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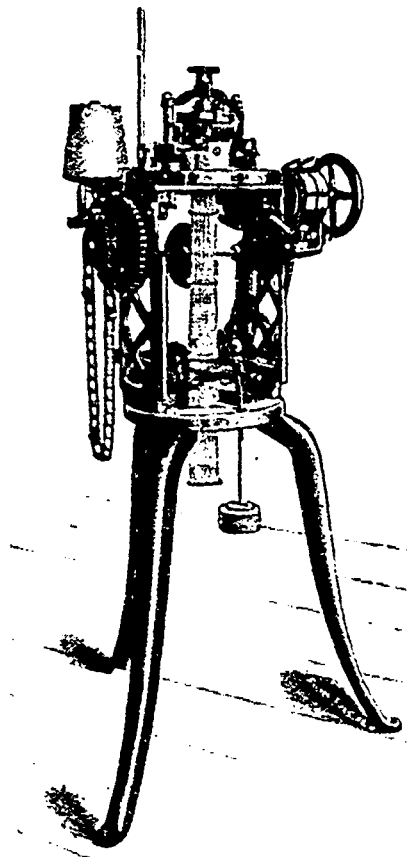
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—As a result of the great success of the Bradford Dyers' Association a strong movement is on foot for effecting a similar combination of the calico printers of England and Scotland. The Dyer and Calico Printer reports. It is estimated that the number of machines employed in this important home industry is about 900, and manufacturers representing 600 machines have, as a result of meetings which have already been held in Manchester and Glasgow under the auspices of the Calico Printers' Association, expressed their willingness to join in such a combination as is proposed. It is roughly calculated that a capital of from £9,000,000 to £10,000,000 will be required to float the new concern. We understand that the lines of the Bradford Association will be closely followed and that the leaders of the movement are sanguine as to a successful result.

—The excellent annual report on trade prepared by the London Times sums up that on the whole 1898 has been a fairly prosperous year to the textile trade of Great Britain, the fourth in succession since the improvement set in in 1894. One of the most prosperous industries has been the cotton trade. Spinning has been more active and more profitable than for many years past, and a considerable amount of new plant was put in operation. Many new mills are also being erected, probably too many. In the past a period of high profits in the Lancashire spinning trade has usually been brought to an end by excessive creation of new spindles. The weaving department has also done well, though not so well as the spinning branch of the staple trade of the County Palatine. Most minor textile trades, except the Belfast flax and linen departments, and jute in Dundee, have been fairly active and lucrative. The Dundee linen manufacturers are fairly well satisfied, and even in Belfast signs of improvement were perceptible towards the close of the year.

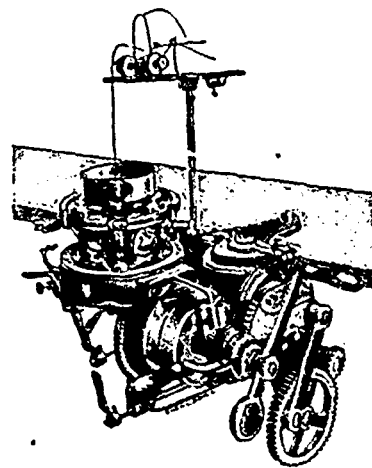
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