

Crape. (*Fabric.*) A gauzy fabric made of raw silk, and woven without crossing.

Uncolored, or gayly dyed, it is a rich shawl-stuff.

Colored black and crimped, it is a mourning-goods. Smooth crape is used in ecclesiastical habits of a certain order, not quite so elevated as the cambric lawn of a bishop.

“A saint in *crape* is twice a saint in *lawn*.”

The latter is the superlative degree of ecclesiastical habiliments in *reformed* churches.

Crisped crape denotes a poignant grief; the change to a smoother class of goods indicates that the merciful hand of Time has burnished out the wrinkles and lines of care.

Silk intended for crisp crape is more twisted than that for the smooth. The twist of the thread, especially that of the warp, is what gives the wrinkled appearance to the goods when taken out of the loom.

Aërophanes and *gauze* are goods of a similar description, either white or colored.

Crape is said to have been made by S^c Badour, Queen of France, A. D. 680. It was first made at Boulogne.