

59. "The hand loom weavers can make as good fabrics as can be made in the penitentiary, but I do not know whether or not they could make them as cheap.

61. "It is my general impression, but I cannot speak from actual estimate, that power looms might be worked with convicts with advantage. The machinery, of course, would have to be altered and the cost of doing so can be judged of by an estimate better than any guess I could make. Great improvements have been made of late in power looms, and one good hand can now attend to four looms in weaving plain goods."

1. At Dorchester, two or three years ago, the cost of weaving power loom bed ticking was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per yard; and I do not think it has changed since. The same fabric at hand loom would cost about 8 or nine cents a yard, and then if done by convicts at the penitentiary, would not be so good, and would be driven entirely from the market.

4. A pound of cotton yarn will make about two yards and a quarter of good bed ticking, seven-eighths wide. I only state this from impression—but the number of yards of bed ticking which can be made from a pound of cotton yarn, depends on so many circumstances; such as the fineness of the yarn, &c.—that I cannot now speak with certainty. The Dorchester ticks are now selling at about twenty-two or three cents per yard. The cost of the material in bed ticking depends entirely on the price of the raw cotton and the indigo. The market price of cotton yarn at this time is about eight or nine cents above the number of the yarn—number twelve to eighteen being used in bed ticking. I am of opinion that the cost of dyeing the best indigo blue would be about fifteen cents for the pound of cotton, at the price of indigo. About one-fourth of the ticking is died, and at my estimate, it would cost about four cents for a pound of the ticking.

3. In my establishment there are eighty-two power looms—I have employed about 180 persons; 14 are men, the rest are women and boys and girls—3 of the men are mechanics, who attend exclusively to repairs, &c.

9th. George Brown, who is the superintendent of the weaving department, and has been engaged in weaving since he was fifteen years old, and is now fifty-six. (See testimony page 400,) says in answer to specific questions:

2. "Could or could not the yarn used at the penitentiary, be spun at the house by the convicts, and manufactured into Wilmington stripes, bed ticks, diapers, and Canton flannels, so as to yield the same amount now produced by the weaving department of the institution?"

"The goods named in the interrogatories are those generally made by power looms, and cost less than the hand loom work, because of the difference of the labor, and the machinery employed. I think it would be impossible for the convicts to spin yarn enough for the use