

tion. A vote having been taken, the suggestion was negated. It was afterwards agreed that a Committee of the Association, along with a representative from each calendar, should wait on the masters and state that the workmen declined to arbitrate, and adhered to their demand for an increase of wages.

Forfar.

A meeting of the Forfar manufacturers was held on Wednesday to consider the wages dispute. The following notice was posted up that night at six o'clock at the various jute mills:—"We regret to have to intimate that this factory will be stopped on Thursday, the 18th October, until further notice. This step has been forced upon us in self-defence by the action of the officials of the Factory Workers' Union, who are responsible for all consequences, as they have publicly declared, in connection with the strike at Manor Works, their intention to strike at one factory after another until they have forced an advance of 5 per cent. all round. Our reasons for refusing any advance of wages at present are (1) want of orders to take off production, (2) the low prices at which orders have to be taken, and (3) the large and increasing stock held by us."

IRELAND.

Belfast.

The Belfast Ropeworks Company (Limited), have been awarded a gold medal for their exhibits at the Paris exhibition.

The York-street Flax Spinning and Weaving Company (Limited), Belfast, have been awarded the grand prize at the Paris Exhibition for their linen and other textile fabrics.

An Exhibition of Irish Industries and Art is being held this week, in the Ulster Hall, Belfast. In addition to carved woodwork, jewellery, decorative work, &c., woollen and other textile manufactures are exhibited, with large quantities of manufactured goods, boots and shoes, &c., &c. The Exhibition was opened by the Right Hon. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P.

A fire occurred last week in the laundry of McGrath and Company's shirt and collar works, Donegal-street, Belfast, which was got under with some difficulty. The stores of Messrs. John Hogg and Company, flax merchants, Academy-street, had a narrow escape, the fire brigade being only just in time to prevent the flames spreading to the latter premises.

Castlewellan.

The strike amongst a section of the employes at Messrs. Murland's bleachworks has been brought to a termination, the dispute, which was one of wages, having been settled by a compromise.

Donegal.

The Donegal Industrial Fund have been very successful at the Paris Exhibition, where they have been awarded a bronze medal for their linen fabrics, a silver medal for lace and embroideries, and honourable mention for their under-clothing and hosiery.

Dungannon, Co. Tyrone.

The new flax market at Dungannon has been opened with every prospect of permanent success. Flax has been sent in on two successive market days in large quantities from the scutchmills for ten miles round. There has been a fair attendance of buyers. The quality offered has been very fair, and the prices realised have been satisfactory to the sellers.

Newtownards.

Mr. J. Stevenson, of Messrs. Stevenson, Ledgerwood and Company, hosiery manufacturers, Newtownards, has taken out a patent for "improvements in knitting machines."

Omagh.

The opening of a new factory is contemplated at Omagh, and a committee has been appointed to inquire and report as to the most suitable industry to be taken up. It is said that the new enterprise is likely to take the shape of woollen spinning and weaving works.

AMERICAN NOTES.

A comparatively new firm of silk manufacturer in Paterson have just booked an order for 800 pieces of surah, equivalent to about 50,000 yards.

Among the woollen mills, many large corporations are running briskly, and several instances have come to hand of the capacities of factories, running on certain kinds of goods, being enlarged. The knitting and hosiery mills seem to be doing well, and are reported as especially busy throughout New York State and Pennsylvania. Instances of a few new hosiery companies commencing to build are to hand, and many other factories are already under process of erection.

The contract for the building of the cotton mill at Kearney has been signed, and the work is to begin very soon. The mill will have a capacity of about 25,000 spindles, employing 800 or 900 people. The raising of so large a sum of money in a place the size of Kearney (Nebraska) is something remarkable.

Five cotton mills in the New England States that had been partially shut down during the summer months, or running on summer time, have now started on full time with every prospect of good business ahead. Instances throughout the country of new companies forming to erect new mills are not infrequent, and a number of cotton corporations are commencing to enlarge their capacities. This feature of the cotton manufacturing situation is very noticeable just at present, and the statement is made that nearly every cotton company in the South seems to be enlarging its mills; certainly if shipments of cotton machinery from the North to the Southern States can be taken as any indication, the statement cannot be far from the truth.

THE DECISION ON SECONDS.

After a consideration of the whole question and the arguments laid before him, Collector Echardt has made his decision in regard to the disagreement between the Merchant and General Appraisers as to the market value of certain woollen cloths alleged to be "seconds." The Collector says: "After a careful examination of the testimony submitted, both written and oral, I am satisfied that it is the usual practice at the foreign markets from which these cloths are imported to show imperfections therein by strings rather than by a reduction in price of the whole line. The Merchant Appraiser and General Appraiser are in accord as to the principle involved, but as the Merchant Appraiser wholly fails to give any legal or satisfactory reason for his conclusion, I am constrained to adopt and do hereby concur in the finding of the General Appraiser." It is understood that the importers, who by the way believe that they have not had fair play in this matter, will at once take their cases into court. In a little while the number of cases against the Government by the importers will make a catalogue as long as the moral law. According to the provisions of the law, this decision is final as regards the particular invoices involved, but cannot bind importers as regards their future course in similar cases.

THE WOOL CONFERENCE.

The resolutions passed at the meeting of the Committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, held at Boston on the 17th September, give the wool growers every assurance that the Association is prepared to leave the fixing of the wool duties, within due bounds, to them. It was shown pretty conclusively that neither free wool nor even *ad valorem* duties were at present obtainable by the manufacturers, and the resolutions therefore declare that the fixing of the rates of duty may be left to the good sense of Congress, provided that proper compensating duties be levied on the goods. No attempt was made to improve the present wool schedule. Two points, however, the manufacturers have made especially clear. The fences in the present clause fixing the duty on wools are not only the cause of much complication, but a continuous temptation to undervaluation. The Association has therefore declared in favour of a simpler and uniform rate of duty. Against the increase of sixty per cent. in the duty on carpet wools, proposed by Mr. Columbus Delano, or any increase in the present duty on carpet wools, the manufacturers have resolutely set their faces. In spite of the strong arguments in favour of free carpet wool which appear in the last bulletin of the Association, no action in its favour was taken. The attention of carpet manufacturers was, however, called to the use of carpet wools in clothing, and an attempt is likely to be made to outline a policy which shall appeal alike to wool growers and carpet manufacturers before the general meeting of the Association on October 2nd. From different quarters, however, the resolutions of the Committee are denounced as "meaningless platitudes," "a masterly failure to grasp the situation," and so forth. The *United States Economist* declares that they only reiterate the obsolete sentiment that the wool growers must sit down at the first table at the tariff banquet, if the wool manufacturers are to be allowed to pick up its crumbs. The latter experiment, it continues, has been tried for six years, and the woollen manufacturers have lost flesh under it. "Do they," it adds, "want to continue it? We think not." Governor Ames, of Massachusetts, following in the same strain, avows that to the manufacturer "it is not a question of politics; it is a question of life or death." The *Chicago Tribune* is undoubtedly right when it says that "Plainly the wool growers of the South-west and the wool manufacturers of the North-east are coming into direct collision."

Society of Arts Lectures.

EGYPTIAN TAPESTRY.

By ALAN S. COLE.

(Continued from page 382.)

It was no doubt as much for warmth as well as for variety in texture, that a certain class of linen textiles was produced with a shaggy surface corresponding with that of modern bath towels. Here, for instance, is a specimen of such material: the ancient production and employment of which have been treated at considerable length by Monsieur Heuzey in a recent number of the *Revue Archeologique*. His researches are of such interest, and have so close a bearing upon the shaggy-surfaced textiles taken from Akhmin, that I have ventured to make a brief *resumé* of them. They develop suggestions as to a Greek textile called *kaunakes*, which occur in the *Onymasticon* by Pollux. Of this author, having similar inclinations as Pliny, but writing a hundred years later, it is interesting to note that he was a native of the old Greek town of Naukratis, in Egypt, and that his references therefore to textiles seem to throw light upon those from Akhmin.



FIG. 1.

Tufted or shaggy-faced woven linen (from Akhmin) similar to the *kaunakes*, or *phloccia*, of the Greeks, and *guzaspum* of the Romans.

Monsieur Heuzey produces good reasons for believing that shaggy-faced textiles similar to the one before us were manufactured 2,000 years B.C. Many of the little Chaldean cylinders are engraved with figures, some of which wear crinkled or pleated-looking garments. The same character is seen in sculptures from Nimroud. The conventional renderings of hairy surfaces, such as manes of lions, have led Monsieur Heuzey to the conclusion that these apparent crinkles and pleats are conventional renderings of shaggy-surfaced stuffs—representations in fact of series of loops or fringes. Now Pollux, in writing of the *kaunakes* material, refers to dialogues upon this textile which pass between Philocleon and Bdelycleon, two characters in the "Wasps" of Aristophanes. Bdelycleon is pressing his friend to wear a shaggy mantle. "Some," he says, "call it a Persian cloak, others a *kaunakes*." Philocleon fancies it to be a Thymetan wrapper—the ancient village of Thymetes in Greece being noted at that time for the manufacture of shaggy or rough material known there as *siyra*. "No wonder," retorts Bdelycleon, who displays a great deal of knowledge about these fabrics, "for you cannot have been to Sardis, or you would have known better." Mantles, like the one he is offering are, he explains, made at Ecbatana—hence the reason for calling them Persian. "What," says his companion, referring to the rows of loops on the mantle, "is woollen tripe made at Ecbatana?" Upon which Bdelycleon, taking him literally, rejoins, "By no means, my good sir; this is woven by the barbarians at a great expense; of a surety this very mantle must have required a talent of wool in its making." "Pray, then," asks Philocleon, "ought we not more properly to call it wool consumer than *kaunakes*?" From which Monsieur Heuzey concludes that the

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make of *kaunakes* was similar to that of the wool consumer made by the barbarians at Ecbatana. A figure of Perso-Assyrian sculpture at Parsagadæ, dating before Alexander's conquests in the district, wears a shaggy-faced robe, and this whilst possibly representing the "wool consuming" fabric is distinctly of the same character as the shaggy weaving from Akhmim. The *phlocata* of the Greeks, in use in some parts of Greece at the present day, also would correspond with the "wool consumer," as well as in a degree with the *kaunakes*. Hesychius writes of one class of *kaunakes* as being *etero-malla*, or shaggy on one side only. Pliny, moreover, writes, "I, myself, recollect the *amphi-malla* (a material shaggy on both sides), and the long shaggy apron being introduced, but at the present day the *lati-clave* tunic is beginning to be manufactured in imitation of the *gausapa*." The *gausapa* was usually a woollen textile, something like a felt or flannel. But it was also made of linen, and then with a shaggy surface. Now, here is a fragment of a *lati-clave* tunic from Akhmim, made of linen. It is probably of the material which the Greeks would have called *kaunakes*, and the Romans *amphi-malla*, and perhaps *gausapa*. Monsieur Heuzey showed a specimen of the shaggy linen material from Akhmim to the director of the Gobelins Tapestry Works, and he at once identified its manufacture as one in which modern tapestry weavers would employ what is traditionally known to them as the Saracenic knot. The peculiarity of covering the face of a textile with series of loops enters into the manufacture of velvet. In that case the loops are very small and ranged closely together; they are cut through, and so form the pile. A further modification of what seems to be the classic *kaunakes* is to be noted in other specimens from Akhmim, in which the ranks of loops are wide apart, with intervening linen between them, as in this specimen.

I now pass to another sort of a textile from Akhmim. The work on this linen appears to have been done with a needle. The loops here are made of worsted; they are much shorter, and compacted more closely together, than the linen loops of the *kaunakes*. The texture of this roundel, inclosing a star device worked with close short loops of worsted, has some resemblance to that of a Turkey carpet. The method of making a carpet, however, is quite different from this embroidery.

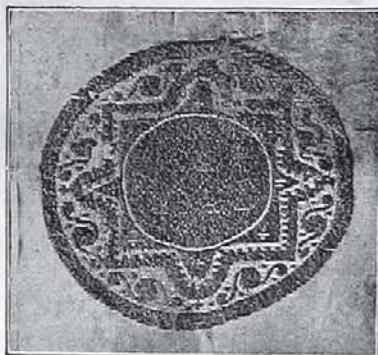


FIG. 2.

Looped Worsted Embroidery on Stout Linen; from Akhmim.

It appears from fragments found together at Akhmim, that small lengths of reed were used to regulate the size of the loops. Here are photographs of the fragments in question. The linen to be embroidered with short loops of worsted was probably first stretched out in a frame. A reed was then fastened by a stitch or two to the face of the linen at the place where the loops were to be worked. The needle, charged with worsted or flax, was then pushed through from the under side of the linen close to one side of the reed; the worsted was then brought over the reed, and the needle pushed down through the face of the linen close to the spot where it had entered the linen from underneath. Thus a loop around the reed had been worked, and the successive loops were similarly made. The reed was then withdrawn, and so a rank of loops was left standing on the face of the linen. The small fragment below shows the reeds or little sticks still enveloped by loops of worsted.

But embroidery of this description was made with finer worsted in smaller loops, and probably without the intervention of small reeds. A corner of a cloth worked in this way is at the British Museum, having been presented to the Museum by Mr. Greville Chester, who has visited Egypt and investigated the textiles and embroideries taken not only from Akhmim, but also from other buria places further north, at which weaving and em-

broidery were produced of the same character as at Akhmim. I am glad to be able to show you the British Museum embroidery in this photograph. The colours in the original are bright. The two little winged figures are wrought in flesh colour. The one on the left has blue and green wings, and wears a drapery of red. The drapery of that on the right is blue and green. They are rowing in a fancifully shaped boat, the upturned ends of which are according to Egyptian tradition. Below the prow, on the right, part of a fish is visible; on the other side is a rose-bud, elsewhere buds are to be seen. The border consists of green and coloured leafage, with a man's face in a roundel at the corner. The style of ornament and treatment is more Roman than Egyptian. We might imagine that some Græco-Roman designer, possibly of the time of Cleopatra, had drawn and coloured the pattern, and that it had been worked by an Egyptian embroiderer. The character of the design is such, however, as might also belong to a century or so later. Yates, in his *Texturum Antiquorum*, quotes a passage from the life of the Emperor Carinus (3rd century, A.D.), by Flavius Vopiscus, "Why should I mention the linen cloths brought from Egypt . . . prized on account of their laboured embroidery." And it can be well understood that such an embroidered linen as the one before us would be prized by a Roman of that time.

The third and most numerous represented section of Akhmim textiles, is that in which, to quote Herodotus, patterns are wrought into the linen. The process employed for such inwoven ornament is the same as that which

through the teeth of which the warp threads pass. The separate designs grow rapidly under the skilful fingers. That wrought by Minerva represented her genius in producing a shoot of pale olive with berries by touching the earth with her spear, and Neptune's magic art in causing a horse to spring from a rock which he strikes with his trident. At the four corners of this central group of figures she introduced combats of gods with mortals, and between these placed bands of olive branches. Arachne, on the other hand, depicted a series of episodes in the amours of the gods, or as Minerva stigmatised them, "the criminal acts of the gods of heaven," and surrounded them with a border of ivy leaf garlands interlaced with flowers. The competition is apparently terminated in an abrupt manner by Minerva, who, incensed at the subjects depicted by Arachne, rends the weaving in pieces, and strikes the hapless mortal on the head three or four times with her bobbins. This degradation is too much for Arachne, who forthwith proceeds to hang herself. She is suspended in mid-air from a tree, when Minerva changes her into a spider, "and as such Arachne works at her web as formerly." Poetical imagination takes no account of the time which ordinary mortals would have consumed before they could have made much appreciable progress with such elaborately patterned tapestries. The realism of the scene is enforced, however, by Ovid's precision in describing the weaving operations. It is certain that he must have been thoroughly conversant with them, either through personal observation of what was surely an everyday occupation at his time, or from informa-

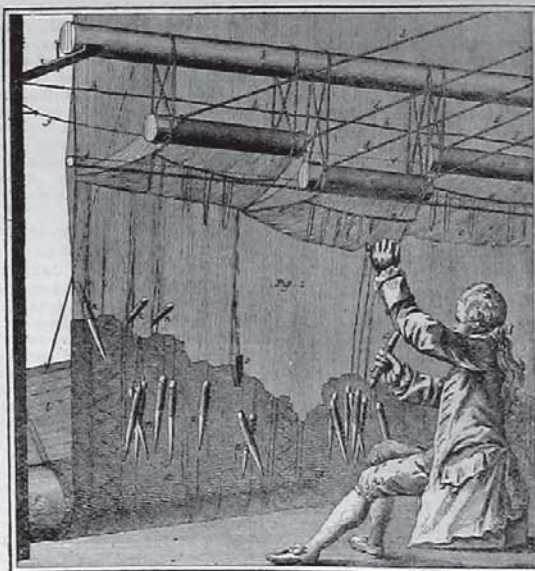


FIG. 3.

Gobelins Tapestry Weaver, 18th century.

was used by the great Flemish weavers, on a far larger scale, for making their splendid war tapestries, and is now commonly known as the tapestry-weaving or Gobelins process. It is quite distinct from weaving in a loom with a shuttle. It is minutely described by Ovid in his story of Minerva and Arachne. (*Metamorphoses* VI., 55, 69.)

Arachne was the daughter of Idmon, a Lydian dyer, and was noted for her skill in all sorts of wool work—in spinning, weaving, and embroidering; but she denied being under any obligation to Minerva for her skill in these arts. So assured was she of her supreme ability, that she confidently exclaimed, "Let the goddess contend with me. There is nothing which, if conquered, I should refuse to endure." Accordingly Minerva disguised as an old woman comes to her and urges her to hearken to advice: "Let the greatest fame for working wool be sought by thee amongst mortals; but yield to the goddess, rash woman, and ask pardon for thy speeches." Spurning this advice, Arachne demands why the goddess does not come herself? Why does she decline a contest? Then casting aside the figure of an old woman Minerva reveals herself, "Lo! she is come." Arachne, unabashed, repeats her challenge, which the daughter of Jupiter accepts. There is no delay; they both take their stand at different places, and stretch out two webs with fine warp. The web is tied around the beam, the batten separates the web, the wool is inserted with pointed bobbins hurried along by the fingers, and being drawn within the warp is struck down with the comb,

tion derived from some practised worker. We may test Ovid's accuracy by means of diagrams taken from a last century dictionary of manufactures. These diagrams show us the process of tapestry weaving at the Gobelins factory, which is the same to the present day.

In Fig. 3 we have a frame with its web of warp threads, and a man passing a bobbin thread in between and around them. Fig. 4 is another diagram of the worker using a comb to compress the weavings of the bobbin threads. These diagrams refer to work on a somewhat larger scale than that apparently adopted by Minerva and Arachne.

The Egyptians of Akhmim, who made use of a precisely similar process, did so for a great deal of work wrought on a far smaller scale in comparatively small frames. Here we have a diagram of an old Egyptian frame, and workmen arranging it for weaving. Above it is a hieroglyphic, which includes amongst other signs, a bobbin pointed at both ends, and indented and rounded at the centre to carry thread, and pass easily between and around the warp. Near the bobbin is a comb for compressing the weaving. The bobbin and the comb are the principal implements in this process.

As I have said, ornamental weavings from Akhmim, by means of this bobbin and comb method, were inwrought chiefly with worsteds into linens. Where the ornament was to appear the linen weaver left spaces crossed by warp threads only—a feature

in employing the process which was noticeable in the Greek weavings from Kouban already mentioned. I now display a diagram (Fig. 5), of linen from Akhmim woven in the same way with ornament. Parts of the worsted ornaments have been eaten away. The old law or custom of Egypt proscribed the use of wool in burial dresses, "in consequence of its engendering worms" (Wilkinson). Thus the presence of worsted in these Akhmim textiles shows at least that they were made for persons who were not bound by traditional Egyptian custom, such, for instance, as Greeks, Romans, and Christian Copts. The partial disappearance of the wool testifies to the wisdom of the Egyptians in taking precautions against the engendering of worms in the tombs. At the same time, this disappearance of the wool has enabled us to clearly trace the flax warp threads across the open spaces of the linen. Upon these flax warps the wool was originally twisted. On the back of most of the worsted weavings we have the wet flax threads lying loose.

Other specimens of Akhmim tapestry weavings may perhaps have been made separately and then sewn on to linen, as in this specimen. Such *appliqué* work would be well suited to embellishing a somewhat worn linen robe. The Romans certainly had such a fashion, as Pliny remarks, "that a garment when it has been worn for some time is often embroidered with wool from Egypt." We have noted the important part which a comb, for compressing the weaving, plays in the process. This, as Ovid has proved, was thoroughly understood by Romans in the 1st century B.C., and Martial refers also to it in one of his epigrams, where he writes of a cloth, "The land of Memphis makes you this present. The Babylonian needle is now surpassed by the comb of the Nile."

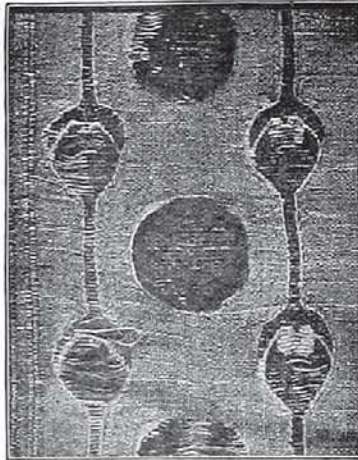


FIG. 5.

Piece of linen with coloured worsted tapestry weavings.

Before leaving the subject of tapestry-weaving or comb work for the ornamentation of costumes and linen cloths, coverlets, &c., I should like incidentally to direct your notice to the remarkably interesting specimens of identical manufacture which, like those of Akhmim, have been taken from graves or tombs sunk in the sandy soil of a more southerly latitude than Upper Egypt, but on the opposite side of the world—I allude to Peru. The Necropolis of Ancon—near the Pacific Coast and to the north of Lima—has been explored of recent years. It is the first of such Peruvian burial-places which has been investigated. Ancon was the settlement of a comparatively poor population.

The system of burial in vogue there during the Inca empire, and the soil and climate, have contributed to the preservation of a great number of ornamental textiles, woven in identically the same manner as the Akhmim specimens. The patterns, however, are ruder, although some of the details even are similar.

Here is a specimen in which a Greek key pattern occurs. This pattern, however, is virtually universal, and is as much the property of the Greeks as it is of the Chinese. Here is the figure possibly of an Inca chieftain carrying the head of one of his victims. And here is a characteristic Peruvian ornament in which we can detect the Greek wave pattern, which, like the key pattern, belongs entirely to no one nation.

The circumstances under which the early Peruvians wove such textiles as those just seen, must extend over periods to tell the story of which would

undoubtedly require a separate lecture; I do not, therefore, propose to touch upon them. But I may perhaps say that the various articles taken from the Peruvian graves at Ancon have been photographed, and a large work in sixteen folios containing coloured fac-similes of them, has been published by Messrs. Asher and Co., with the aid of the General Administration of the Royal Museums of Berlin.

Besides the textiles we have considered this evening, fragments of elaborately patterned silks have been brought from Akhmim and elsewhere in Egypt. For the most part, these silks are of a Syrian and Byzantine character. Some are reproductions of patterns wrought in the worsted and flax tapestry weavings. It is possible that such silks date from about the 6th or 7th century, when the use of silk in Europe was becoming general. Within present limits I find that I shall not be able to treat more fully of these silks.

Briefly put, the points of this evening's lecture are as follows:—A variety of textiles is discovered at Akhmim, in Upper Egypt. Between the seventh century B.C. to the seventh century A.D., this place, like others in Egypt, has been subjected to foreign influences, such as Persian, Greek, Roman, Syrian, and Arabian or Saracenic. These influences have left their marks upon the production of local artisans skilled in processes of textile manufacture and embroidery, the art of which they inherited from their fore-fathers, the ancient Egyptians of Bible history. Other and later nations were also versed in many of these processes. We have seen shaggy-surfaced linens from Akhmim which correspond with similar stuffs made by Assyrians, Persians, Greeks, and Romans. We have noted Akhmim worsted embroideries which, according to Roman writers of the Augustan period, were apparently well known to the Romans of that age. We have found that a tapestry-weaving process, in which a hand-comb is an important implement, was used by old Egyptians, Greeks, and Akhmim weavers, as well as by Peruvians; and from this fact, coupled with other of identical character in respect of the Indians, Chinese, and natives of Islands like Borneo, the deduction is fairly made that this tapestry-weaving process is amongst the earliest of ornamental textile processes. It is early in date when traced in connection with historic peoples, and early in usage with people of primitive culture. It was extensively used by weavers at Akhmim, at the beginning of the Christian era, for the decoration of articles of costume and of hangings. The Romans employed it for textile pictures, as Ovid has told us. We know that for making similar things it has been for more than 300 years, and still is, in use at the Gobelin's manufactory. We know, too, that we are indebted to it for the examples handed down to us of those gorgeous wall hangings which bedecked the halls and castles of European countries between the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries.

From the earliest to the latest times known to us there have been ebbs and flows in the tide of human skill in processes for making textiles. Whilst modifications have been introduced into them at different times, the principles of them have remained the same throughout.

My first lecture having dealt chiefly with the processes, my second will relate to ornamental designs as interpreted at Akhmim by those processes. Next Monday, therefore, I propose to bring before you a number of examples made at Akhmim. They exhibit a great variety of patterns and dress ornaments, and by comparing them with similar ornaments in things of which the dates of production are authenticated, I hope to establish approximate dates of the manufacture of the Akhmim specimens.

Textile Markets.

REPORTED BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

COTTON.

MANCHESTER, FRIDAY.

The week included in this report has been one of the most remarkable in the history of the cotton trade. The cotton corner, which has weighed so heavily upon the market for the past three months, expired by effluxion of time at 12 o'clock noon on Monday last. To the surprise of almost everybody its collapse commenced some hours earlier. The speculators who were holding for extreme rates got frightened immediately after the opening of the market, and prices for futures fell $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. before noon—that is from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., which had to be

tendered to the contracts or the difference paid along with a penalty before 12 o'clock struck. The consequence was that transactions "spots" were utterly neglected and the greatest excitement prevailed up to noon when the climax was reached. This breakdown was very satisfactory to the trade, as it will enable a normal condition to be attained at the sooner than if the descent had to be made from 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. It is trusted that in the course of a week or ten days there will be a general resumption of work and of business in the mills and in the market.

Futures: The market was unsettled in the early part of the week, with considerable fluctuation in prices; but on Thursday and Friday the tone has been steadier, and the closing values show a decline of $\frac{1}{8}$ d. to $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. from last Thursday's circular rates. The closing values are—Delivery: American, any port, l.m.c., October, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; October-November, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; November-December, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; December-January, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; January-February, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; February-March, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; March-April, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; April-May, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; May-June, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; June-July, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. The following transaction has taken place in East Indian—Shipment: Fine new machine-ginned broach, January-February, c.i.f., 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb.

WOOL AND WOOLLEN GOODS.

BRADFORD.

The wool market has a cheerful tone. An active business is doing in most classes of wool, especially in Botany and all wools of the lustre class. Prices of English wools are firmly maintained. Botany wools, if anything, are stiffer in price. Mohair and alpaca are in fair request, at firm rates. There is no material alteration in the yarn market. Spinners are well engaged at firm prices. A steady business is doing in two-fold yarns of different qualities, and quotations are rather more regular than has been the case of late. The piece market is without change. For the time of the year there is a steady and satisfactory business doing in most classes of fabrics. The demand for the American market is rather less active. A considerable business is doing for the home market. There is no improvement in the demand for the East.

HALIFAX.

There is a steady, cheerful condition of things in the wool branch, with rates very firm and users more ready to supply their wants, though there is little or no speculative buying. There is rather more doing in the yarn branch, spinners being well employed. In the finer descriptions of yarns for the home market a fairly large business is being done, and rather better prices are obtainable. In the piece branch there is very little change on the week; on the whole machinery is well employed.

Huddersfield.

Buyers representing London shippers and Irish houses have been in the market, and made fairly good purchases. Orders are coming in steadily and regularly; the demand for medium goods is increasing, and for fancies in fine worsteds is well maintained. Manufacturers are asking higher prices, to which, in the case of fine worsteds, merchants are submitting, but it is more difficult for makers of mixtures and tweeds to get the advance. The spring trade has so far been a remarkably good one. The shipping trade is brisk both for the Continent and the United States, and Canada. Yarn spinners are busy.

LEEDS.

Very few buyers have been in the market this week. A few local men have left small orders here and there, and by post a few winter repeat orders have come to hand. A very large trade is going on all round at the mills. The best makers of serges find it impossible to turn out the quantity required by the clothiers, who have placed unusually large orders during the past week for these goods, and more looms are being added constantly for their production. There is a general sprinkling of orders for mantles and cloakings. In silk plushes and seals the demand is fair. Tweeds, both better and medium, remain unaltered. Prints are a turn better. The clothiers are fully up to the