

DICTIONARY OF TEXTILE TERMS.

- Merino Come-back:** See Come-back.
- Mesh Underwear:** Knit underwear having a net-like appearance.
- Merveilleux:** A member of the satin family showing a light, lustrous twill. From *merveille*, marvel.
- Messaline:** A finish. May be imparted to any weave, rendering it exquisitely soft and supple. Originally a fine, soft imperial satin of peculiar texture first made in Lyons, with organzine filling. From Messalina, third wife of Emperor Claudius, the most infamous woman in Roman history.
- Mestizo Wool:** A wool grown in South America; a cross between full blooded imported merino and the native South American Criolla sheep. The latter were driven into Argentina from Peru, about the year 1600, and had Spanish blood in them at that time. About the same time, sheep, descended from the mountain breeds of Spain, were driven from Peru to the River Plata. This wool is much contaminated with what is known as screw-burrs, and which are most difficult to remove, requiring a special construction of a burr picker for this purpose, where as in other cases, carbonizing is the process employed. Also known as River Plata wool.
- Metallic Dye:** Special Extra Lustre obtained by steam stretching.
- Metallic Threads:** Metallic threads have always been used for decorating, particularly in rich fabrics. Fine golden silver threads, as well as silver gilt threads, and silver threads or copper wire, have been used in many of the so-called Cyprian gold thread fabrics, so renowned for their beauty and permanence in the Middle-Ages. These threads are now produced by covering flax or hemp threads with a gilt of fine texture.
- Metasulphite:** See Sodium Bisulphite.
- Meteor:** Crêpe de Meteor was originally a trade name for crêpe de chine, but now applied to a fabric which is distinguishable from crêpe de chine.
- Methanilin:** See Dimethylaniline.
- Methylene Blue:** A basic dyestuff in dark blue or reddish brown bronzy powder, easily soluble in water to a fine blue solution. In a few instances it is used in cotton finishing as a tinting medium.
- Methyl Violet:** A basic dyestuff in metallic green lumps or powder, soluble in water to a violet solution. It is used in cotton finishing for tinting *i. e.*, the correction of very yellow shades.
- Mexican:** One of the oldest known varieties of cotton having been brought from the City of Mexico to Natchez, Miss., by Walter Burling in 1806, and introduced in South Carolina as early as 1816. It was from this stock that by far the larger proportion of our short and medium staple varieties have been developed.
- Mexican Burr:** An old name for the varieties of Mexican cotton, which produced bolls in clusters, and the original source of many of the present cluster varieties.
- Mexican Cotton-Boll Weevil:** This insect is a small, grayish weevil, measuring a little less than a quarter of an inch in length, found in the cotton fields throughout the season, puncturing and laying its eggs in the squares and bolls, and is of Mexican origin. The insect through its ravages caused the abandonment of cotton culture around Monclova, Mexico, about 1862. About 1893 it crossed the Rio Grande at Brownsville, Tex. In South Texas, among Spanish-speaking people, the insect is generally known as the *picudo*.
- Mexican Drawnwork:** Little round medallions either singly or in strips, the threads drawn to form a cart-wheel. Mexican and Teneriffe drawnwork practically the same. Machine imitations made in Nottingham, Calais and St. Gall.
- Mexican Sheep:** An American breed of sheep found in Mexico, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, parts of California and Colorado. They are strong, hardy animals, yielding, if not crossed with other breeds, a fleece of about two pounds of coarse wool. If crossed with merinos, the weight of the fleece increases to about 4 pounds. The wool is mostly used in the Western States for spinning such yarns as are used for the manufacture of home spun fabrics, and in the East for carpet yarns.
- Mexican Weevil:** See Boll Weevil.
- Micropyle:** The opening in the egg of the silk-worm moth through which the fecundating liquid is injected.
- Middlings:** A medium quality of cotton; the central portion of the flax staple when cut into three.
- Mignonette Lace:** Light bobbin lace, made in narrow strips. Resembles tulle.
- Mignonette Netting:** A simple kind of netting used for window curtains.
- Mikado Taffetaline:** A trade name for a peculiar light textured taffeta.
- Milanaise:** Applied to corded fabrics, the cord being covered with warp-threads worked over them by doups; also written Milainse.
- Milan Braid:** A variety of mohair braid, used for trimming and binding. The number of size of this braid is indicated by the number of ribs or cords extending from end to end of the web.
- Milanese:** Knitted fabric with very fine gauge, with almost equal elasticity both ways. It is a warp knitted fabric made with flat bearded needles and thread laying attachment; used for underwear.
- Milanese Silk:** A knitted silk fabric, made from raw silk and piece dyed, a light jersey cloth.
- Mildew:** A kind of vegetable fungus which attacks dressed cloths.
- Mill:** The same as felting or fulling; also, the process by which felting or fulling is carried on. The process of thickening woolen cloth by moisture and heating, produced by pressure to the fabric under operation, while in a fulling mill.
- Milled Cloth:** A cloth which has been heavily milled (felted or fulled) and consequently presents a close compact surface.
- Mill Ends:** The remnants of goods that accumulate at mills.
- Millerain:** A finishing process which causes the fabric subjected to it to be water and spot proof.
- Millerayes (fr.) Thousand Stripes:** A very narrow striped effect.
- Milling:** The operation whereby fibres and threads composed of wool are caused to interlock more closely one with another. Also, called *Felting*.
- Millon's Reagent:** An aqueous solution of mercurous nitrate. Ten grams of mercury are treated with as much nitric acid as is necessary to dissolve it. An additional 10 grams of mercury is now added and the whole diluted with nine times its volume of water. As copious fumes of the red oxide of nitrogen are evolved, the solution of the mercury should take place under a hood.
- Minder:** The operative, who attends the machines.
- Mineral Wool:** A substance outwardly resembling wool, presenting a mass of fine interlaced filaments, made by subjecting furnace-slag (or certain rocks) while molten to a strong blast. Being both insect-proof and fire-proof, it forms a desirable packing for walls, a covering for steam-boilers, etc.
- Miracourt Lace:** Sprig effects of bobbin-lace applied on net ground.
- Miuro:** The native sheep of Sardinia; from its wool a coarse common cloth called Arbaccio is made.
- Mirror-Velvet:** A pliable, soft velvet, having a compressed pile, presenting a highly glossy face.
- Mirzapur Carpets:** Carpets made in Mirzapur, India; formerly these carpets were of exquisite coloring and serviceable texture, the designs being suited to the coarse wools of that district; carpets now sold under this name are more or less a misnomer.
- Mitcheline Quilt:** A double cloth woven with two sets of warp and two sets of filling, the figures formed by interchanging the two fabrics. The two fabrics are united together throughout the entire structure.
- Mitten:** The hand-covering which is knitted; a fingerless glove.
- Mispick:** A defect caused at weaving, by the filling running out in the bobbin, by the thread breaking (or by starting the loom, after picking out, on a wrong pick.)
- Mit Afifi:** One of the principal varieties of Egyptian cotton grown in lower Egypt, at the present time. Its growth first attracted attention in 1888, although for several years previous to that date, it had been grown by the growers of the village of Mit Afifi, where it was first grown. It is capable of withstanding drought and attacks by worms, better than other varieties, requiring less attention for picking, and proportionately to other growths, it gives a better outturn in ginning. Its brown color has a tendency to become lighter; its length and strength of fibre appeals to fine yarn spinners, hence is in demand. *Sakalorides* and *Assiki* are two late hybrids of it, and which eventually are expected to take the place of Mit Afifi, when the latter will have sufficiently degenerated.
- Mixed-packed Cotton:** Mixed packed cotton shall be deemed to mean such bales as show a difference of more than two grades between samples drawn from the heads, top and bottom sides of the bale, or when such sam-

ples show a difference in color exceeding two grades in value, said grades being of the official cotton standards of the United States.

Mixing or Blending: The mixing or blending together of textile materials. This may be effected in the fibre, sliver, roving thread or weaving operations; the term however is usually restricted to fibre mixings.

Mixing Picker: A machine to disentangle the wool fibres and more perfectly mix the materials previously to carding; also called (in England) *Fearnought, Mixing-Willey* and *Tenter-Hook-Willey*.

Mixture: Mixture shade in contradistinction to solid shade; formed by blending differently colored loose fibres. A mixture effect in cloth is a varied but patternless one.

Mixture Yarn: A yarn in which two or more distinct colors are apparent. These colors are usually on distinct fibres and the fibres are mixed together to produce the required mixture tone whether in the wool state or in the top or sliver state. Melanged types are also gilled to produce what is known as the "*melange mixture*," in which colors are supposed to be more evenly blended than in the case of the ordinary fibre mixture.

Mobile Cotton: Never so clean as either Upland or Orleans cotton and not quite so strong. Mean length of fibre $\frac{7}{8}$ inches. Suitable for spinning up to 36's filling.

Moch: A package of spun silk, a French word (*Mosh*) issued in English for the unbroken parcels of silk received from the continent of Europe.

Mock Checks: Checks produced by combining weave effects.

Mock Egyptian Cotton: Ordinary cotton, tinted a light buff by special preparations, in imitation of the genuine Egyptian cotton.

Mock Leno: A variety of cotton fabric made with a weave which produces openwork in imitation of the real leno. This open effect is produced by interlacing warp and filling so that they are drawn together into groups of 3, 4 or more threads, this forming open spaces between the different groups, which appear in the woven fabric. To heighten the effect, *i. e.*, produce prominently defined, large open spaces one, two or three dents are left empty in the reed, between the groups of threads previously referred to, and which are drawn respectively in one dent. To produce a similar effect, filling ways, a special take-up arrangement, is made use of. The openwork in mock leno is not as pronounced as in real leno, neither is it as durable, hence is used only in cheap fabrics. Also called *Mock-Gauze*.

Mock Seam: Applied to stockings made with cut leg and fashioned foot.

Mock Turkey Red: See Barwood.*

Mock Twist: A fancy single yarn; used for dress goods, similar to the double and twist but the two colors are not outlined as sharply and regularly. It is produced by intermittent feeding of dyed and undyed stock in the spinning frame.

Mocmain: The light, elastic white fibre, of the silk cotton plant (*Bombax Malabaricum*).

Moff: A silk fabric made in the Caucasus, in the Government of Shemakha, Russia.

Mohair: The same is the beautiful fine soft silken fibre which forms the covering of the Angora goat, a native of Asia Minor. The annual yield of the wool when cleaned is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The length of the fibre varies from 6 to 8 inches. It may be considered a true wool because of its wavy structure and the development of its fine cuticle cells, together with its high reflecting lustrous properties. Mohair is largely used in the manufacture of lustrous dress fabrics, coatings, astrakans and fabrics covered with short curls. It is also extensively used in the making of plush goods and imitations of skins and furs of animals. Its pile or nap possesses properties which enable it to stand erect and when dyed, so closely to resemble the seal or beaver that it is difficult to distinguish it from the genuine article. The fibre lacks felting properties, in consequence of which it is never used alone for manufacturing purposes.

Moiré: A term applied to the watered or clouded appearance obtained by displacing or flattening threads by the pressure of engraved rollers.

Moiré Antique: To produce this finish the fabric is folded lengthwise with the face in, the selvages covering each other and stitched together. The fabric is then dampened and passed between hot cylinders. This moiré is lasting and shows the greatest variety of designs.

Moiré a pois: A watered effect with small satin dots well distributed all over the face of the fabric.

Moiré Francaise: Moiré made in stripes. Another variety is called *moiré rondé*.

Moiré Impérial: Showing an indefinite watered effect covering the entire surface.

Moiré Metallique: Presenting a watered, clouded and frosted appearance. A metallic effect.

Moiré Nacre: Mother-of-Pearl effect, showing the delicate pinkish flush and delicate tints seen in the interior of sea shells; produced by two or more shades in a shot silk and moiré.

Moiré Poplin or Watered Poplin: These wool or cotton filled corded fabrics give well defined effects when watered; the wool filled goods giving a softer effect.

Moiré Océan: Watered in a design of wavy, undulating stripes.

Moiré Renaissance: A fabric watered in Renaissance design.

Moirette: An imitation of moiré, woven of cotton or other yarns, and dressed with a watered appearance.

Moiré Velour (Fr.) Velvet: A moiré having an all-over effect, with soft velvety lines.

Moisture: All textile fibres in their normal condition contain a certain quality of moisture, the same varying according to the surrounding atmosphere, hence some standard conditions of humidity and temperature should be established. The standard atmosphere adopted by the Bureau of Standards in Washington, D. C., is 65 per cent relation humidity at 70 deg. F. temperature.

Moity Wool: Wool containing vegetable matter such as straw, hay, leaves, twigs, thorns, seeds, etc.

Moistening: See Dampen.

Moleskin: A heavy cotton cloth; a kind of Fustian, extra strong and cropped before dyeing, made more particularly in Lancashire, Eng., and used for men's wear, especially by workmen, etc., for vests and pants, in place of corduroy. From *molequin*, an Arabian designation of an ancient stuff. Also called *Fustian*.

Molisch's Reagent: A 20% solution of *a-naphthol* in alcohol.

Momie Cloth: Black dyed dress goods of cotton or silk warp and wool filling. It is similar to crepé. Also called *Mummy Cloth*.

Mon: Japanese name for Family Crest.

Monochromatic: A term implying that the series of wools, yarns, fabrics, etc., spoken of are in one color or grade.

Monopole Oil: Under these and other denominations, various preparations, soluble in water, are marketed in a liquid or solid form, which are all in character similar to Turkey-red oil; they are distinguished especially by their property of being but slightly sensitive to lime, and in this respect superior to Turkey-red oil. They are less apt to form precipitates with lime and magnesia salts, and have the property to re-dissolve lime or magnesia soaps that may have formed. These products are not decomposed by the quantities of common salt or acids customary in dyeing and finishing. Owing to these properties they are used extensively and in large quantities for dyeing and finishing, as substitutes for Turkey-red oil. In the wool dyeing trade they are used sometimes in quantities of 2-3%, reckoned on the weight of the goods, as an addition in dyeing Acid Colors and Chrome Colors with a view to promote the levelness of the shades and preserve the soft handle of the wool. Also called *Universal Oil, Avicol* or *Monosolvol*.

Monopol Soap: A preparation closely allied to Turkey-red oil, and may be regarded as a solidified oil of this class, distinguished by a higher content of fats. It also possesses the property of not giving any precipitate of lime or magnesia soap when used with hard water; it damps the fibres thoroughly, so that the dressing with which it is used readily penetrates them.

Monotone: As a pattern showing different shades of the same color. *Monotonous*.

Montevideo Wool: See Buenos Ayres Wool.

Moquette: A pile carpet, presenting a thick, soft, velvety nap of wool. In many respects its construction is similar to a Brussels carpet, the difference being that its figuring warp, on account of being cut, is more closely interlaced with the ground structure. It is woven in the same loom, and frequently the same particulars of warp and filling are employed. However, it is advisable, and for this reason, customary, to use better qualities of yarn for the figuring (pile) and small chain warps.

Moquettes were first made at Abbeville (France) at as early a date as 1667, and soon thereafter at Aubusson and Amiens.