

BRONSON AND ATWATER, WHAT A TEAM

Mary Meigs Atwater discovered the threading and treadling of what we call “Spot Bronson” in J.&R. Bronson’s 1817 book, Domestic Manufacturers’ Assistant and Family Directory in the Arts of Weaving and Dyeing. She thought it was unique to the Bronsons’ book and thus named it Bronson weave. The structure was called speck in England, Droppdrall in Sweden, Gerstenkornbindung in Germany and Barleycorn by Marguerite Porter Davison. Atwater called the structure Bronson Weave and popularized it in the 20th century weaving community. Atwater combined Swedish lace with Spot Bronson and also popularized what we now call Atwater-Bronson lace. Understand how these two weave structures work and learn how to design with them in this lecture.