Broadcloth. (Fabric.) A wide and superior article of woolen cloth, plain or twilled, and dyed in the wool or the piece. A cloth not over 29 inches broad is a narrow cloth. It is folded lengthwise in the piece.

The operations in broadcloth-making may be shortly cited as follows:—

The wool, being shorn, goes to the sorter, who selects the grades and parts of fleeces adapted for this superior kind of goods.

Oiled, carded, and spun into yarn.

Woven into a web of such a width as to permit subsequent shrinkage.

Felted by wetting, soaping to remove grease, and pounding. The effect is to condense it and shrink it in width and length. After removal of the soap by fuller's earth, water, and pounding, the web is dried by stretching on tenter-bars.

Napped on a gigging-machine, which raises the nap by the little recurved spires of the teasel (Dipsacus fullonum).

Shorn to bring the naps to a length.

Hot-pressed to give smoothness and polish.