

**CALICO**, in Commerce and Manufactures, a species of cotton cloth. The name is taken from that of Calicut, a city on the coast of Malabar, being the first place at which the Portuguese landed when they discovered the India trade. The first attempts to manufacture calicoes in England were made in Lancashire about the year 1772, and that manufacture is now prosecuted there to immense extent, chiefly for the use of the printers. Calico is merely plain or alternate woven cotten cloth, of an intermediate thickness, between those dense fabrics which are used for sheeting, and the more flimsy texture which is distinguished by the general appellation of muslin. Calicoes are of different kinds, as plain, printed, painted, &c. The printing of calicoes was first set on foot in London about the year 1776.