NEW CLOTH-CUTTING MACHINE.

The enormous quantities of ready-made clothing annually produced in this country have created a demand for some more expeditious plan of cutting out garments than the usual way of cutting them by hand. Several kinds of cutting machines have been manufactured to meet this expressed want. None of these machines, however, have met satisfactorily all of the requirements of the trade, and their introduction has been effected to a limited extent only.

The machine shown in our illustration is claimed to be practically perfect in its operation, upward of two years having been spent in perfecting every detail of the machine and bringing it to the high standard which it has attained.

The machine is based on a principle radically different from any cutting machine that has heretofore been devised, and, as claimed by the inventor, the great success of the machine is due to this novel principle of action. facturers from different parts of the country, who have been unanimous in their indorsement both of the machine and its work.

The machine now in use, driven by a two-horse power engine, works with wonderful rapidity and accuracy, the knife easily following the most intricate designs and cutting through thirty-four thicknesses of heavy cloth without apparent effort. As the cloth is not lifted from the table while being cut the arrangement of the layers is not disturbed and the cuts are perfectly uniform in each layer. and as the movable parts of the apparatus are above the cloth the manipulation of the machine is effected without that friction or drag which attends the operation of an ordinary cutting machine.

The machine has an estimated capacity of 2,500 coats per day, or a product equal to that of 25 skilled cutters.

With this machine is an attachment for accurately cut-



THE AMERICAN CLOTH-CUTTING MACHINE.

Instead of being laid on a solid wooden table, as usual, the layers of cloth, piled up to a height of from two to four inches, are placed upon a bed or support consisting of rows of upright wires fastened to a backing of wood, the wires being cut to a uniform length, so that their upper ends present a perfectly level surface.

The working parts of the machine are mounted on a firm base, alongside of and independent of the supporting bed, and are constructed to travel over a surface fifty or more fect in length, if desired.

The cutting instrument cuts upward instead of downward, and can be freely moved in any direction so as to follow the lines of a pattern marked on the top layer of cloth, the peculiar character of the supporting table permitting this movement without difficulty.

The machine has been in use in Philadelphia for some buy seeds, plants, etc., and offers prizes of months past, and has been examined by numerous manu-

ting, without previous marking, from one to two hundred strips of materials of any width at a single cut, and cuts them either on the bias or at any angle across the pile of goods. They are very convenient for seam binding and other purposes. The attachment travels on the side of the table, and is connected when in use to the pressure foot of the machine, which it causes to pass in a straight line.

The machine is the invention of Mr. W. R. Fowler, the inventor of the well-known Fowler fly fan, and is manufactured by Mr. Martin J. Myers, of \$19 and \$21 Market street, the owner of the patents, who may be addressed for further information.

RAILWAY GARDENING.—The Boston and Maine Company now allows its station agents \$10 a year each with which to buy seeds, plants, etc., and offers prizes of \$5°, \$8°, and \$20 to the agent whose stations are best kept.