DICTIONARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS RELATING TO THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

(Continued from page 160.)

Surat Cotton:—Collective name for the cottons of India, belonging to the same species as that grown in China. The staples of these two are very short, and the least desirable of any grown. Distinguished in the market by the name of the district where grown.

A cotton cloth made in the Bombay Presidency, but not necessarily from Surat Cotton. The name given to uncolored and unprinted cloth of no great fineness.

Swanskin:—A soft, nappy, fine twilled flannel.

Sweater:—A knitted woolen jacket or jersey, extensively worn by athletes.

Sweating:—The removing of wool from the skins of slaughtered sheep. The fleeces are well steeped in water and afterwards hung in a chamber heated to a high temperature, with the result that the pores of the skin open and the wool drops off, or admits of very easy removal.

Swell:—A friction plate placed at the side of the shuttle box, to check the motion of the shuttle.

Swift:—The main cylinder of a carding engine. That part of a wrap reel or reeling machine, upon which the yarn is wound so as to form the hank.

Swiss-cambric:—A fine variety of Swiss muslin.

Swiss-embroidery:—Embroidery worked with white cotton upon fine linen or muslin.

Swiss lace:—Swiss embroidered net in imitation of Brussels.

Swiss muslin:—A thin, sheer muslin, striped or figured in weaving.

Swissing:—The calendering of bleached cloths, the same passing after first dampening, between pairs of rollers called bowls. One of each pair is made of compressed paper, or of a special combination of cotton and corn husk, whereas the other is a hollow, steam-heated, iron cylinder; the action of these rollers being that of pressure or friction, or both.

Switch:—A fine hackle, as used in preparing flax for spinning.

Swivel Effects:—Small figures produced by the use of small, special constructed shuttles, used in connection with a swivel-loom in figured weaving, said shuttles may carry threads of various shades with the object of obtaining special effects, as in the shading of figures, etc., again, one color effects may only be desired, and then the loom may be equipped with single shuttles only.

Swivel-loom:—A form of loom for figured weaving, having swivel shuttles on the batten for producing spotted figures upon otherwise regular woven cloth.

Swivel shuttles:—An arrangement of small, special shuttles, for forming figures on a fabric, somewhat after the manner of embroidery.

Swivel silks:—Any of the ordinary silk fabrics, such as faille, grenadine, satin, etc., in which are woven small figures by the swivel process.

Swivel weaving:—A weaving process in which special shuttles, driven by racks and pinions, weave filling figures into a material.

Swords:—The bars supporting the batten or lathe of the loom.

Sydney wool:—Australian merino wool of a moderately fine fibre, of medium length, but rather deficient in strength, uneven in color, contaminated frequently with yellow locks, the latter making it undesirable for dyeing light colors. Inferior to Port Phillip wool.

Newer Methods of Engraving.

By D. Blackwood.

In calico printing it is necessary to have the design represented by blocks or rollers for the purpose of carrying the color to be transferred to the fabric.

In the earlier methods, wood or coppered blocks in cameo or relief, were used. This manual operation was necessarily slow, and was superseded by the cylinder printing machine. To meet these changed conditions intaglio engraving was found necessary; and various machines have from time to time been invented to produce the engraving necessary for rotary printing. Many minor improvements have been successfully introduced, but in calico printing there has been no such revolution as has taken place within the past ten years in book and newspaper illustrations by means of photo process engraving. This is principally owing to the absorbent nature of calico, which consequently requires deeper engraving to carry sufficient coloring matter to give the necessary bloom on the face of the cloth.

The chief difficulty of adopting the three-color process would be the changing of combinations of colors. If this could be surmounted by our colorists it would not only cheapen the engraving of the more elaborate designs, but would also open up avenues for further development in the trade.

The possibility (in the near future) of decorating cloth without engraved rollers, would be on the principle of reflecting the design on to sensitized cloth as it passed into a box or drum for the purpose of being developed and fixed.