lining silks, tie silks, velvets and plushes.

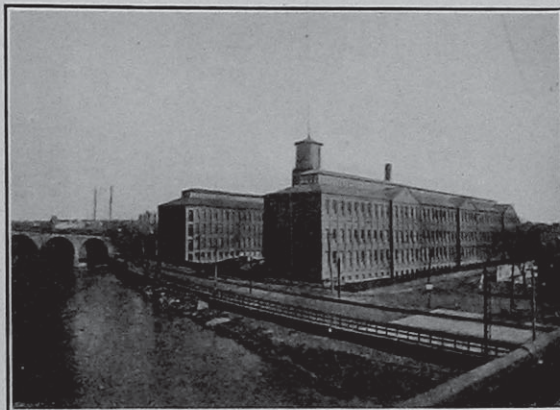
The silk industry of New York State is confined to certain localities, New York City, Brooklyn, Astoria, College Point leading in the number of mills. One of the progressive mills in the state, is that of the Champlain Silk Mills, with plants at Whitehall, N. Y., and Brooklyn, N. Y. They are most extensive

manufacturers of spun silk yarns (schappe) and noils.

The Champlain Silk Mills was founded about twenty-five years ago by its president, Mr. A. E. Meyer. Spun Silk had already been made in this country but it was practically in its infancy here. Mr. Meyer's attention had been attracted to this industry while studying silk manufacturing in general in Europe. His father, Isaias Meyer, was one of the pioneers of the silk industry in the United States, being one of the earliest weavers of Paterson, N. J. His son Aubrey was sent to Europe for the purpose of completing his textile education with the evident intention of continuing the weaving business which his father had established with great success. Aubrey Meyer, however, determined to become a Spun Silk manufacturer and after carefully searching for a place of operation, he decided upon Whitehall, N. Y., situated at the head of Lake Champlain, as the most practical site for this particular enterprise. There was water power at hand, there was also the pure water of the lake necessary in this business, and, apparently, sufficiency of labor in the town.

The concern started in a small way and the first few years of its existence it had to encounter the usual difficulties which every new enterprise is subject to but in a short time it commenced to make its way. It grew steadily. About ten years after the plant was in operation, the capacity was doubled and about eight years thereafter, it was again doubled. This last increase apparently used up the

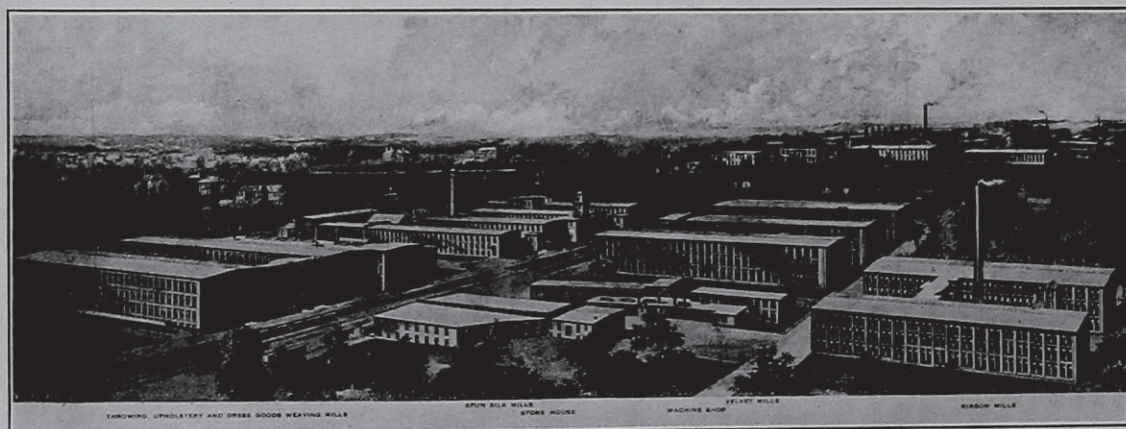
The business is thoroughly systematized and the best talent available has been obtained. While they recognize the value of machinery and equipment and are always on the lookout for the newest and the best, yet they are firmer believers in the value of their organization. Expert knowledge and a good



ADELAIDE MILLS, ALLENTOWN, PA.

man at every job is their motto. It is on account of this plan of organization, this constant training of men for their places that they have been able to expand so readily.

Another well known silk concern in New York State is that of Ludwig Littauer, Boonville, N. Y., with offices at 109 Greene St., New York City. The output of these mills consists of tram and organzine.



CHENEY BROTHERS, SOUTH MANCHESTER, CONN.

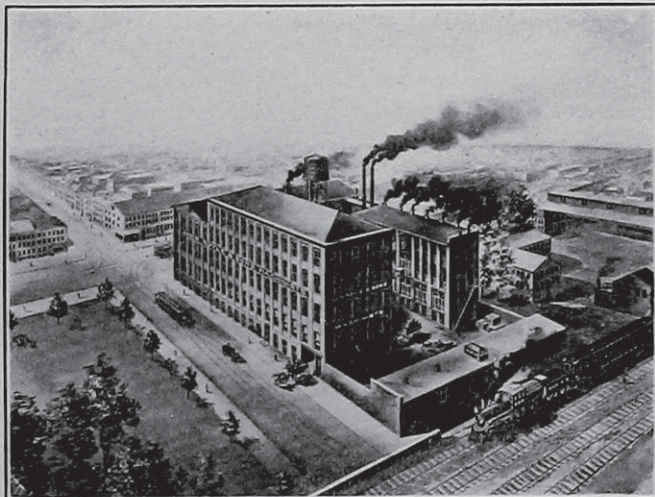
available labor in the town, and it, therefore, became necessary to establish a second mill. About five years ago another mill was started in Brooklyn, N. Y., and enlargements have but recently been added to this mill and are still taking place which will make it equal to the Whitehall plant. The result is that the Champlain Silk Mills is now in the foreground of spun silk manufacturers of the world.

The great success of this concern, no doubt, is due to its thorough organization. Headed by a practical man who thoroughly understands his business, each department has an expert in his line.

While we thus far have taken the development of the silk industry in the Middle States into consideration, it remains for New England to be the home of one of the most widely known silk concerns, *viz.*: Cheney Brothers, South Manchester, Conn. In the beginning of the History of the Silk Industry, reference was made to the foundations of this concern, so prominently interwoven with that industry. We give in the accompanying illustration a view of this immense silk plant, and in connection with which the following data will be of interest.

Organized in 1838, the concern was incorporated in 1854.

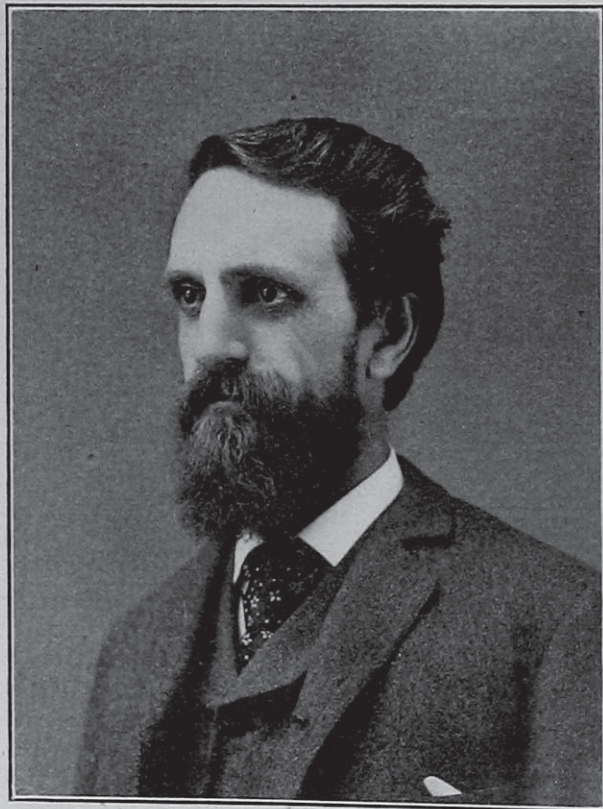
The present officers of the concern are: Frank Cheney, Jr., pres.; Harry G. Cheney, vice pres.;



JOHN ROYLE & SONS, PATERSON;
Builders of the famous "Royle" Jacquard Card
Cutting Machinery.

Charles Cheney, sec'y & treas. The directors are: James W. Cheney, Richard O. Cheney, Harry G. Cheney, Frank Cheney, Jr., Charles Cheney, Robert Cheney, Clifford D. Cheney.

The output of the concern consists in the manufacture of dress goods and decorative goods, both



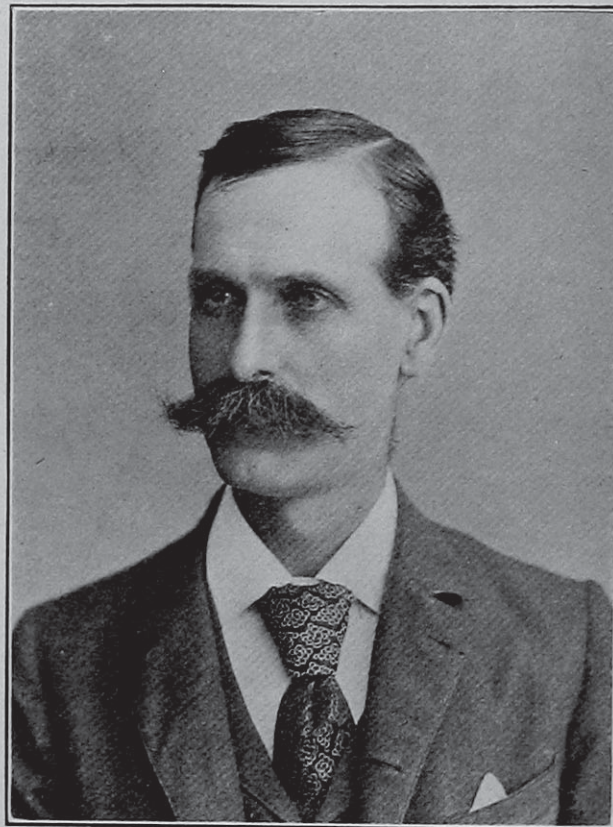
VERNON ROYLE, Pres. and Treas. John Royle & Sons.

yarn dyed, piece dyed and printed; tapestries, velvets, plushes, ribbons and velvet ribbons, flags, handkerchiefs, spun silk yarns, trams, organzines, etc., etc. They employ about 4,000 hands.

Paterson, besides being noted for its silk industry, at the same time is the home of the manufacture of some of the leading machines and supply accessories to the industry.

The most widely known of these concerns is that of John Royle & Sons, one of the earlier firms identified with the industry.

The business now conducted by the corporation of John Royle & Sons was established in 1860 by



JOHN ROYLE, JR.

the late Mr. John Royle. Subsequently, his two sons became identified with him as partners; John Royle, Jr., in 1872, and Vernon Royle, now pres. and treas., in 1877. The firm was incorporated in 1898. At present, the personnel of the company differs only by the addition of Heber Royle, a grandson, as sec'y.

Originally occupying but one small room, the business now embraces three commodious brick buildings with a total floor area, exclusive of boiler house, out-buildings, etc., of about one-half acre. Various departments have been established for the different branches of the work. A complete, modern store-house is maintained, where thousands of finished parts for machines are classified and stored ready for prompt assembling. Everything is arranged with a view to the most economical prosecution of the machine business.

With reference to machinery for the Textile Industry, they build complete outfits of Jacquard Card Cutting Machinery—Piano Machines, Lacers, as well as Repeaters.

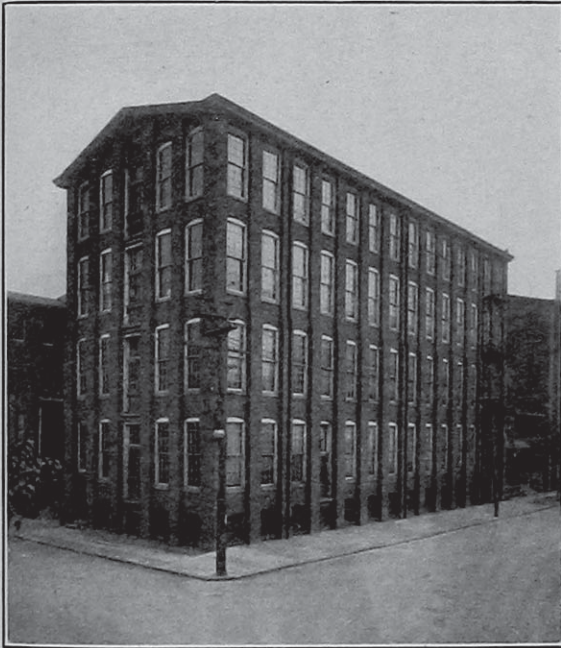
Another firm who are identified with the silk industry in general and that of Paterson, is the Sipp Machine Co., manufacturers and distributors of

Textile Machinery, whose product, since 1897, when they were established, has become a necessity throughout the industry which is realizing that *It's a Sipp* that is necessary. They occupy a modern building at Erie R. R., Keen and Warren Streets,



THE SIPP MACHINE CO., PATERSON.

equipped with the most modern appliances, the plant covering an area of 25,000 square feet and give employment to 110 skilled mechanics. The success of their Warper has during these last two years been the talk of the silk industry. They also have lately brought in the market an improved winder



THE ULRICH CO., ULRICH MILL, PATERSON.

for broad silk filling. The success of the Sipp Machine Co. and their machines are readily recognized when the personality of the concern is taken into consideration, they all being men of energy and integrity; Grant Sipp is pres., Arthur Goldthorpe, treas., and Wm. J. Turner, sec'y.

The building of narrow looms is another industry identified with the industrial activity of Paterson. Widmer Bros., who have a complete shop for the building of looms of this class at 108 to 114 North 7th Street, have been identified with the silk industry for a number years and their looms are to be found in leading mills.

Another concern of a far reaching reputation is

The Johnson, Van Vlaanderen Machine Co., who build Skein and Piece Dyeing Machinery, also all



ALBERT ULRICH.

kinds of Finishing Machines for broad silks, silk and silk-mixed goods dyed in the piece, ribbons, hat bands, etc.



FRANK ULRICH.

Naturally, one of the industrial features of Pater-

son is the manufacture of reeds, heddles and other supplies.

One of the largest in this line is the firm of the Ulrich Co., who occupy the Ulrich Mill, at Ward Street and Dale Avenue. The present firm is composed of Franz Ulrich, the founder, and his two sons Albert Ulrich and Frank Ulrich. Their present plant covers 20,000 square feet of space, manufacturing all supplies that are needed by the ribbon and broad silk manufacturers. One of their specialties are fancy doup and shaft harnesses, which have a reputation for their weaving quality and evenness of construction.

This concern is said to be one of the oldest mill supply houses in the silk industry, having been started by Franz Ulrich several decades ago. Mr. Ulrich is said to be the oldest ribbon weaver in the country.

Among other builders of harnesses, manufacturers of reeds and general mill supplies, who figure to a great extent in the progress of Paterson's Silk Industry, are Cleaver & Leather, Geo. T. Frost & Son, E. B. Hindley, O'Neill Bros., Geo. W. Renkel & Co., Reinhard Schauble and the Van Riper Mfg. Co.

Scarf and Necktie Silks.

By R. T. LORD.

The silks most popular for scarfs and neckties are those woven with satins, mat or basket, and ottoman or rib weaves, in each of which system of weaves there is an endless scope for pretty effects.

FIGURED SATINS.

Of all the varieties of weaves in use in the manufacture of scarfs and neckties, perhaps the most popular are the satins. The mat or the ottoman during one or the other seasons, may be conspicuous by its absence, but never the satin. From the small polka dot or ball to the all-over method of ornamentation, nothing is more saleable than this class of fabric, when offered for the personal adornment of the male sex.

Fig. 1 is a design for a small figured satin, in the construction of which, two systems of filling and one of warp are employed. In designing these small effects, in which the figures are dotted over the surface at regular intervals it is necessary to observe one point, for the demonstration of which the accompanying fabric sketch has been more particularly designed. The figure should be so constructed that it may be clearly divided with reference to change of figuring pick, so as to give us a chance to produce an extra color effect in the fabric, without additional expense in filling to the manufacturer. In our design of a fabric sketch, the rosette is kept quite clear of and does not overlap the two leaves under it. This pattern, with the leaves, may be produced in, say, pale blue and the rosette in pink, or some such combination, or the figure may be woven entirely in one shade of color.

In drawing the pretty all-over figures often seen in scarfs, the same principle may be adopted, if proper care is taken in the planning of the pattern. In these days especially, anything which can reduce the cost of an article, whilst maintaining its quality intact, should receive due attention. And really, in the present in-

stance, a waste of filling is not necessary, because, in the majority of cases, good and effective all-over patterns can be produced, where changing of shuttles can be accomplished with the best results.

In showing the method of interlacing of a figured satin where two systems of filling are employed, take for example, Fig. 2 which is a small polka dot pattern, and here, again, it may be observed that the two dots or balls are quite clear of each other, so that each may be produced in a separate color. This figure shows the open style of drafting, *i. e.*, pick and pick. *Dot* type shows the satin, and the *cross* type, the figure



FIG. 1.

pick binding. It will be observed that the latter binding comes exactly in the same position as the satin, or, to use a technical term understood in the trade, the two interlacings are on the same foot. This is necessary, as, otherwise, the satin face would have a broken appearance. This is the principle adopted in drafting a pattern of this nature, whether it be a spot, a small figure, or an all-over effect. But in actual practice, a more ready method would be employed. That is, the pattern would be drawn on every pick, and only the figure binding would be indicated upon the ruled paper, the ground satin being understood.

In cutting the cards, all that would be necessary would be to cut five cards for the ground satin on a Royle Piano machine, and then duplicate them, as many times as required, for the full design, on a Royle Repeater, the cards being laced alternately, ground satin and figure.

In connection with the construction of some fabrics, floating of the filling on the face of the fabric is specially guarded against, but, in the present instance, floating often improves the beauty of the face of the fabric. In our design the float is over fourteen warp ends, and this is not too long. The weave plan is shown face down on the loom, cutting *empty* squares for risers will weave the fabric face up. A satin composed of one system of warp and two systems of filling has been dealt with, but in some instances there is a ground warp as well as a satin warp used, in which case the figure filling should be bound with the former and not with the satin warp. This has the effect of keeping the satin clear of the figure pick.

The broad principles upon which figured satins for

scarfs and neckties are designed have been given, but it will be obvious that these principles may be applied to the drafting of any satin fabrics, irrespective of the scope of the design.

MAT PATTERNS.

This class of weaves is much in vogue for the fabrics under notice, since some very pretty effects can be produced by the use of warp and filling of different shades of color. Fig. 3 is an example of a mat weave, which produces a tissue exactly alike on both sides. The number of warp threads and picks per inch may be varied according to the quality of the material to be woven. With 200 warp threads per inch and 100 picks per inch, it then would be necessary to draft double the number of warp ends in comparison to that of the filling, thus requiring the use of 8x4 ruled paper. The same weave could be drawn on a greater number of ends and picks than is shown in example, with good results.

Fig. 4 is another weave for a mat effect. This is a fairly good specimen, and would make a saleable cloth for any purpose where both sides are not required to be exactly the same.

Fig. 5 would also make a mat, but in this case the pattern would be the same on both sides. The beauty of a good mat effect in a fabric, lies in the floating of the warp and filling being unbroken, and also in its being a perfect reversible fabric, and we therefore give preference to the example in Fig. 3, but, at the same time, the others will be found useful.

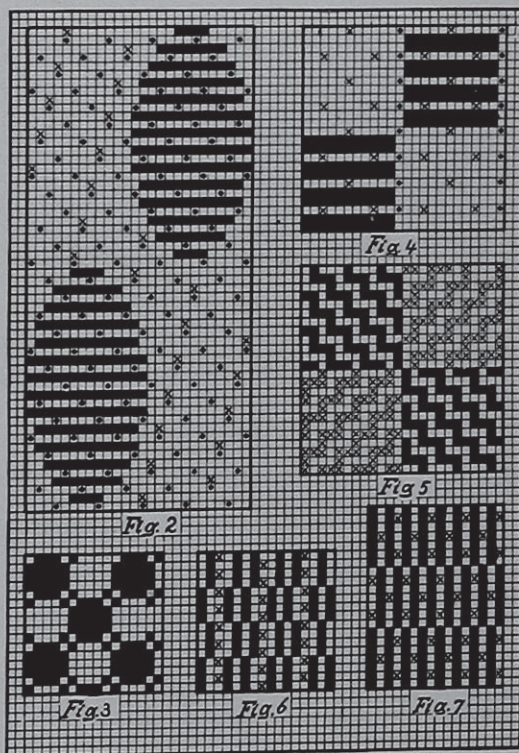
This class of weave has been dealt with as far as the ground fabric is concerned, but many very good effects are produced by introducing figures, dotted about at intervals, keeping, however, within the mat formation. For instance, by using an extra shuttle, a diamond or a zig-zag, or other small figures can be introduced which can be varied in color by a change of shuttle. Take, as an example, black and steel blue for warp and filling, and a small figure with the extra filling of rose pink changing to white. Further good effects are obtained by the use of striped warps, bringing up the squares of the mat in different colors by the aid of a change in shuttles. Take, for instance, Fig. 3 and stripe the warp alternately with five ends of tan and five of white, then, in the filling give ten picks of white and ten of steel blue, alternately, and a very pretty cloth is produced. The same method might be employed in the production of large checks or tartans, of course more colors being employed. Some such weave as that given in Fig. 5 could be used with a satin effect, that is a satin ground and figure in navy blue, surrounded by a mat check of white and navy blue. In this case the warp of navy blue would be striped by white—say about 264 blue and 96 white. There would then be a change of blue and white shuttles in similar proportion, resulting in navy blue satin figure and ground, surrounded by blue and white mat check, with white corners.

OTTOMAN PATTERNS.

To produce a perfect ottoman pattern, the rib should be the same on both sides; weave Fig. 6 possesses this qualification. Of course, the same weave

could be used to produce a heavier rib, by introducing more picks. The example given is known in the trade as a four and four shoot. The dotting shown by the cross type indicates the use of a ground (binder) warp, which is necessary in order to keep the fabric flat. This ground warp may be of cotton, without in any way injuring the appearance of the face of the fabric.

A second ottoman weave is given in Fig. 7, which is useful for fabrics to be made into ties, because it is only a one-faced ottoman, whereas Fig. 6, being both sides alike, can be used for loose scarfs, that is, scarfs which the wearer folds and ties himself. A repeat and a half, filling ways, are given, in order to better show change of ribs at repeat, *i. e.*, 21 picks of the repeat of 14 picks in pattern are given.



Striping and dotting are favorite methods of ornamenting ottomans. As to the former of these, weave, say, twenty ribs of the ottoman in black filling, of course having a black warp, then change the shuttle and throw in about twenty picks of cardinal, say, a satin effect; then a few more ribs succeeded by another twenty picks of cardinal; then repeat the order. By this means a good striped fabric is obtained.

RENDERING SILK MORE PERMANENT AFTER WEIGHTING WITH METALLIC SALTS.

This is the object of a late German patent, whereby from 1 to 5 per cent formaldehyde sodium bisulphite are added to the brightening bath, or to some other bath employed in the mordanting or dyeing process. The silk, thereby acquires greater permanence on being stored or worn, as well as towards light, air, and moisture, without the handle or lustre being affected.

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THE MEN'S WEAR TRADE.

Throughout the market, there has been marked lack of interest, due primarily to climatic conditions, but it is apparent that the cooler weather of the latter part of October will tend to improve the tone.

During the month, the most important feature of the market was the interest manifested in duplicates, and selling agents look forward to a general re-ordering in a few weeks.

The fact, that when the market opened, the mills put such a low figure on their lines to make them attractive, has been the cause of considerable unrest among the mills; in view of same, the large concerns have advanced their prices, in some instances 5 cents or more per yard. Naturally, the remaining mills wanted to do likewise, seeing an opportunity to make something this season, but the selling agents did not look on it this way.

Another feature was the withdrawing, by a number of mills, of their spring lines, from the market.

Duplicating does not seem to be confined to any particular fabric, worsteds and woollens seeming to have equal demand, the preference, however, being given to fancy worsteds.

While the volumes of business being booked on duplicate orders does not in any sense come up to expectations, yet the wide range and regularity with which the buying is being done, puts renewed energy into the sales end.

One of the most conspicuous features of the market, as far as duplicating is concerned, is the business being booked on serges. The proportion of busi-

ness on staples, compared with that of fancies, is large.

This condition leads to the belief that there will be a general return to dark shades in these fabrics, the grays that were looked upon as the thing, earlier in the season, are not calling forth the interest as was anticipated. Brown and blue, seem to be the shades most in demand, and it is claimed that many large orders are being booked on these lines on the quiet.

When fancy woollens are under order, houses are receiving instructions generally, to ship as soon as possible. These requests serve to illustrate the character of the business.

Striped fabrics for trouserings are again in demand, following *London* styles.

Plain black and white effects, which were the thing in stripes, eight or ten years ago, are being asked for in unexpected quantities. A dark blue, smooth fabric, which shows a very subdued white line, is also commanding attention, and from appearances, overchecks will not figure to any extent.

The cooler weather has also had a tendency to renew the dormant activity in overcoatings. Although the volume of business is good, the great draw-back is in immediate deliveries.

Cheviots and kerseys seem to be most in demand. Cheviots have had a quiet demand all season, and it is quite natural that they should hold the best position at this time. Kerseys and broadcloths, about 12 oz. weight, are most in demand.

Throughout the overcoating trade, the subject of opening the lines for Fall 1911, in a few weeks, is the general topic. Conservative sellers seem to be inclined to leave it for a later date, but some mills, who must have the business, look upon an early opening, as means of getting the additional orders.

At the same time, the attention of the men's wear manufacturers is also directed to the Fall 1911 season.

As to the probable fabric combination and colors, it is ventured, that brown will again be in demand, but not the light ginger color, the opinion being that a chocolate brown will be most sought after. A very neat effect in bronze, a brown and green mixture, has been seen on the market. The natural shetland effects, in cheviots, of light fawn and drab fawn mixtures will, it is thought, prove good sellers.

From observation it would appear that grays will not be much in demand neither green, which is considered obsolete, as far as this season is concerned.

From the designing standpoint, herringbone effects, both with plain and fancy colored stripes, appear quite probable, in fact it is thought, fabrics of this class, with the colored stripe effect, will be in great demand for the fall season.

REVIEW OF THE DRESS GOODS TRADE.

The dress goods market is gradually recovering from its backward tendency, and it is expected that the chilly weather will produce the incentive for buyers to operate in volume.

In figuring up their sales, so far, some houses are complimenting themselves on the fact that their aggregate sales, so far, equal those of last season, and in view of the backward tendency of the market during this season, they are figuring that if they can hold their average, there will be no cause to complain.

This condition is an encouraging feature of the market, and no doubt with the business now in view, will pull the agents through this season on a good basis.

Piece dyed fabrics seem to be most in demand, in fact, it might be said, that the bulk of the business thus far placed, has been on these fabrics.

Coarse yarn serges are very popular, blue and brown being the colors most in demand for fall; corn color is a new suggestion for spring.

Serges, in both, narrow and wide plain twills, are looked upon most favorably.

One of the features of the market has been the downward revision of prices on serges, from 5 to 10 per cent, which it is thought, will make this line of fabrics even more attractive.

Prunella cloths, seem to be in satisfactory demand for spring, and many orders have been booked in this line.

Fancy mohair fabrics are receiving quite a little attention for spring. Stripes, checks and hairlines are most desired.

Speaking of hairlines, there seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether they will be very strong for spring.

Hairline effects occupy prominent positions, in both the foreign as well as domestic lines, and the final decision will naturally lay until the general tendency of the fashion is settled—some say that the mannish suitings, so much in evidence the past few years, will give way to other fabrics. This doubt, however, is somewhat dispelled, when we notice the popularity of these mannish effects to-day.

Some very interesting fabrics of fancy mixtures (mannish effects) are being shown at about 87½ cents to \$1.75 per yard; fancy piece dyes with invisible stripes, checks and hairlines from 85 cents to \$1.10; storm and French serges from 67½ cents to \$1.35; shepherd checks in various combinations range from 40 cents to \$1.10 per yard.

The sheer fabrics for spring are having great demand. Many new and novel ideas in crepe effects and fancy weaves are being shown.

Fine voiles are also in large demand, and houses are having an extremely hard time filling orders. The demand is confined to the better class of fabrics. Black is the most desirable color, with blue, much in evidence.

The leading lines of printed wool challies are well under order and the 27 inch goods, for which the mill receives about 43½ cents, printed in close imitation of crepe and having the Persian border, are not only being ordered for fall, but spring also.

Another pattern in good demand is the blue polka dot with the Persian border.

Vigoreaux, plain and fancy, show equal favor with the other lines of fabrics.

In regards to colors, one of the newest is a blue grav, which is in favor abroad, and a blue which is darker than any of the shades that have been popular for some time. It is much darker than the King's blue, which has been so popular, and might be said to be more adapted to men's than women's wear.

A peculiar incident of the market is the number of houses that are looking at the heavy-weight blankets for next fall's trade in this line, it seeming to be their purpose to get the lines under way as soon as possible.

PATERSON INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION.

The committee of the exposition have given the Ulrich Company, official privilege of opening a *Register for the Silk Trade* at the exposition. Do not miss to call at their stand, and at the same time register.

REVIEW OF THE SILK TRADE.

The silk industry to-day presents a very much different situation than prevailed several months ago, and business seems to be shaping itself in a healthy condition, which after many months of depression, seems to point to a steady occupation for many months to come.

In the spring and summer, manufacturers figured their lines at prices with little or no profit, in order to get enough business to keep their organization together.

To-day, we have a different situation, a great number of mills have more than they can possibly take care of, and in some instances, the lines have been withdrawn entirely.

The contrast is best shown by the action of a certain mill, who in the spring, on a particular fabric, accepted 60 to 62½ cents on large quantities, but to-day, they have all the business they need, for several months to come, and in order to have a fair margin, have advanced the line to 65 and 67½ cents.

There is a general scarcity of fabrics in some lines, which has also led to a slight advance, for instance, the supply of marquises and Persians is far below the demand. Marquises opened for the fall season at 75 cents, to-day they are bringing 85 cents, and buyers are paying the price without hesitation. Cost seems to be no consideration, their whole aim is to get the goods. The same situation prevails with Persians.

At the present time, one of the novelties of the season is bordered silks, and some specialty houses report good returns. Dotted and small figured effects, up to this date, have been another strong factor of the silk trade.

A feature of the market is the sluggish demand for cotton back satins, and even though prices have been revised downward, 15 to 20 per cent, they do not seem to move.

Taffetas:—Taffetas with the soft chiffon finish, in high colors, are active; green, light blue, tan, brown and dull gold seem to be attracting considerable attention.

Persians:—This line of fabrics still maintains a forward position in the market, and the demand far exceeds the supply.

Grenadines:—These sheer fabrics are in great demand for the spring trade, and many new and novel stripe effects are being shown.

Voiles:—From all indications silk voiles will enjoy an unusual strong demand for spring wear, due to the use of the separate skirt, as favored by fashion. One of the new effects is a black ground with large dots, about three-eighths of an inch in diameter.

Brocades:—This line of fabrics is expected to be a strong factor in the spring trade, and the demand at present, seems to be for any good design and weave.

A fabric which is attracting considerable attention, is one which is finding extensive use in the millinery trade. It is an all gold ground silk fabric, with raised stripes and figures, in various colors, and is designed to be used for covering the crown of the hat, as well as trimmings.

Poblins:—are destined to be in much demand in a short time, as soon as the weather changes.

Considerable attention is being manifested in wool back satins for linings. They are looked upon as very favorable for spring trade, quite some business having been booked on light colors.

Another feature of the market is the increased