

- 61 **CROCKER, J. & A., 51 Friary Street—Producers.**
Harness woven muslin, for curtains.
Complete drapery, blind and curtains of harness woven muslin, showing its adaptation for window decoration.
Printed cotton, for furniture uses; the colours produced by machine, and by machine and blocks.
- 62 **OWTRAM & Co., 13 Watling Street—Manufacturers.**
Brooded cottons and cotton damasks. Satin brocades and flush sprigged muslins.

- 63 **MARSLAND, SON, & Co., Bridge Mill, Blackfriars, Manchester—Manufacturers.**
Crochet and sewing cotton.
- 64 **DAILY & Co., 9 St. James's Place, Hampstead Road—Producers.**
Specimens of soiled and faded satins, dyed and embossed.
- 65 **ALLEN, R., Sackville Street, Dublin—Producer.**
Free labour cotton goods.

[The cotton manufacture forming an important feature in the commercial activity of this country, it may not be uninteresting to take a rapid glance at its history and products. It is worthy of remark, that the name "Cotton," is almost the same as "Cotnot," that which is given in Hebrew to the first clothing which was put upon man; and there is reason to believe, that this fabric was employed for that purpose in the East, at a very remote period. The "fine linen" of Egypt is extremely ancient; but the "fine cotton" of India rivals it in antiquity, beauty, and utility. The microscopic examination of the structures of these fabrics, recently made in order to determine the nature of mummy-cloth (which is unquestionably linen), has proved that they are essentially different in form; the fibres of linen being cylindrical and tapering at each end, and the fibres of cotton being flat and ribbon-like.

The Hindoos, from whom we derive the knowledge of its manufacture, have not only made cotton cloth from time immemorial, but have excelled all other nations even to this day, in the delicacy of their fabrics. Herodotus mentions it as the common clothing in India; and it is spoken of by Arrian and Strabo as well known. Cottons were articles of trade and of dress in Russia in 1252; and were generally used by the Chinese in 1316. Cotton cloth was brought to London in 1590, from Benin; and it was ascertained about a century previous, to have been the chief article of dress among the Mexicans. Its manufacture was originally brought to Europe by the Moors of Spain; but it was not till after the establishment of their commerce with India, that the Dutch began to fabricate cotton cloths at home. The Protestants, driven by persecution from the Netherlands, brought this manufacture to England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

Our ordinary cotton fabrics have their counterpart in the original manufactures of India; and the native muslins of Dacca in Bengal still rival the productions of the exquisite machinery of England. The former have obtained their superiority from the skill acquired by manual dexterity transmitted through a long lapse of ages; the latter, from that of little more than half a century of well-exercised mechanical ingenuity. The various kinds of cotton fabrics brought from India, were originally distinguished by the names of the places where they were made; as, jaconets, mullmuls, betelles, tarlatans, tanjeets, bukes, terridams, doreas, &c. Imitations of these by our manufacturers retain their names; and additions and changes are made according to the improvements introduced.

The two great emporiums of the cotton manufacture are Manchester and Glasgow; the former having Bolton for its assistant, in the production of muslins and the finer sort of goods; and the latter, Paisley. Both these cities have risen, in consequence of the wealth produced by their manufactures, from the position of third-rate towns, and known only by historical associations, to the

rank of being second in the kingdom, and honourable rivals in magnitude and importance. The pattern-cards of Manchester goods which have been sent over to the Continent by some eminent manufacturers, have at times exhibited specimens of 1,500 different kinds of cotton manufacture, varying in fabric and design, from the coarsest cloth to the finest muslins; and in colours, from the richest hints to the plainest goods. The term "Manchester and Glasgow Warehouse," exhibited on a sign-board in London and other towns in this country, indicates that all kinds of cotton goods are to be obtained of the exhibitors.

The general name of calico has been applied to the plain white cloth manufactured from cotton, from the circumstance of this article having been first imported from Calicut, in 1631, the place of its original and principal manufacture. As calico increases in its quality and strength, it is called long-cloth, duck, and double warp. Calico-shirting or twine-cloth is made to imitate and supersede linen; and in patent-twist, the yarn is more closely entwined than in common calico. Sheetting-calico, as its name implies, is a substitute for linen-sheetting, and is preferable on account of its cheapness and warmth. Printed calicoes, or prints, at first the imitations of those of India, are now produced in patterns of an indefinite variety every year. Calicoes are frequently impregnated with a made paste of spoiled flour called "the dressing," which renders it difficult to ascertain their quality. This dressing is given merely to improve their appearance.

The peculiar style of printed calico, called chints, originally from India, and in which the figures are at least of five different colours, impressed upon a white or coloured ground, are now made by our own manufacturers with great success, as to beauty of design and richness of colour. The invention and the drawing of patterns for printing alone gives employment to artists of a peculiar class; and the variety produced is immense, in order to satisfy the perpetual demand for change produced by fashion.

It is to the production of fine muslins, that the chief efforts of our cotton manufacturers have been directed, with a view to excel the wonderfully delicate and light fabrics of India. It is stated that the turbans of some of the rich Mohammedans at Delhi were made of muslin so fine that thirty ellis did not weigh four ounces; and that some of their broad webs might be drawn through a ring of moderate size, the tissue being so exquisite that it seemed more like the work of insects than of men, resembling in the language of Eastern hyperbole, "the woven wind." The threads of a specimen of this manufacture in the Museum of the East India Company, when examined with the microscope, were found though spun only by the distaff and spindle, to surpass our machine-made muslin in fineness, but to be inferior in regularity. Twenty yards of the yarn of which this muslin was made weighed only a grain; and a pound of it would have