

wild and is of very high quality, and labor is cheap. Germany has already given some encouragement to cotton cultivation in East Africa.

—Can it be that the day of binder twine is about over? It does not seem long since the self-binder came into use, thereby creating a market for twine, and building up a new industry in which thousands of dollars have been and are being invested. Now we hear of a header which goes through the harvest fields at the rate of forty acres a day, and clips off the heads of grain, dumping them into a wagon which bears them off to the barn, thereby doing away with any necessity for binding. Conditions change rapidly nowadays, and it may be that the binder twine factories may have to turn their attention in some other direction.

—Regarding the use of flax for binder twine, a wealthy firm of Chicago engineers and contractors, holding an interest in a number of patent processes, have established a flax fibre plant in northern Michigan, and are now planning to put up another near Chanute, Kan. They expect to follow this with one in southern Minnesota. They are now supplying the International Harvester Company to the extent of their present ability. The future of flax twine will of course depend to a large extent upon the cost of sisal and manilla fibre. In the United States flax twine can be produced at less than sisal at present prices, while in Canada the handicap on manilla fibre should make flax come far cheaper.

—A German gentleman, Herr Bocker, of high commercial standing, who recently made a tour in America and has published a report of his visit, remarks therein upon the extraordinary resources of the country. He expresses the belief that the enormous progress of the United States in the last decade will continue at an increasing ratio, and that America will still find the largest market for her industrial production within her own borders. We are not aware whether H. Bocker visited Canada, and whether he includes us when he speaks of America, but we hope he does, and there is no reason to doubt that his remarks as to progress hold good as applied to Canada. Our fiscal policy should be such as to keep as far as possible Canada for the Canadians. H. Bocker also points out certain lessons which Germany can learn from America, among which are the specialization of industry, the reduction of cost through the use of labor-saving machinery, and the distribution of work among affiliated companies. The first two always hold good, the last is being practised in Canada through such amalgamations as the Canada Woolen Mills Co., and the Canada Furniture Co.

## DELEGATES TO CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE CONGRESS.

Among the delegates to the recent Congress of Chambers of Congress of the Empire at Montreal, were the following who are interested in the textile trades: J. S. Booth, a cloth manufacturer, at Wakefield, England, who exports extensively to Canada. He commenced business as a cloth manufacturer in 1867, bought Castle Bank Mills, Wakefield, in 1869, and removed the entire business there in 1870. The premises are admirably situated on the banks of the river Calder; W. E. Cooper, a leather manufacturer in India, and a Government contractor for the supply of boots to the army; F. W. Cook, Dudley, England, governing director of the wholesale and retail dry goods establishment of F. W. Cook, founded in the year of Queen Victoria's birth; Henry Darler, Luton, an able controversialist, who recently took part in the discussion on the new German tariff in its application to the bleaching industry, his views being bitterly criticized in the German newspapers; Elijah Helm, Manchester, who has an extensive practical knowledge of industrial and commercial affairs at home and abroad, particularly of the cotton industry; Amos Crabtree, Bradford, one of the largest mohair merchants in the trade and a recognized authority on mohair; D. Marshall and H. W. Macalister, Oldham, both largely interested in the cotton trade in the Oldham district, as well as in the making of cotton spinning machinery; Alex. McRobert, Cawnpore, India, who imports much Australian wool; George Ordish, Luton, England, manufacturer of straw hats, and a large exporter to Canada; J. Peate, Leeds, a very extensive woollen manufacturer; W. Horsfall, Halifax, England, owner of one of the largest manufactories in the district, which is also one of the largest of its kind in the Kingdom, sending blankets to almost all parts of the world, and turning out some ten thousand per week; Fred. Ordish, Luton, engaged in the straw goods trade; Geo. Wigley, Nottingham, senior partner of the firm of Geo. Wigley & Son, silk merchants and throwsters, of Nottingham, Derby, Calais and Chemnitz; John Hunter, Derby, at first an engineer, but later became assistant to his father, the late John Hunter, then a partner in the firm of W. G. and J. Strut, cotton spinners of Belper, established in 1776. He succeeded his father as partner in the firm, and on its absorption by the English Sewing Cotton Co., was a director for three years, 1897-1900; James Glen, Greenock, local manager of the British Linen Co. Bank; John Falconer, Dover, England, who served an apprenticeship as a tailor at Aberdeen, afterwards going to London, where he worked as a journeyman and as a cutter, in some of the best West End shops, till an opportunity occurred for him to start on his own account in Dover, in the year 1872, now senior partner of the firm of Falconer & Sons, civil, military and ladies' tailors and outfitters; A. P. Arnold Forster, Burley-in-Wharfedale, Leeds, delegate from Bradford, worsted spinner and manufacturer; Hugh Helm, Manchester, a cotton spinner and manufacturer and merchant, who has written much during the last thirty years on industrial, commercial and economic subjects; W. J. Jackson, Belfast, managing director of the Northern Linen Company, Belfast, and president of the Linen Merchants' Association.

## ALIZARINE AS A SUBSTITUTE.

It is many years since alizarine blue was first presented to the dyeing world as a superior substitute for natural indigo says the Textile Excelsior, but, although it possesses good qualities, it has not yet succeeded in rivalling it. Each of the