

The cotton company has a house in which he may live for a time. The way in which he can own a home is made plain to him, and when once he has taken the first step in this direction he is initiated into the ways of Adams mills and becomes a member of the great big family which has W. B. Plunkett for its head and guiding spirit. "We want the people to live in houses of their own," said Mr. Plunkett, "and in consequence of this policy you will find no long rows of dingy brick or wooden structures on the company's land. Home life is necessary to contentment and contentment is necessary to proper social conditions. We encourage thrift and good habits among the people working here and enter into their lives as freely as possible. While many tell me that Adams is a model working town, we have done nothing that is extraordinary nor attempted to bring about any idealistic conditions. The situation here is simply the outgrowth of the principle that a man is a man and not a machine." When asked to explain the system along which he conducted his big mills and the relations existing between the corporation and its 3,500 workers, he smiled and said: "We seldom talk of these things and never for publication."

Mr. Plunkett reminds us very much of a gentleman who, on a smaller scale, is doing a similar work. We refer to Mr. Gibson, of Marysville, N.B. Mr. Gibson is like Mr. Plunkett, a modest man, and avoids speaking about what he has done, but he has nevertheless succeeded in establishing that harmony between employer and employed which makes them regard each other as members of one great industrial family, and causes the latter to feel that, after all, their interests are identical with those upon whom they are dependent for their living. The more of such communities there are in our country 'he better.

ENGLAND'S RAW COTTON SUPPLY.

An effort is being made by the British Cotton Growing Association, with the hearty co-operation of Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, to carry out the idea of producing a larger proportion of Britain's raw cotton supply in her own colonies, or in countries over which she has some sort of control, an idea which was referred to in the last number of the Journal of Fabrics. It has been found that Upper Egypt contains a cotton belt which dwarfs that of the Southern States. Major Count Gleichen, secretary of Major-General Wingate, sirdar of the Egyptian forces, addressing the Cotton Association at Manchester recently, said the experiments now concluded on the banks of the Nile show the quality of the cotton grown there to be the equal of any in the world. There are, as before stated in this journal, available 15,000,000 acres of irrigated land, and the only difficulty is the labor supply, the dervishes having depopulated the Soudan, but the completion of the Suakim-Berber railroad is expected to solve the problem, besides furnishing an outlet for

the crop. It is to be hoped the efforts of the association will be rewarded with success. It is well not to be dependent on one source of supply. This was proved at the time of the United States civil war. Who has forgotten the distress which prevailed among the Lancashire cotton operatives at that time because of the supply of raw cotton being cut off? This may be ancient history, but the lesson is still there for all future time.

—The possession of manufacturing industries, after which so many places strive, even to the extent of paying them bonuses to come, is not an unmixed advantage in the eyes of the editor of a prominent newspaper in a cotton manufacturing city in one of the New England states. This editor claims such cities would be better without cotton mills "because they now have to depend, for prosperity, on the varying financial and political influences that affect the cotton business; besides, wages in cotton mills are low, and low wages cheapen everything." As the city referred to owes its growth and present development almost entirely to the cotton mills, this statement seems harsh, and we do not believe he would really like to see the industry blotted out.

—Every year the textile market has its characteristics. A year ago it was the Oxfords, then for a time came in the black and white, known by some as the Queen's mourning, and now it is a modification of the latter, the coronation cloth. Red, green and black are the component shades of the last, making as may well be imagined, a striking novelty in wool goods. In some minds there is more or less apprehension regarding it, for the departure is considered as somewhat radical, and the style and pattern is claimed by some as not likely to be lasting, but this may be said of any new fabric, or of any new style. At all events the coronation fabric is a feature of the present market, and the ceremonial induction of King Edward VII has made its impress upon the style in which people dress.

—The textiles building of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, to be held at St. Louis in 1904, is of Corinthian design, 525 by 758 feet and will front upon the main avenue. While not the largest in area, its position makes it one of the most spacious buildings in what has been called the main picture of the exposition. The principal entrances are on its axes, and somewhat resemble the form of the triumphal arch. At each angle of the exterior is a pavilion, forming a supplementary entrance, and these are connected by a colonnade of monumental proportions. An interior court following the general outline of the building in form and style occupies the centre space, forming a plaisance or garden of attractive arrangement and proportions. The cost of the building is \$375,000. The importance of the textile industries justifies the prominence given to the building in which they are to be illustrated.