

rose, &c. There are two kinds; those which support apices, are particularly called *flamina*; and those which have none, *psilla*.

THREAD, in the *Linen Manufacture*, a small line or twist of flax, the weaving of which composes cloth. There is a stronger kind made use of to sew the seams of linen garments, or to mend them. The same term is applicable to cotton or wool. See **SPINNING**.

Thread, says an eminent French writer (Pajot des Charmes), bleached by the oxygenated muriatic acid, may be used by the sempstresses with much greater speed and briskness than thread of the same quality bleached in the field: it is less brittle, and may be struck much more effectually home to its place in weaving, and does not move afterwards. This information, he says, was received by him from impartial and unprejudiced manufacturers.

The thread of the Laplanders is very fine, white, and strong, but it is of a very different nature from our's; they know nothing of flax or hemp, nor of any other plant whose stalks might supply the place of these in making thread, but their's is made of the sinews of the rein-deer.

They kill of these animals a very great number continually, partly for food, partly for the skins, which they use in clothing themselves, covering their huts, and on many other occasions; the sinews of all they kill are very carefully preserved, and delivered to the women, whose province it is to prepare this necessary matter. They beat the sinews very well, after having steeped them a long time in water, and then they spin them out.

The thread they thus make is of any degree of fineness they please; but it is never any longer than the sinew from which it is made. They use this in sewing their clothes, shoes, gloves, &c. and the trappings of their rein-deer. The threads of the same sinew are laid up together, and are all of a length; and as the different sinews afford them very different lengths, they accordingly pick out such as the present use requires, both in regard to length and fineness. This sort of thread is made with much more labour than our's; but it is greatly superior to it on many occasions, where strength is rather required than beauty.

These people have, besides this, a way of making a sort of yarn of sheep's wool, which they weave into garters and a sort of ribbands, used by way of ornament; but they place no value on it, because of its want of strength. Scheffer's Hist. Lapland.

THREAD, in *Botany*, is understood of those capillaments usually found in the middle of flowers, as in the lily, tulip, &c.