

# Posselt's Textile Journal

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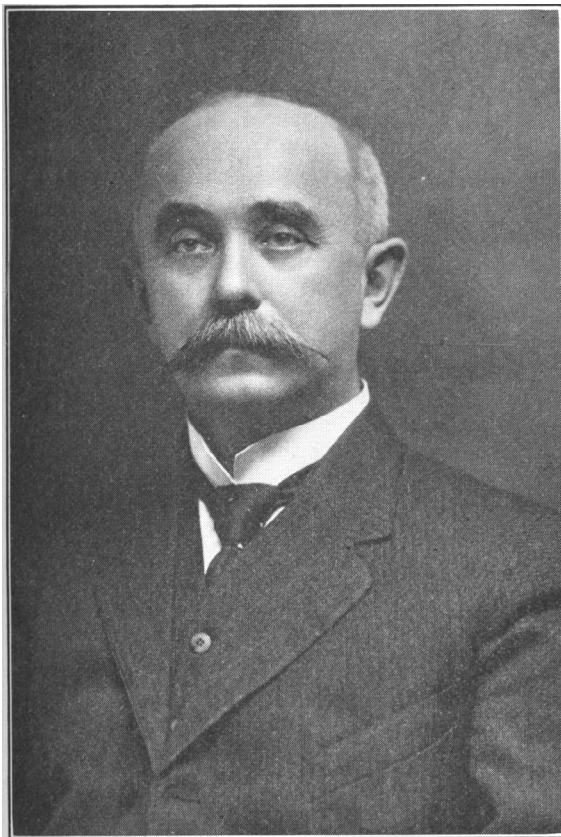
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No. 1

## IN MEMORY OF OUR EDITOR

It is with a feeling of great loss that we mourn the passing away, on June 28th, of our noted editor. Devoted to the best interests of the industry, in which in some respects he was a pioneer, he earned through dynamic energy and clear thinking the respect and friendship of students in every country producing textile materials and fabrics.

Born in Reichenberg, Austria, August 21, 1858, his



E. A. POSSELT.

career since early youth has been one of intense interest in the fascinating study of textiles. Graduating from technical schools in Europe he was then employed in his father's woolen and worsted mills. The evenings he devoted to the analyzing of samples of fabrics ranging from the plainest to those of the most intricate construction. The information derived by years of close study at that time and since, has been made available to the subscribers of this Journal and to the readers of the many text books which he has published. These now form a permanent part of practically every library where textile text books are to be found.

Coming to this country in 1878, Mr. Posselt entered the employ of the Worumbo Manufacturing Company at Lisbon Falls, Maine, and later became designer in the Germania Mills at Holyoke, Mass. Sometime after, he was sought by the Burlington Woolen Mills, now owned by the American Woolen Company, where he was designer and assistant superintendent.

On July 2d, 1884, he married Anna C. Pollinger of Winooski, Vermont, and in October of the same year moved to Philadelphia at the request of the late Thomas Dolan, who employed him as designer. It was during this year that the Philadelphia Textile School, the first of its kind in this country, came into being. The need for such an institution was awakened by the Centennial Exposition in 1876. That World's Fair held in Philadelphia in commemoration of the birth of freedom in this country, served to bring forcibly to the attention of American manufacturers the character of fabrics being produced here. They saw how crude, generally speaking, our products appeared compared with those exhibited by foreign nations. Our products lacked not only in construction features but in the finish as well. With the object primarily of encouraging the establishment of schools of design for industrial purposes, the Textile Association was organized in 1880. Thomas Dolan was one of the men who did much to make this association a real factor in accomplishing this end. In 1884 the Association had over a hundred individuals and firms enrolled to bring about the establishment of a school where textile instruction might be imparted. In the school, which began in the most humble way, Mr. Posselt was one of its first instructors, and was probably its first director, serving during those trying times until 1891 when, as a result of his intense application to work, his health failed and he resigned.

Slowly regaining in health he became associated with the Textile World Record, now the Textile World Journal, as one of the editors and later became publisher of various technical books, as well as establishing in 1907 the "Posselt's Textile Journal." From time to time he contributed technical articles to various magazines and was one of the technical authors of the Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary. He has taught many practical mill men in fundamentals as well as advanced methods of textile manufacture. His opinion was frequently sought by technical institutions and governments from all corners of the globe. That his advice and counsel has helped many is borne out by numerous expressions of gratitude. His wife and four children survive him.

As the pioneers of old, who courageously fought to accomplish better things for this world, so too, has he striven and many times sacrificed the comforts of life in his zeal to carry on the work of imparting to others knowledge that would further the advancement of the textile industry in this country. His loss is keenly felt by many.