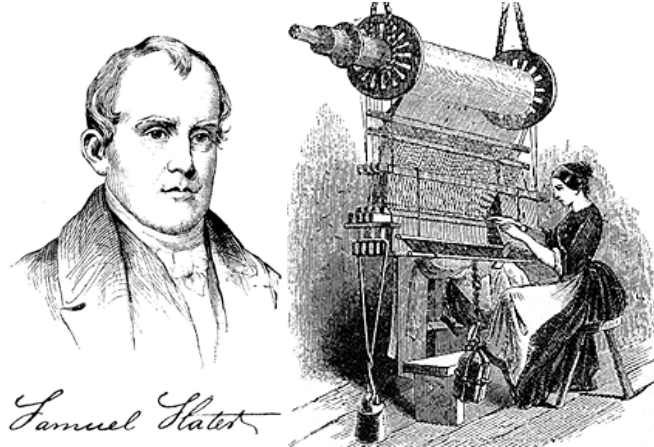


TAH Mill Times Name: _____ date _____



Starter Please Read:

In 1821, the Boston Associates purchased land and rights to the Pawtucket Canal located north of the city of Boston, Massachusetts. The Associates built several textile mills and enlarged the Canal for water power. The first mills opened in 1823, and for the next 25 years more mills and a network of power canals were built. By 1848, Lowell was the largest industrial center in America! The mills produced 50,000 miles of cotton cloth each year.

The Associates needed a large work force for the busy mills. They decided to run their mills using a work force of young women recruited from New England farms. Lowell was known around the world for this innovative solution.

Lowell "Mill Girls" were asked to work in the factories for a few years, then return to the farms or marry. Mill girls filled the city of Lowell, living in boardinghouses managed by the corporations. Mill life meant a hard day's work in which girls followed a strict schedule marked by the ringing of bells. Mill girls were expected to follow the company rules for curfew, church attendance and proper behavior.

Why were the Boston Associates important? _____

Describe who were the Mill Girls of Lowell? _____

Watch Mill Times PBS David McCauley United Streaming 35 minutes

1. Yarn was turned into fabric by what kind of invention? _____

2. What changed things in the mid 1700's? _____

3. What did the waterframe do? _____

4. What would Huntington Mill bring to the community? _____

5. Will the Embargo Act help the mill? _____

6. What was needed to control rivers? _____

7. Where was America's first spinning mills? _____

8. What did Samuel Slater do? _____

9. What does the power loom make? _____

10. What problem does Huntington Mill face? _____

11. How did the new Mill create problems for Huntington? _____

12. What problems did the large mills have? _____

13. What vision did Francis Cabot Lowell have? _____

14. What rules did the Lowell Girls have to follow? _____

15. How long was their workday? _____

16. What were some of the positive aspects of the Lowell Girls' lives? _____

17. What were the negative aspects of the Lowell Girls lives? _____

Discussion:

What difficulties did business investors have to overcome to develop industrialization / factories?

How did the lives of factory workers change from a farm lifestyle?
