

SHODDY (probably a variant of dialectic *shode*, shedding, separation, from AS. *scēad*, separation, from *scēadān*, Goth. *skaidan*, OHG. *scoidan*, Ger. *scheiden*, to separate; connected with Lith. *skėdėti*, I separate, Lat. *scindere*, Gk. *σχίζειν*, *schizein*, Skt. *chid*, to split). A generic term referring to reclaimed wool and cotton fibre of any sort. Such fibre may be obtained by passing rags of wool, worsted, or union fabrics, tailors' clippings, and various mill wastes through pickers, so that they are reduced to a fibrous form and can be mixed with new wool and spun into yarn. In England and America the term "shoddy" is applied to the fibre manufactured from yarn and soft products, "mungo" to that from hard-spun fabrics, and "wool extract" to that obtained from union or cotton-mixed fabrics, by carbonizing the cotton fibre with chemicals. The mills manufacturing shoddy also make a considerable quantity of flocks, which consists of short refuse wool, shearing of woolen goods, or wool dust, and is employed for weighting certain kinds of woolen cloth and coating of waterproof garments, in the surfacing of wall papers, and for other purposes. The shoddy industry in the United States, according to the Thirteenth United States Census, in 1909 involved 88 establishments, with a capital of \$6,886,825, producing a product valued at \$7,446,364, from raw material valued at \$5,000,706. The shoddy industry is quite important, and the utilization of waste products has a legitimate use, not only in adulterating and cheapening woolen cloths, but in making certain light fabrics, which have their special purposes. Consult "Manufactures," in *Thirteenth Census of the United States*, vol. x (Washington, 1913).