

## DICTIONARY OF TEXTILE TERMS.

**Khaki:** A brown or salmon colored, coarse muslin, made in India and used for making loose jackets for men and wraps for women.

A light drab, clay-colored cloth, formerly used for the uniforms of some East Indian troops; now used by modern armies, both here and abroad, as a protective color.

The khaki made for the United States Government is 28 inches wide, weighing between 6½ and 7 oz. per linear yard. It is made of all cotton, 2,500 ends in the piece and 54 picks in an inch, woven with a four-harness three to one twill. It is dyed with fast khaki. The English army khaki overcoating has the weight of 33 to 33½ oz., the cloth containing 38 ends and 46 picks per finished inch, and is woven in prunella twill. The word *Khaki* is derived from the Hindustani word for *earth*, or dust-colored.

**Kidderminster:** See Ingrain Carpet.

**Kid-mohair:** The hair from the young Angora goat, equivalent to lamb's wool.

**Kidney Cotton:** Also called *G. Braziliense*, belongs to the species of *Gossypium Peruvianum*, being cotton grown in Brazil and Peru. The name is given to this cotton because of the peculiar manner in which the seeds are arranged in the capsule, adhering together in each cell in the form of a kidney.

**Kie Kie:** A plant of the screw pine family (*Pandanaceæ*) from the leaves of which mats have been made.

**Kienchow:** Silk Foulard with patterns pressed-in; made in China, about 15 inches wide.

**Kier:** In bleaching, a large boiler in which are carried on the various processes comprising bleaching, known respectively as Lime Boil, Brown Sour, Lye Boils, Chemicking, and White Sour. In their principle of construction, Kiers can be of the Open, the Low Pressure, or of the Pressure type. The first type is more or less out of date, on account of the excessive loss of heat by radiation, and the large amount of steam necessary to keep up circulation. The low pressure kier is a modification of the former, with a slight gain, and refers to a system occasionally met with in older bleacheries. Pressure kiers are the kiers used by bleacheries at present, as we might say, universally. They are made either of wrought or boiler iron, cylindrical in shape, and are placed in an upright position. They vary in size to suit the capacity of the bleacheries, about 7½ feet diameter by 10 feet high, being a size frequently met with. They are mostly used with an average pressure of from 35 to 50 lbs., although some bleacheries, in connection with certain grades of goods, may run them at a lower pressure, in fact running them sometimes at as low as 10 lbs. pressure.

**Kieserite:** A by-product prepared during the process of refining the salts of potassium found at Staesfurt in Germany. It is made into large cubical blocks of a loose, friable nature, having a gray color. It consists principally of sulphate of magnesia, but it also contains sulphate of calcium, salt, potassium chloride, and silica. It

is sold as containing 46 per cent. of magnesium sulphate. Kieserite is used as a material for making Epsom salts or as it is, for finishes. In this case, unless care be taken to allow the insoluble dirt and grit to settle after boiling up, it is apt to dirty the clothes. Finishers prefer, therefore, to use the cleaner Epsom salts as a weighting material and a stiffener in cotton finishing.

**Kikai Kibizzos:** A kind of steam waste (made in Japan) in which the fibres are rolled in little balls mixed with long fibres and a little percentage of sundry waste. A waste largely exported to England and America.

**Kilkenny:** A mantle resembling a wrapper, for ladies' wear.

**Kilt:** The skirt of the Scotch Highlander; originally the part of the plaid falling below the belt, but now a plaited skirt.

**Kimono:** A loose robe, fastening with a sash, the principal garment of a Japanese lady's wardrobe.

**Kincob:** A rich, East-Indian silk, or silk and cotton mixed goods, interwoven with gold or silver thread.

**Kindestan Rugs:** Serviceable rugs woven by Nomads in West Asia, in colorings of India reds, yellows, etc.

**King:** A variety of cotton originated by T. J. King, Louisburg, N. C. Plant is of medium size, pyramidal, well branched, very prolific; bolls small, roundish, maturing early; lint 32 to 34 per cent., staple 25 to 28 mm.; seeds small. The fact that this variety matures its entire crop very early makes it one of the most desirable sorts for the northern cotton belt.

**Kinji Shusu:** Japanese silk satin, finished with a partly or completely gilded face; used for kimonos.

**Kink:** A snarl or curl, produced by a hard-twisted thread receding upon itself.

In nautics, to twist a rope.

**Kiotonan:** Chinese satin with damask figures.

**Kir-shehr Rugs:** Made in Angora (Asia Minor) the warp and filling being of dyed wool, the long pile being tied in Ghiordes knots. The Arabic designs are in brilliant greens, reds and blues; the sides and ends of the fabric are selvaged.

**Kirtle:** A garment, whether short or long, with a skirt; a frock or mantle; variously applied to an upper garment or to an outer petticoat.

**Kissmess:** East Indian Calico.

**Kitay:** Fancy colored Chinese silk and cotton cloth.

**Knabs:** The offal or waste of silk in winding off from the cocoon.

**Knee-breeches:** Breeches extending from the waist to a point just below the knee; formerly in common use, but now worn chiefly by boys, or in athletic sports.

**Knickerbocker Goods:** A fabric in part or entirely made from knickerbocker yarns.

**Knickerbocker Yarns:** See Bourrette Yarns.

**Knit Goods:** One of the great divisions of fabric structure, differing radically in the principle of producing the fabric from that of weaving, being based on the principle of forming a fabric or web by means of a series of interlocking loops, from one or more continuous threads. Different systems of interlocking the loops pro-

duce different styles of stitches, each being best suited for certain kinds of fabrics, etc. Used for hosiery, underwear, sweaters, scarfs, etc.

**Knitting Burr:** The appliance fitted to knitting machines for supplementing the action of the needles in various ways.

**Knitting Cotton:** A variety of loosely twisted, four-ply cotton yarn, dyed in various plain and mixed colors, employed for knitting hosiery, tidies, mats, etc., by hand. It is numbered from 8, coarse, to 20 fine, and commonly put up 16 balls in a box, each box containing 2 pounds, manufacturer's weight.

**Knitting Frame:** A large class of machines derived from the original invention of William Lee, M.A., designed to perform mechanically the knitting operation.

**Knitting Machine:** A machine used for the process of knitting. There are two general types in use—the Latch Needle and the Spring Beard Needle Machines. They are either Flat Bed or Circular Machines, and can be Plain, using one set of needles or Rib, using two sets of needles. There are also Warp Frame Machines, built, both plain and ribbed.

**Knitting Silk:** A loosely twisted silk thread of domestic manufacture employed for knitting mittens, stockings, and other articles by hand. It is also much used for all kinds of crochet work. Knitting silk is put up in the form of balls, each containing one-half ounce of thread. It is made in but two sizes, No. 300, coarse, and No. 500, fine; each ball of the former number contains 150 yards of silk; of the latter 250 yards. No. 500 is manufactured only in white, cream and black; the No. 300 is fast dyed in a great variety of colors.

**Knives:** The bars off the griffe of the Jacquard machine which lift the hooks holding the neck cords, *i. e.* the leash or Jacquard harness.

**Knocker-off:** A wheel with projecting wings on the knitting frame which lifts the loops over the heads of the needles when the knitting action has been performed.

**Knocking-off Motion:** A class of appliances of various forms used to stop the operation of any kind of machine automatically, when necessary.

**Knops:** Congested or spiral loops formed in fancy yarns.

**Knop Work:** Framework knitting, with two sets of needles and Jacquard attachment, which regulates the accumulation of loops on certain needles and thus forms the design.

**Knop Yarns:** See Bourrette Yarns.

**Knot:** Eighty yards of woolen or worsted yarn.

There are two kinds of knots forming the pile in Oriental rugs, one is the Turkish or Ghiordes, the other the Persian or Senna. The fineness of the rug is judged by the number of knots to a square inch.

**Knotted:** A mechanical device, operated by hand, and used to knot the ends of two threads or more often the two ends in re-tying a broken thread.

**Knotted Abaca:** The product of tying together several fibres of the finest grade of abaca and reeling them in a hank. Generally, the few sheaths surrounding the core of the abaca stem are selected for preparing the grades

necessary for this purpose. Owing to the length and great strength of the abaca fibre, this industry promises rapid development.

**Knotted Laces:** Made in Italy, Dalmatia, etc., by tying lengths of thread into knots by the hands, the knots forming patterns like the macramé.

**Knitting:** Tying up the cords of a Jacquard harness; taking away the knots of joined threads appearing on the face and back of the cloth.

**Knub:** See Husk.

**Knub Waste:** Consists largely of that part of the cocoon which is considered to be of too poor a quality to reel; also the outer covering and the inner shell of the cocoon which are of poorer quality than the inner part.

**Ko Hemp:** The bast fibres of this plant have been used in India and China in the manufacture of material for summer clothing. The plant has a trailing habit resembling that of the genus *Wistaria*. The fibres are developed in the soft succulent stems of the plant.

**Kompow:** A strong linen, made in China.

**Koomach:** Cotton cloth in Russia, usually dyed bright solid red, also indigo or green; used for blouses, women's dresses, etc.

**Koordistan:** A standard make of a Persian rug, made wholly of wool.

**Kotzen:** Rugs and lap-ropes made in Austria of coarse goat's hair, with a very long nap on both sides.

**Koujong:** Very soft, fine, twilled woolen, made in China.

**Krimmer:** The fleece of the Persian lamb as used by furriers.

**Kulah Rugs:** Made in Asia Minor; antique rugs of all-wool in prayer rug design with a fine short and close pile tied in Ghiordes knot; red and gold brown is often used.

**Kulkan:** Richly brocaded silk shawls, made in Persia, similar to the cashmere shawls.

**Kulyahi:** A standard make of a Persian rug, made wholly of wool.

**Kumbi:** The Gumbi tree grows wild on the rough mountainous slopes of India. Its silky fibres known as Kumbi, are produced in tightly packed, ovate, acuminate pods. The seeds are used for the stuffing of cushions and mattresses, well adapted for stuffing them without cohesion. Also called *Galgal*.

**Kumberbands:** A coarse woolen shawl worn in India, wrapped around the body by the natives.

**Kurbelstickerei:** German term for machine embroidery, the design being of tape over a net ground; used for curtains.

**Kurdistan Rugs:** A coarse, all-wool, rough rug, made in Mesopotamia, presenting a heavy, long and loose pile, tied in a Ghiordes knot. Dark colored natural wool is often used, and the ends finished with braided fringe. The name also refers to fine, all-wool rugs made in Persia, the close short pile being also tied in a Ghiordes knot; the pattern in this instance consists of small figures covering the field, of a conventionalized blossoming tree or a diamond shaped centre medallion in blues and reds; the end selvages contain one strand of colored wool.

**Kurkee:** A coarse kind of blanket.

## Sponging and Re-finishing Woolen Fabrics.

### Sponging.

To understand and value this process, it is well first to inquire why it is necessary to sponge woolen goods.

It is well known to all who handle woolen cloths that sponging is necessary, but to many it is quite a mystery why it should be done; others have a misconception of the utility of the process.

To correct the latter, it is well to state right here that the removal of the press lustre is not the object of sponging, although it forms one of the results which have to be attained before the goods are made up into garments.

When a piece of woolen cloth is followed through the various processes of finishing, it must be evident to the most casual observer that such cloth has to bear quite a large amount of lateral strain in order to be manipulated properly on the various machines over which it has to pass, and this strain is sure to leave the goods longer than they ought to be.

If a garment should be made from goods that have been stretched in this way (for example one-half an inch to the yard) and the goods have not been properly sponged previous to making up, the minute that the tailor's goose touches the garment, this half inch will certainly disappear, much to the detriment of the looks and fit of said garment.

When a piece of woolen cloth has been properly fulled, it is by no means certain that the same will not shrink more thereafter, for very few goods are fulled to their limit of possible felting *i. e.*, shrinkage. For that reason it is necessary to devise some process by which such cloth may be shrunk at least to what may be termed natural limits, or better, to the limits of the conditions to which it will be subjected in the making up, or tailoring process.

It is often thought at the mill, that to give the goods a thoroughly heavy steam brushing just before measuring and putting them up for the market, is as good as sponging, but no amount of steam brushing can accomplish the desired object, for the reason that at the time the goods are undergoing this steam brushing process they are under more or less tension.

If the goods are measured and rolled up by machine, as they usually are, it goes without saying that this additional strain is sure to undo whatever slight beneficial effects may have been obtained by the steam brushing. In former times when this measuring and rolling up was done by hand, a thorough steam brushing may have taken the place of sponging to some extent, although even at that time the value of sponging was well recognized.

The most efficient method of sponging is practiced by the small tailor when he wets a cloth, and after wringing out the surplus water, spreads it evenly on the face of the goods, and then rolls both up smoothly and evenly, letting them lie in this state for four to five hours. By this time the cloth will have absorbed most of the moisture, thus effectually removing the press lustre, and the action of the moisture on the cloth will tend to shrink it so it can be

made into a garment and stand the various manipulations required without detriment. This is the most primitive way of doing the work and though many machines are in daily use we cannot get away from the fact that this old method is still the most thorough.

It matters little how successful the old fashioned way is, it has to give way to the new and improved manner of doing things, even if the results are far from being so satisfactory as the former. There are many machines in use which are able to do the work as nearly satisfactory as it will ever be done by machine, provided a proper amount of time is given the goods for the shrinking process.

While three elements, pressure, moisture and heat are required to full woolen goods, it is necessary to employ but one of them in the sponging process and that one is moisture. However, if this moisture is supplied by means of steam, as is done in the steam brushing process, much, if not all, of the benefit to be derived from moisture is lost on account of the attendant heat of the steam.

This may be easily observed by handling a piece of cloth which is being steam brushed. While the press effect has been removed and the several threads again assume their normal shape, there is no perceptible moisture, unless the steaming is carried to excess and that, of course, is worse than no steaming. For these reasons it has long been recognized that some other way of getting moisture into the goods is required.

Dampening or sponging of woolen goods, as a rule, is one of the last finishing processes practised in the mill, previously to pressing and shipping to the selling house, the commission merchant or to the customer direct. In many instances these fabrics are then sent to a public sponger or refinisher in order to be sure that they are properly shrunk before being cut up into the required sizes for garments; the larger wholesale clothing houses having their own sponging, *i. e.*, refinishing departments.

The machines used for the sponging of woolen goods are known as dampening or dewing machines.

The important feature of the process rests in that the water reaches the cloth in the most minute condition, *i. e.*, the finest possible subdivision; known as dew.

No actual drops must on any account be allowed to fall on the piece, and various contrivances are resorted to in preventing this. To keep the goods travelling at a slow but uniform rate, and also to keep them at a fixed distance from where the spray is generated, is a precaution too obvious to have been overlooked, while the cloth should pass a little above the spraying jets.

In some machines guard plates are fixed in such positions that only a fine mist can get round them, while in others a fine wire gauze screen is interposed between the cloth and the water. One modification of the deflecting plate principle is to have a slotted plate instead of the wire screen.

Dampening or dewing itself is done on two distinct principles, the first of which is where the water is atomised by a blast of air from a fan, on the same lines as the common perfume atomiser. There is also a machine met with in which the