

dustry was established at Ipswich, Mass., with stocking machinery secretly brought over from England, and in 1825 the first knitting mill was established at Germantown. From this time the hosiery industry spread rapidly and from the manufacture of stockings developed to include underwear and an ever-increasing variety of apparel as demanded by modern conditions and fashions. The hosiery product of the United States was, in 1899, \$27,420,000, and in 1909, \$68,722,000; the number of pairs produced in 1899 was 29,904,000 dozen, and in 1909, 62,825,000 dozen. See KNITTING.

HO'SIERY (from *hose*, AS., OHG. *hosa*, Ger. *Hose*, hose, stockings). In its most limited sense this term refers to the manufacture of stockings (hose); but in its more general application it comprises all knitted goods, either made by hand or by machinery. The use of stockings originated in the cold countries of the north of Europe, and probably the first were made of skins and subsequently of cloth; they were also, until a comparatively late period, made all in one piece with the trousers, constituting trunk hose. These garments were separated, and the art of knitting was invented, it is supposed in Scotland, about the commencement of the sixteenth century, for knitting of bonnets and hose is referred to as early as 1550. Knitted stockings found their way to France from Scotland and led to the establishment of a guild of stocking knitters, who chose for their patron saint St. Fiacre of Scotland. Queen Elizabeth and her court were the first to wear silk stockings, and a machine for knitting them was invented in 1589 by William Lee, of Woodbridge, Nottinghamshire, which entirely altered the hosiery trade. In 1689 German immigrants of the sect known as Mennonites set up in Germantown, Pa., their stocking frames. By 1790 the stocking industry was established at several towns in Connecticut. In 1822 the stocking in-