

of colors, their blending, shading and contrasting, require both taste and skill; the two shuttle loom presented but little room for variation, but a wide field was soon opened by the addition of another shuttle. But although the three shuttle looms make a beautiful fabric and work well, yet by the shuttle moving up and down in a sliding box there is not that variation in the picking, which is requisite in the weaving of some patterns.

The idea suggested itself by Mr. Peacock more than a year ago, that the shuttles of the *check loom*, might be made to revolve on a cylinder in more numbers than by a sliding box; the same idea presented itself to another man at nearly the same time—Mr. Neal of Taunton, Mass., who invented the revolving box of the present four-shuttle loom; and for which he has got a patent in America and England. The great difference between the sliding box and the revolving one, is that more colors can be used in the weft by the latter than the former, consequently a greater variety of pattern.

The beauty of gingham depends upon the arrangement of colors; and according to their absorbing or reflective nature, a greater number of threads of the one and fewer of the other, may be required for correct blending and good contrast. Mr. Neal's loom was at fault in this respect, for his patterns were wrought by two notched wheels and they all presented a homely sameness of colors. But this difficulty is beautifully surmounted by the *check loom* at Ida Mills. Mr. Peacock, the agent of the factory, has invented a single pattern wheel which can weave a pattern from two, or two hundred and twenty pickings, as has been mentioned before: but the great beauty of the invention, is, that this wheel can be altered to work any pattern whatever. The pattern wheel is studded with moveable iron pinions, each pin has two pickings, and by removing one, two, or more, you can change the threads of the colors in endless variety; also when the revolving box has performed a semi-revolution, it can spring back, and two shuttles in this manner can make three stripes, one of blue may be bounded on each side by a stripe of orange. The first time we saw this loom, the pattern wheel struck us as being the most beautiful invention; at that time we did not know that Mr. Peacock was the inventor, and we consider that it is an act of justice to notice the invention in so special a manner; for he has not taken out a patent although advised to do so by no less a personage than Mr. Benjamin Walcott of York Mills; this article will therefore prevent any other person who may hereafter claim the invention. It was in Ida Mills where the pattern of gingham was wove, which took the gold medal at the last New York State Fair.

From the opinion of Mr. Peacock, (and he is a gentleman of great experience, knowledge and skill,) the loom can be greatly improved, but from the principles on which it is formed, it is calculated to produce an entire revolution in power loom weaving. The hint and advice of Mr. Walcott speaks volumes in its praise; yet unless the machinery is correct to an hair breadth, there is no profit to the weaver or manufacturer.

New Check Loom.

The *Mechanics' Mirror*, for February, notices a new machine of this description, the invention of Mr. Peacock, of *Ida Mills*, Troy, which promises to be of much utility. The *Mirror* says:

Of its originality there is no doubt; in the simplicity and beauty of its operations, there is no ambiguity; its advantages, time alone will fully develop.

When we remember, that but eight years ago, there was not a *check loom* in this State, and when in the year following, James Allen bro't his check loom into this country, it was looked upon as something extraordinary; and when we now reflect that but two colors could be wove equally by it in the weft, and that now, no less than four colors can be wove and with a variation of from two, to two hundred and twenty pickings; well may we be surprised at the rapid improvement, we should say, at the leaps made since then in the progress and perfection of power loom weaving.

Very good ginghams could be manufactured by the two shuttle loom of Mr. Allen, but there was not enough of variation in the colors, and to give a great variety of shades in the warp, the fabric will neither be correct nor chaste; there must be a balancing of the shades in crossing, or the work looks disproportioned and untastefully executed. There is nearly as large a field for the display of taste and skill in gingham, as in harness loom weaving. The choice