embracing the great national benefit to future generations of a moistened atmosphere, which in turn will provide a regular, copious rainfall. India's famine is a terrible illustration of the great danger that confronts a people whose lands are stripped of their natural forest growth. The danger is probably remote but the underlying principle is there.

Pliny accredited the invention of the loom to the Egyptians, though some Chinese philosophers are inclined to claim priority in this as in many other inventions. One of the most important as well as interesting exhibits, will be the manufacture of the finest fabrics directly from raw materials. The art of weaving was carried from Egypt by the Israelites, who in the course of their wanderings gave it to the outside world. Though textiles were made so long ago, improvement was slow, so that the process remained very simple down to the beginning of the present century, when the power loom was universally adopted. An attempt will be made, in the exhibit, to convey to the visitor an adequate idea of the general scope of this great industry. Machinery used in the different sections will be shown in operation, or work designed to show the process rather than technical details.

The display of fruit in the Horticultural building will be but an auxiliary to the trees, fruit-bearing shrubs, methods of cultivation, new varieties and means of fighting fruit enemies. By systematically arranging a series of illustrations, it is intended to convey to the Pan-American visitor, especially the fruit grower, information that is most valuable. Methods and paraphernalia constructed on the most approved principles, will indicate the drift of scientific investigation, which must prove to be a most beneficial and attractive exhibit.

Tobacco is now officially tabulated as an important production of thirty-three States and Territories and every country of the Western Hemisphere, including nearly all the islands of the Atlantic ocean. The prominence of tobacco dates back to the earliest American records, and a comprehensive exhibit is intended, as the commercial importance of tobacco is such as to demand an elaborate recognition in the Exposition. An interesting experiment in growing Havana seed and Sumatra tobacco on Connecticut soil has recently been performed. The plants are grown under a light covering of cheesecloth, which is placed nine feet above the ground, retaining the moisture in the ground and securing more uniform temperature. With a thorough understanding of proper methods scientifically applied to the production of popular flavors, America should supply the world.

The Pan-American Exposition has attracted world-wide attention and comment, and is being endorsed by one of the largest and most notable bodies of able, skilful and distinguished men ever identified with any enterprise of this kind. Every profession, science, art, industry, and commercial enterprise, will be represented. That an exposition so well prepared and vouched for will be a memorable success is a foregone conclusion, and that it will richly repay a visit may be accepted as equally certain.

**Book Review.**

James B. Eads, by Louis How, cloth, g. t. 16 mo., $0.75. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. The life of the famous builder of ironclads, of the jetties in the delta of the Mississippi, and of the great St. Louis bridge is full of interest to all engineering students. The author, however, who is a grandson of Eads, seems rather prejudiced, so that the work is an eulogy, rather than an unbiased sketch of the inventor's life. James B. Eads is a striking example of how genius will come to the front even without education.