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THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures
of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale
and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion, to
which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to
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For THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF FABRICS.

FIGURING ON THE GOODS.

BY GEORGE DAMON RICE, AUTHOR OF "WOOLEN AND
WORSTED MANUFACTURE," ETC.

Overseers and loom fixers of weave rooms are frequently called upon to do brain work pertaining to matters not directly related to either loom fixing or weaving, consequently these men are often better posted on the details of cloth manufacturing than the average card or spinning room hand.

Loom fixing leads to overseeing of weaving, and the latter to superintending, but the road is not an easy one to travel.

Men must work and investigate to attain the end sought for. When the writer was an apprentice he noticed that some of the men of the mill liked sitting

on the bench, or falling asleep behind a machine next to the wall out of sight, when not working at regular appointed work. This will not do in these days of competition for good places. Not only must the aspiring fixer be on his feet most of the time, but he must keep his looms running right. One often hears a fixer say that he keeps his machinery running, and that so his duty is performed; but how is it running?

Is it running to the best advantage, or is it so fixed that the belt is kept upon the tight pulley most of the time, at the expense of the machine, as well as the production? It is often the latter. There are plenty of men who can take hold of a loom and fix it so that it will run; but when it comes to scientific setting, it is difficult.

All of the best mill men are fast adopting a system of rules. They find that it pays them to do so.

A man who can approach a machine and find out the parts which are wrongly adjusted, and reset them according to an established rule, is the man who is worth most. The man who goes in and jumps at conclusions, and sets the mechanism by guesswork, is the one who is not. Fixers should use judgment and care in fixing the parts of all looms. This much acquired, and something else regarding the figuring on the goods must be studied.

An unskilful or incompetent overseer causes great loss, as much depends on his knowledge of the business. To prevent those under his charge from making blunders and inferior work, he must understand the work and how to figure on same.

The fixer aiming to be an overseer, and eventually superintendent, has several things of importance to confront, among the chief being those pertaining to ability to direct and govern, also faculty to plan and execute. To lead, he must be better educated to his trade than those below him. To make a good executive officer, he must be generally skilled in cloth making, and in this is involved ability to make a profit, for no superintendent, no matter what his attainments are, can call himself a success until he can make money for his employers.

One thing that it is necessary to know how to figure, is the heddle equipment for harness.

HOW MANY HEDDLES.

In the straight-draw system, it is only necessary to divide the number of harnesses used in making the