DICTIONARY OF TEXTILE TERMS.

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Spin: To draw out and twist into threads, as to spin wool, cotton, flax, silk, etc. To form, by drawing out and twisting together, yarn or threads of a required count.

Some historians claim Leonardo da Vinci as the inventor of the spindle, but a similar device or idea of a similar construction in 1452 was never universally known. Spinning was carried on in its crudest state until 1533, when a German, Johann Jungen, of Wolfenbüttel, invented the well-known spinning-wheel. As the demand for cotton cloth increased, several efforts were made to facilitate the production of yarn, and in 1764 James Hargreaves produced his spinning jenny. In 1767 Arkwright received a patent on a device which laid a foundation for our modern cotton spinning, i.e., drawing out the sliver by means of three sets of rolls and winding the same upon a bobbin placed on a spindle and between two rolls. The inventions of Hargreaves and Arkwright were successfully combined by Crompton, who in 1779 invented the mule-jenny.

Spindle: The centre of the spinning action, and commonly a finely tempered, tapering pin of metal, which is used in spinning. It is an imparting twist to the thread, and on which the latter, when twisted, is wound. A pin on which anything turns, etc.

Spindle Foot: The base of the spindle which revolves in the stop; also called shaft. The blade is that part of the spindle extending upwards from the holder. The length above the holder varies, but in any case, whatever this length may be, the spindles are said to be so much out abreast.

Spindle Step: In spinning-spindles, the lower bearing of an upright spindle.

Spindle Whirl: The little round pulley fastened on the spindle, and round which the spindle band is passed. Also called Spindle Whorle or Spindle Whirl.

Spine: In hand-made laces, points decorating the cordonnet. (See Cordonnet.)

Sinneret: A tube projecting from the lower lip of the silkworm, and through which the silk issues.

Spinning: Drawing and twisting fibres to make yarns or threads.

Spinning Gland: A gland that spins silk or a silky substance, as in silk-worms.

Spinning Jenny: A spinning machine which was the first to operate upon more than one thread. Invented in 1764, the spindle band was passed and contrived a frame with eight spindles, which would thus produce eight threads at one time. The original Jenny of eight spindles had been doubled in power by the time the patent was taken out. The spinning Jenny was subsequently improved upon and largely superseded by Crompton’s mule-jenny.

Spinning Machine: A machine for spinning, specifically, one that spins fibres together, as distinguished from a mule or other intermittent working device.

Spinning Mule: The mule spinning frame which automatically performs drawing, twisting, winding-on and copying motions, being entirely automatic in its movements, which complete the yarn and winds it on the spindle in a cop or cylindrical coil, conical at each end. It consists of a fixed part, creel, roller-bottom, creeling part or carriage, which runs out about 64 inches, drawing out and spinning the roving to the required fineness, then runs back on the spun yarn on the spindles. Mules contain as many as 1,500 spindles. Also called Self-actor Mule.

Spinning Wheel: A household implement formerly used for spinning yarn or thread, consisting essentially of a spindle that received rapid rotation by means of a band connecting it with a fly wheel which was driven by a treadle or crank.

Spire: The breathing holes of the silkworm; one row of nine down each side, and three at the end.

Spiral: Any two threads of different count folded together will result in a spiral appearance; the greater the difference in thickness, the more striking the effect.

Spiral Structure: Secondary deposits on the outer cell wall of the cotton fibre, placed in a spiral form.

Spiral Yarn: Contains a soft spun yarn, twisted in a corkscrew fashion around a different colored single, or two-ply, hard spun staple.

Spitzfields: A part of London famous at one time for its silks. Industry now almost extinct. Was vigorous rivals of Lyons from 1727 to 1730. Innumerable silken fabrics made in Spitzfields; brocade lustreeng, brocade tabby, brocade tissue, brocade damask, tobin, flowered tabby, figured tobin, fourcomber damask, double tissue, gold stuff, double tabby, brocade satin, Venetian brocade, paneled damask, tobin, tabby, tabby lustreeng, and so forth.

Spliced: Reinforced parts of hosiery where the wear is the greatest.

Splitter: See Spout.

Split: See Dent.

Split-edge: Goods woven in two or more widths and separated by cutting between the edges.

Split-foot: A term used in connection with the manufacture of hosiery, to designate the grade or style. When used in connection with ordinary hosiery, knit on a knitting machine, it refers to hosiery in which the foot is knit with yarn in natural color, or bleached, whereas the leg is dyed. When used in connection with brocaded hosiery, it designates that the goods have been knit flat, and looped or sewed together, forming a seam up the centre of the sole and leg of the stocking.

Split-fuel: The number of yarns passed through the split or dent of a loom reed.

Split-motion: A special selvage motion working on the loom principle, placed in the centre of a loom, for weaving two pieces (having its own selvages) side by side.

Splits: Cloths woven two or more pieces in a width, and cut apart either while in the loom or after removal. The inner selvages are either loose, i.e., imperfect and which are sometimes hemmed by a line, or their outside threads are worked on the leno principle, by what is known as a split-motion, to prevent rebellion.

Sponge Cloth: A cloth having a surface resembling that of a small sponge.

Sponge Silk: A woven or knitted fabric, made from waste silk, and which looks like rough rags, or low grade cotton towelling; used for draperies and underwear, also for wiping silverware and machinery.

Spool: A wooden bobbin, consisting of a barrel with a head on each end; the thread or yarn being in this case drawn from the barrel in reverse direction from that in which it is wound on.

Spool Cotton: Sewing cotton thread, wound on a spool, made of three strands, each being a double strand. Also: A machine for winding yarn or thread on spools. Also called Spooling Machine.

Spoon Lever: A part of the back stop motion in a drawframe or sliver lap machine; a spoon shaped lever or tumbler grooved at the top, so that the sliver passes securely through it. When the sliver breaks or runs out, the release of its weight brings the other end of the lever into contact with other parts of the stop motion, in turn arresting the motion of the machine.

Sponges: The germinating seed of fungi.

Spot: See Spot-proof.

Spot-proof: See Proofing.

Spooling: Yarn being put upon bobbins or spools.

Spots: Applies in the cotton market, to cotton on the spot, visible and tangible in bales, the opposite of futures.

Spot-stitch: In crochet work, a stitch by means of which raised dots or figuring were wrought at regular intervals.

Spotting: Weaving spots; planning spot designs; awl weaving.

Spraying: Dampening fabrics automatically by machinery by means of the finest possible spray of water, in the process of finishing certain (cotton) fabrics.

Spread-board: Upon its table the flax fibres are spread in even layers, producing a continuous bunch of about the same thickness. The spread flax passes between the vertical partitions at the end of the table and connecting with the machine to a pair of rollers. A second system of rollers in turn takes the flax from the first set. The bunches of flax spread on the feeding-table of the spread-board, are stretched or drawn out by means of two pairs of rollers, called feed and delivery rollers respectively, and are mixed in a solid, continuous flax, by means of the gills or falls. The spread-board is capable of spreading, drawing, stretching, or extending the bunches of flax to from 25 to 40 times their original length. Also to Jute.

Spring Take-up: An elastic finger which takes up the slack of the yarn on knitting, winding, etc., machinery.

Sprinkling: See Dampen.
Spun Glass: When a glass rod is heated in a flame until perfectly soft, it can be formed into the form of fine threads, and is used in the production of novelties, or for special fabrics. Spun glass can be produced in any account of the glass rod or threads of adequate hardness to a capillary thread. On cooling, they curl up in consequence of the different constructions of the capillary threads.

Spun Gold: Gold thread for weaving special ornamental fabrics, particularly that made by twisting or wrapping the first narrow ribbon of rolled gold about a cotton or silk thread.

Spun Silk: Silk thread produced from cocoons which the insect has pierced in the form of the thread, husk waste from reeling, “
e,” silk which is too much entangled and cannot be commercially reeled; also waste silk may be used for this purpose. A yarn composed of fibres of silk, which fibres have been cut or dressed into lengths varying from five to twelve inches, to be later made into a cheaper type of thread.

Pliny and Aristotle give an account of silk manufacture, in which the cocoons are first wound up and then spun on a spinning wheel. The increased use of wild silks, of which the greater part could not be reeled, added to the method of silk spinning. The Persians, Greeks and Arabs were using this process in the 9th and 10th centuries.

Spun Silver: Silver thread for weaving special ornamental fabrics; particularly that made by twisting or wrapping a very thin narrow ribbon of rolled silver about a cotton or silk thread.

Spindle: The largest standard measure of yarn, 14,000 yards in length, the weight of this mass of a spindle being the count of the yarn.

Squirrels: A name sometimes given to the workers of a carding engine.

Squat: Made in Kashmir, India, of very fine wool.

Stacking: When roughing, in preparing flax for the mill, is found too expensive a process, stacking is substituted; i.e., placing the flax in double pieces, straightening out their length, next opening on the huckle and breaking the root ends. Stacking is done by boys. Roughing is men's work.

Staff: See Distaff.

Stained: (Cloth Term) Marks or stains or a different color of dye, etc., these get down in the cloth while passing through the various operations, making it more or less defective.

Stained Cotton: Cotton fibres in which the dye is exposed to the atmosphere with the result that the fibre is colored a pale buff, loosing in turn some of its value to the mill using it.

Stained Wool: Wool which has become discolored through the effects of urine, etc. When scoured, it has a burnt appearance. Used in making goods of a dark color.

Stained Yarn: May be caused by the working-up of stained cotton, but is chiefly due to carelessness of the mill operatives in allowing oil to come into contact with the yarn. Is often caused by the yarn not receiving immediate attention, and striking some part of the machinery, thus picking up grease and dirt. This conveys to the yarn when it is pieced up.

Stain: Yarn may sometimes arise from operatives having dirty hands, or from impure water when the doubling is done. A principle.

Stake-heads: Posts at the side of the rope-walk for supporting the laid rope.

Stamped Velvet: Velvet having pattern stamps inserted into the pile with heated engraved rollers.

Standard: The number of yards used as a basis to count numbers of yards. Cotton yarns have for their standard 840 yards (equal to 1 hank) and are graded by the number of yards the yarn contains. Worsted yarns have for their standard 500 yards to the hank. Woolen yarns are graded either by the run or the cut system; the former has for its standard 300 yards and the latter 300 yards. Silk yarns refer either to spun silks, which have the same standard as cotton, or to raw silks, where the process is to specify the size by giving the weight of 1000 yards hank in drams avoirdupois, or they are graded by the denier system. Linen, etc., or Ramie yarns have for their standard 300 yards to the hank or lea.

Standard Colors: Those of the spectrum.

Standard Harness: In gaue or leno weaving one of the dough harnesses, the harness-frame or heddle to which the dough is attached.

Standard Thread: In gauze weaving, the thread or the threads, around which the whip-thread or threads twist.

Stanza: Refers to cotton growing; a group of the best plants which is allowed to grow forward in its growth after the rest have been chopped or weeded out. It is calculated by due distances from each other, about a foot being allowed on high land, while those on low land, where the growth is more luxuriant, are left at distances of from eighteen to twenty inches.

Stannate of Soda: A salt made up of stannic oxide and dissolving. The same is used in making caustic soda, used in printing steam colors. Used extensively in weighting silk, also in mordanting cotton and in dyeing wool with alizarine. Also called Stannate of Soda.

Stannic Chloride: A salt obtained by treating tin crystals with hydrochloric acid and cane sugar, in the same proportion of tin to sugar.

Stannic Oxalate: A tin salt used in steam colors and obtained by dissolving stannic chloride in oxalic acid.

Stannic Toluene: Produced by adding carbonic acid to stannic chloride, and used for making stannate of soda.

Stannous Acetate: A chemical, useful in the dyeing of wool. Used in finishing, made by mixing together solutions of stannous chloride and acetate of lead.

Stannous Chloride: Used as a mordant in silk dyeing; as a discharging chemical in calico-printing; in dyeing wool with cochineal. (See Tin Crystals.)

Starch: A group or lock of fibres. To sort or classify any fibre according to its thickness, bundle, or lock of wool fibres which, although growing separately on the body of the sheep, owing to their wavy or curly nature together and form themselves into locks on the back of the sheep. Sea Island cotton is a long-stapled cotton, Upland a short-stapled cotton. Polsterworsted yarn called for a long staple wool, whereas clothing or such cloths as referred to woolen spinning, called for a short staple, but which is no longer the case, on account of improved machinery invented since then for combing the latter.

Staple: A merchant who buys wool and sorts it into its various qualities for the manufacturer.

Staplings: Loops or broken edges of full lengths of full lengths of fabric, usually on the face of the cloth when dealing with imperfect shearing.

Starch: One of the most important of the materials used in the finishing of cotton goods, and in one or the other of its varieties enters into the composition of nearly all finishing mixtures. It is also used in the making of cotton warps, to insure better weaving. The same is generally prepared from potatoes and wheat, less often from maize, rice, barley, etc. The approximate estimation of the percentage of starch is hardly ever required for technical purposes in the textile industries, since it is considered of the applicability and source of the material. Microscopic examination is of the first importance, and quite unavoidable if it is desired to form a comprehensive opinion of the material. Owing to its characteristic form and the different dimensions of the grains of the various varieties of starch, it is not difficult, not on to distinguish qualitatively between the different varieties, but also to obtain a certain idea of the purity and uniformity of the material, since impurities or admixtures, such as sand mould specks, products of decomposition, etc., may be detected with certainty in this manner. The importance is also the amount of water, which increases considerably when the starch is stored and may reach 35 per cent of the weight. The addition of water is 20 per cent. in potato starch, and 16 per cent. in wheat starch, while the normal amounts are 16 to 18 and to 16 per cent., respectively. Pure white material (for wheat starch) or fabrics dyed in sensitive colors (benzopurpurin, Turkey red, logwood black) are not suitable in question on the padding machine, dried and examined. Attention is to be paid to the general appearance of "feel," e.g., the stiffening produced, the action on the dye. Comparative trials may also be required. In printing, especially calico-printing, starch is used on an equally extensive scale.

Starching: A finishing process, consisting of treating the fabric (usually cotton) with a solution of starch, for the purpose of strengthening it. Starch Powder: The same comes into the market in a soluble form, a preparation generally obtained by the action of sulphuric acid under pressure at the boiling point; it is sold both in the form of paste and powder.

Star Stitch: See Double Stitch.
Statue Galloons: Narrow cotton or silk braid, used in England for binding flannel undergarments.

Stauracine: A mediaeval silken fabric, figured with crosses, used for vestments.

Stave: An English term for harness.

Steam Punjums: Allied to both punjum and steam waste. They are said to be the best of both. The use of both may appear wonderful, but it is well established.

Steaming: A process of boiling-off—something like 50 per cent. It is peeled from the cocoons, a number of ends together, and put into book form very similar to the tissue, as described under the heading "Taslee Reel" in "Raw Silk," but owing to the admixture of rice water, or some such substance, the woods mat together and are consequently undistinguishable. In this form the waste is known as punjum books, which are divided into grades 1's, 2's, 3's, and 4's. But only the general run for English spinners, generally half-and-half. The waste is produced in exactly the same manner as the sheets, and no attempt is made to run it into a mass; but as an end breaks or runs off the waste is thrown aside.

Sulphur Style: The method of calico-printing, in which the mordants and colors are mixed together and printed, steam being used to bring up the color and reduce the mordants.

Steam Waste: The best known and most widely used silk waste is Canton filature waste, better known as starch or gum waste. There are two varieties, and several grades of each. The one which has generally found most favor with spinners is the better grade, but on account of its lending itself so easily to adulteration, spinners are now paying more attention to the unopened quality. Steam waste is an opened waste pulled out by the natives who work among it with their fingers and teeth, opening out the hard knobs which have been formed, when the wet waste has been thrown down by the reeler and allowed to dry and mat together, on account of the natural gum which has been softened by the hot water in the basin attached to the reeling machine. Owing to the labor difficulty in China it is becoming more and more important that spinners accustom themselves to the use of unopened steam waste. There are really two kinds of steam waste, which some years ago were known as Selected, No. 1, and No. 2. But year by year the Chinaman seems to have got a better hold of the European silk inspector, and has let down the quality. In the "selected" he would leave a certain amount of No. 1, and in the "2's" a certain amount of No. 2, until at length the admixture of 1's and 2's was so much that No. 2 as a separate grade disappeared, all being mixed with the 2's, and passed as all No. 1. Naturally, the so-called "selected" got a greater percentage of No. 1, so that in time the European spinners decided to work up a better grade and call it Extra selected. This latter came forward very

tingly the skeiner holding the slubbing or the roving.

Stephanie Lace: Modern handmade lace in imitation of the Point Venise.

Stiffener: See Leafy Cotton.

Stiffeners: Dressing fabrics used for giving solidity and firmness to cloths.

Stiffing: Killing the chrysalis in the cocoon of silk, in order to preserve the latter for retting.

Stitchel: A kind of hairy wool.

Stock Dyeing: The process of dyeing fibres in raw state (in the grain) before being spun; is claimed to be essentially an invention, the chief motion of which remains unchanged to the present day.

Stocking Yarn: Loosely twisted yarn, suitable for knitting stockings.

Stocks: The mallets or beaters of the kicker fulling mill, as used for the felting of all kinds; the original fulling mill for textile wool, now superseded by the Rotary Fulling Mill.

Stout Cotton: Trade name for Brazilian cotton.

Stone Mangle: An adaptation of a primitive type of mangle, in which two or three batches of cloth, on iron batch rollers, serve as rollers. One side is mounted a heavy stone-weighted chest or a block of stone. This is caused to travel backwards and forwards, and the weight of the supporting hammers, imitates the latter stage of the jacking process. Though slow and cumbersome, this method, it is claimed, is still occasionally used in England.

Stop: The point at which the warp threads in a face frame are brought together, forming a part of which the pattern may be measured.

Stop Motions: Appliances, devised to stop the machines automatically and avoid the danger of winding, warping, sizing, weaving, finishing, etc., machines, when any cause is necessary to stop the machine, or parts of it, to prevent injury to the machine or material under operation. They are divided into two classes: (a) those operated by some mechanical means, and (b) those actuated by electricity.

Stop Rod: In looms, the rod which extends longitudinally in front, on the bottom of the lay, and forms a part of the filling stop motion, raising a catch, that, if not raised by the absence of the filling engages a mechanism which immediately stops the loom. Also called Protector Rod.

Storm Serge: A very light serge weighing about 7 ounces, made of single wool and filling; used for women's coats.

Stove-tube Finish: A high superficial lustre, produced on a fabric by mechanical or chemical or mechanical and chemical treatment which increases the brilliancy of the fabric. This is applied mainly to fabrics made of mohair, etc., upon which the effect, when produced, increases the nature lustre of the yarn.

Stowage: Submitting wool, yarn, or cloth, in a damp state, to an agent, such as sulphur fumes, with the object of bleaching it.

Exposing printed calicoes to dry heat.