**Biebrich Scarlet:** A brown-red powder, easily soluble in water, forming a red solution. It dissolves with a green color in concentrated sulphuric acid; diluted with water, the color changes from blue to red; a red-brown precipitate separates. Like congo and prunulin, Biebrich scarlet is the sodium salt of a color acid, Hydrol. It is precipitated from the free color acid from solution in the form of a flocculent, dark red precipitate, unless the solution is very dilute. Biebrich scarlet is a direct dye for silk and wool. It colors cotton to a certain extent, but the color washes out very readily with water. Silk and wool are dyed with Biebrich scarlet in an acid bath; in a neutral bath the dyesings are less bright, and the bath is not exhausted.

**Biggin:** A kind of a skull cap with ear flaps once in common use for men. Also written Biggon.

**Billement:** An ornamental attire for her women.

**Biley:** A machine used in the early days of the spinning industry for the preparation of yarns for the jenny. In the machine the slivers are fed onto to a fixed framework and the spindles are traversed to and fro on the carriage.

**Billette:** A fine, heavily full-lined woolen cloth, piece dyed green, from 72 to 81 inches wide, manufactured from a rather soft spun yarn, and lengthwise with a short warp and a long weft, used for covering billiard tables. The plain weave is used for the better grades, the 3-harness twill for the worst grades.

**Binche Lace:** Fine pillow lace, without cardomont. Ground resembles a spider-web with small dots. Made in Binche, Belgium.

**Binder Warp:** Extra warp-threads added for giving strength to a fabric; if used as an interior warp, it is not visible in the finished fabric.

**Binding:** The securing together, in the process of weaving, two separate cloth, or extra material used for figuring or other purposes on webbing cloth. It is also used for attaching the face and the back plies of the structure.

** Bindings:** A species of narrow fabric of silk, worsted or cotton, for binding the edges of garments, the bottom of dress skirts, etc.

**Bing:** The stack of cotton or wool built up and taken vertically down for mixing purposes; sometimes called Bink.

**Bird's Eye Crêpe:** A thin fabric, manufactured specially for the East Indies.

**Bird's Eye Linen:** A honey-comb or diamond figured linen fabric, used for fancy work.

**Bird's Eye Pattern:** A new term originally applied to a peculiar small pattern produced on eight harnesses, but now applied to any similar weave; the special feature of which is a small dot in the centre of each (repeat) figure.

**Birrus:** A thick, coarse woolen stuff, used for making storm coats.

**Bissette Lace:** A narrow French peasant lace in simple designs. Name often applied to cheap bordering laces.

**Bishop's Lawn:** A lawn fabric, a little heavier than Swiss muslin and somewhat lighter than India linen; it has a kind of a Swiss finish.

**Bishop's Lawn:** Applied to canvas of certain dimensions, 58 inches by 94 inches.

**Bismark Brown:** A coal-tar product used for dyeing cotton, silk and wool in brown shades. It is used in cotton finishing for tinting, to give a regular (white) cotton the appearance of brown Egyptian.

**Bister:** A brown pigment prepared from wood soot by extracting the latter with water. Also written Bitre.

**Bisulphate of Soda:** See Sodium Bisulphate.

**Bisulphite of Soda:** See Sodium Bisulphite.

**Bitartrate of Potash:** See Tartar.

**Bitting:** The process of drawing in additional warp-threads in the harness and reed, at the side of the fabric, provided the width on the loom has to be increased.

**Bivoltins:** Those races of silkworms producing two broods in one year.

**Bixin:** A red coloring matter contained in annatto seeds.

**Black-faced Sheep:** A somewhat small, but robust sheep of the mountainous districts in Scotland, yielding a useful fleece of fairly lustrous, medium length wool, usually more or less kempt, but feltling still for sale.

**Blackjack:** A term used when referring to leafy cotton, where the refuse of leaves present are of such a size, as to give it a blotchy appearance.

**Black Liquor:** See Pyrogallic of Iron.

**Black-moss:** The Spanish moss of the southern United States, used as a substitute for horsehair in mattresses, etc.

**Black Seed:** A name applied both to Sca Island varieties and to Upland varieties of cotton having a smooth seed.

**Blancard:** A linen fabric made in Normandy of half bleached linen yarn.

**Blanc Fixe:** Artificial barium sulphate or heavy spar, prepared by precipitation of barium salts with sulphuric acid or salpetre. It is usually sold in the form of a paste containing from 25 to 50 per cent. of water; it is smaller finer and freer from the chemical action of the natural barium sulphate, and can therefore be used for softer finishes where the natural mineral is unsuitable. It is also used as a by-product in several chemical processes, and can therefore be bought at a cheap rate. Also called Barium Chloride or Barium Sulphate.

**Blanola:** A proprietary article of prominence, made in England. It is a highly concentrated vegetable gelatine, and is used as a stiffening and binding material in cotton finishing, giving superior lustre and fulness to the cloth.

**Blanket:** A large oblong piece of soft, loosely woven, heavy woolen cloth, usually having a nap, used for a bed covering, to cover a horse, etc. The lower grades of blankets contain cotton, either as a solid cotton warp and a wool, or wool and cotton mix filling; or wool and cotton mix is used for both the warp and the filling.

**Blanket:** Clotted as a sample by which to sell goods. Selling blanket.

A section range of patterns woven in one continuous length of cloth.

The word blanket is derived from Thomas Blanket, an Englishman, who in 1342, under the reign of Edward I, was permitted to carry on that manufacture in Bristol, England, against the wishes of the mayor of that town.

**Blank:** Flock silk, or the loose web of the silkworm, inside of which it forms its cocoon.

**Blazer:** A bright colored, light weight jacket of cotton, wool or silk and worn by men or women in outdoor sports.

**Bleach:** Any bleaching agent; bleached cloth.

**Blended Cotton:** See Boiled-off Cotton.

**Bleached Flax:** That from which the natural coloring matter and the incrusting poetic matter have been removed by boiling-off and subsequent bleaching on the grass or by means of chlorid of lime. Linen yarns from which these processes are passed as "full white," "three-quarters white," and "half white."

**Bleachery:** An establishment for the bleaching of textile fabrics.

**Bleaching:** The process of freeing textile fibres and fabrics of their natural color, in turn whitening them. The ancient method of bleaching was to expose the material to the rays of the sun’s rays while frequently wetting them. Now bleaching is carried on by means of either chlorine or sulphur dioxide. The former is employed by boiling-off and subsequent bleaching on the grass or by means of chlorid of lime. Linen yarns from which these processes are passed as "full white," "three-quarters white," and "half white."

**Bleaching Powder:** See Chloride of Lime.
BLEACHING SOLUTION: Mix one part bleaching powder to a gently smooth paste with three parts water, and dilute with three parts more of water; after settling, the pure solution will enter into the desired state.

BLEEDING: A term applied to cloth or yarn from which (when subjected to the scouring or fulling operation) the color runs, and which usually stains white or light shades presently.

BLENDED COLORS: The effect obtained by the passing of one color or tone to another, by means of imperceptibly gradual shades or tints.

BLENDING: The mixing together of various qualities or kinds of materials in either the raw or semi-manufactured state, in order to modify color, quality, or price of the resultant bulk.

BLINDSTITCH: In needlework, a stitch that does not show on either side of the work.

BLITZER CLOTH: A fabric (usually a double texture) designed to produce a blistered, raised (embossed) effect.

BLOCK PRINTING: The printing of fabrics, or warp, by means of blocks having the designs worked on their faces. This is all hand work; as distinguished from printing with rollers.

BLOCKS: The wooden blocks, engraved patterns, which the type printer impresses upon the cloth or warp.

BLOCK SYSTEM: By this term is meant the two means which are adopted in each headstock of a mule for preventing two contrary motions being at work at the same time. For instance, the drawing-up friction and holding-out catch must never be engaged at the same time. Also called Safety Locking Arrangement.

BLONDE LACE: Originally a bobbin lace made of unbleached silk, though now shown in black, white, and colors. Made with two different sizes of thread; fine thread for ground, coarse for the design. Usually takes some floral form. Very lustrous.

BLOOD: "Full blood," "Half blood," "Three-eighths blood," "Quarter blood," are terms used to denote the proportion of merino blood in a sheep. They are at present used arbitrarily to designate particular grades of wool.

BLOOD ALBUMEN: Has much the same properties as egg-albumen, and is used in printing and fixing colors, also as a mordant. It occurs in blood-serum. Care must be taken in its manufacture, otherwise the red corpuscles will break and spoil the color of the product, which would injuriously affect the printing.

BLOOM: The bright, lustrous finish on silk and pile fabric.

BLOOMER: A woman's costume consisting of loose trousers, drawn close up to the under garments or petticoat. Originated by a Mrs. Bloomer of New York in 1849. Now used by women in gymnasiums, on stage, etc.

BLOOMING: The addition of an agent, usually stannous chloride, to the dye bath towards the end of the dyeing process, having for its object the rendering of the color lighter and brighter.

BLOTH GROUNDS: Printed patterns, in which the ground is printed in black or color, instead of being left white.

BLOUSE: A garment for either sex, which fits the body loosely, and as a rule is belted.

BLOWING-ROOM: The scouring department of a cotton spinning mill. Blue: One of the shades made in sorting a fleece for worsted spinning. The finest, most elastic and strongest staple in the fleece.

BLUE-BOTTLED: See Calf Leather.

BLUE-GROUND: The grand navy regulations require twill weave, and to be wool, indigo dyed.

BLUEING: The tinting of yellowish wool with, say, aniline blue or violet, with the idea of neutralizing the yellow and producing a neutral white appearance.

BLUESTONE: See Copper Sulphate.

BLUE VITRIOL: See Copper Sulphate.

BO: A long cylindrical wrap, worn by women for protecting their necks, usually made of fur or feathers.

BOARDY: A term applied to fabrics which handle hard and cakie.

BOBBIN: A slender spool, used to carry the yarn for the loom shuttle. A flanged wooden cylinder for holding yarn or thread.

BOBBIN CREEK: Any frame which holds both yarn and thread.

BOBBINET: A perforated fabric produced by a series of threads crossing and partially twisting around each other in the shape of hexagonal meshes in imitation of pillow lace.

BOBBINET FRAME: The machine originally invented by Heathcote for making bobbins.

BOBBIN LACE: Lace of which the threads are plaited or twisted together without use of needle. Imitation of the Italian lace. Made in England and France.

BOBBIN-STAND: A large frame holding the yarns for supplying the warping reel.

BOBBIN-WINDER: A machine for winding yarns from hanks, cops, cheeses, or other spools onto bobbins.

BOCCAS: A cotton cloth used in the Levant.


BODICE: A tight fitting waist of a woman's dress, when acidified until showing a weakly acid or neutral reaction, is of an even mucilaginous condition. As boiled-off liquor is very apt to become putrid, it is not a regular article of trade, and dye houses which do not produce boiled-off liquor in sufficient quantities for their purposes procure substitutes which may for instance be produced according to the following recipe: 3 lbs. soap, 10 oz. gelatine or glue, 3 to 4 oz. 3 4 oz. common salt are boiled up well with 10 gallons water. This solution is used in the same way as boiled-off liquor. For acidifying purposes, the requisite sulphuric or acetic acid should be added but slowly while continually stirring.

BOILED-SILT: Boiling silk repeatedly in soap baths deprives the silk of its gum or saliva, and imparts to it the softness and lustre so highly prized in silk fabrics. In the process the silk loses on an average 25 per cent, according to the class of raw silk used, as well as amount of boiling-off required. China silk loses more than either European or Japanese silks. Also called Degummed Silk or Ungummed Silk.

BOILING-OFF SILK: This operation consists in treating the raw silk threads or goods in aqueous soap baths; the first one at a medium temperature, and the second being used boiling. It has the object of developing the lustre and soft feel of the silk by removing the gum with which the fibre is naturally encrusted. Silk may, however, be dyed in the gum or only partly boiled-off. If completely boiled-off, losing about 25 per cent of its weight, the silk is then known as Soft Silk; if boiling-off from 5 to 12 per cent of its weight, the silk is then known as Souple Silk; if boiling-off only from 2 to 5 per cent of its weight, such silk is called Crepe Silk.

BOLETTE CONDENSER: The machine used as an adjunct at the head or end of the finisher of a set of woolen cards, for dividing the fine wool or long strands, as taken from the doffer by means of the doffer comb, into fine ribs or roving strands, a number of which in turn are automatically wound on to reels. J. S. Bolette firstingly in 1879 constructed a condenser with a single ribbon for producing all the divisions of the films and in 1882 patented the ribs of Boëte's patent movable.

The inventor of the Bolette condenser is a Mr. Schellenberg of Chemitz, Germany, who in 1854 took out a patent to divide the film as leaving the doffer of the finisher card by means of dividing discs. A second inventor was Mr. George Aue, Germany, his first patent dating 1861. The third inventor was a Mr. Celestin Martin of Verviers, Belgium, who improved the doffer discs of Benoit. In 1868, his first patent dated 1868. Next J. S. Bolette of Verviers, Belgium, produced the work by means of toothed discs, which produced the fine ribs or riving strands of tear- and not cutting. Following him, Emile Bède, of Verviers, in 1873 invented the condenser with stationary steel ribs. J. S. Bolette finally in 1879 constructed a condenser with a single ribbon for producing all the divisions of the films and in 1882 patented the ribs of Boëte's patent movable.