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MASTERPIECE OF WEAVING.

Lombardy, once unrivalled in Europe for its textile fabrics in silk and linen, has just made the Pope a unique present as the gift of the province for the Holy Year. It is an altar cloth for the private altar of His Holiness, and its design and texture are elaborate to a degree which, it is contended, has no parallel even in the long records of Italian art weaving. In no previous composition ever woven in Italy has the number either of weft reels or warp cards exceeded 6,000, while in the Pope's new altar cloth the numbers are respectively, 17,700 and 142,000. The style is Gothic Venetian, and the composition represents, with a rare wealth of symbolism, the principal Gospel truths. Another distinguishing feature of this beautiful work of art is that every thread is pure white.—London Express

—A movement has been started by Bradford merchants to prevent the "growing practice of weighting worsted fabrics," by adulteration. It was hoped that the practice was dying out instead of increasing, but it is attributed to the high price of wool which has ruled for some years past. The adulterants used are commonly mineral salts, such as sulphate of zinc, alum, lead and magnesia. Some of these chemicals, it is contended, not only add their own weight to the cloth, but increase the weight by their tendency to absorb and retain moisture, but the liability of such cloths to mildew would make the practice of keeping them damp rather risky. It is a significant feature of this movement against weighting worsteds that some of the manufacturers join the merchants in condemning the practice.

—We understand that in the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo in the summer of 1901, there will be no department devoted exclusively to textiles, but there will be working exhibits of some textile processes, and exhibits of textile fabrics. Textile machinery will be shown in the general machinery hall. If the cost is not great it might pay some Canadian mills to be represented



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