Crammed Stripes: Fabrics in which stripe effects are produced by one portion of the reed containing more warps and wefts than another portion of the reed.

Cramping: In finishing woven fabrics the operation of pressing said fabric with iron cramps after it has been sheared.

Crane: A thin, transparent, gauze-like, puckered, crisp (crumpled) silk, wool, and worsted fabric, usually black, and used in mourning. Japanese and Chinese crane are usually made in bright colors. The crumpled or wrinkled appearance of crane is due to the peculiar construction of the yarn used, as well as the method of dressing and finishing the fabric after weaving. The warp is twisted extra hard, and the weft, when made thicker with size or gum, has a tendency to crinkle, curl, or crepe, hence the name.

Crape-morettes: A gauzy woven fabric of fine texture, the warp being of high counts, loosely set in the reed, the filling being of a relatively heavy count and of the same nature. Also written Crape-moretette.

Crape of China: See Crêpe de Chine.

Craping Machine: A mechanical contrivance for crimping crane.

Crasel: Like crackle or broken glass. Cracked or lace-like.

Crash: A fabric formerly used chiefly for toweling, etc., but now also used for under outer skirts, etc. Chiefly made of linen, but also from waste cotton. Irregular weaves, such as the crape and oatmeal, are employed; these are complicated with brighter, more even nature of the filling, giving a rough surface to the cloth.

Cravat: Originally, a piece of cambric, silk, or a similar fabric folded and passed around the neck and shirt collar; a neck cloth. The term cravat is now applied to the narrow necktie and the scarf, both in men's and women's wear.

Cravonette: Originally, the name of a process of treating cloth to render it water-proof and spot-proof, invented by an Englishman named Craven, hence the name. The term is now applied to water-proof, or water-resistant fabrics regardless of their nature, the designation (or proper name) of the cloth, however, not being changed by the application of the water-proofing process to them. (U.S. Customs House decision.) The process of cravonetting consists of treating the fabric with a solution that destroys the absorbent nature of the fibre and makes it water-proof. The pores in the threads and the interstices of the fabric, however, not being filled up so that the fabric remains porous.

Crazy Quilt: A kind of patchwork quilt in which irregular pieces of different styles of fabrics are sewed together to form either fantastic patterns or without any particular design.

Crescendo: See Tartar.

Cream Softening: This dressing preparation is used as a softener in place of fat, tallow, oils, glycine, etc. It is used with particular advantage along with dressings containing flour, dextrine, gum, starch, and glue, and prevents the growth of mould and fungi. Cream softening is a pure and efficacious germicide. It is applied immediately after all washing in water, has a softening and disinfectant action, and may be used in all sizings and dressings containing dextrine, gum, starch, etc., for linens, unions, woollens, silks, velvets, and cottons.

Criee: The framework arranged to hold spaces upon which warping bobbins or cheeses can be run horizontally, or pegs (upon which spools or cops may be placed) vertically, in order that the yarn may be conveniently drawn during the warping operation. There are three types met with, viz., flat, semi-circular, and V-shaped. The latter style of crib is usually arranged so that half the crib may be filled while the other half is being warped from.

Creeper: The name given to the boys and men who take out empty bobbins and replace them with full bobbins in the crib (frames for holding bobbins) attached to the ring frame. It employs intermediate and slubbing frames, as used in the process of spinning.

Creeping Lattice: A crape, in which woolen colors are woven in an endless band and stretched upon two rollers, the revolution of which causes the lattice to carry forward anything placed upon it. Carrier rollers may be suitably arranged to assist the lattice upon its perfect run.

Crepeline: A lightweight dress material, having an irregular border of simulated crape stripes.

Crêpe: French for crape, which see.


Crêpe Cloth: A variety of cloth for dress goods of cotton, worsted or silk, or their admixtures, constructed with a system of weaves known as crêpe and granite weaves; either system producing with broken-up effects by their character of interlacing of warp and filling. The novel feature of the cloth is its light weight and full handle, combined with the facility for draping nicely.

Crêpe de Chine: A piece-dyed silk fabric, made with raw or thrown silk warp, and with the filling of alternating twists of wool and silk yarn, giving a smooth, lustrous, and presents a finely crinkled effect. It is dyed almost any color, plain, figured or printed. Distinctive feature of the surface. Imitations are also produced by using alternately right and left hand worsted filling tightly twisted, the fabric in turn also producing a similar crêpe effect. Also called Crêpe de China.

Crêpe de Chine Twist: A hard-twisted tram, which can seldom be made in a satisfactory manner on ordinary machinery. It usually runs from two to eight thread, from 30 to 75 turns to the inch, more or less. It is generally made from 14 to 16 denier Canton silks, and delivered on bobbins.

Crêpe Blanche: French, a small crêpe-like effect.

Crêpe Lisse: A fine cotton or thin silk fabric, extremely pliable, used for ruchings, fancy dress purposes, etc.

Crêpe Métal: From the French, a lustrous silk crépe with a fine twill face.

Crêpe Satin: A fabric with a rich satin warp and crépe twist filling. Rather difficult to dye perfectly.

Crêpe-Twist: In single thread, the same is twisted generally like first-time spinning on organze, and contains from 20 to 100 turns to the inch, more or less. It is usually delivered on bobbins, and can be produced on organze machinery. A base price of about 30 cents per pound on 13 to 15 denier silk is charged, and the extra handling in steaming, redrawing and packing of bobbins, etc., and including twist in the single thread equal to that in regular organze—namely, 2% turns.

Crêpe Weave: An interlacing of warp-threads and picks in a more or less mixed or indiscriminate order to produce an appearance of a finely broken-up character.

Crépine: A fabric of a warp rib character, in which the regular order of the weaves is so broken as to give a rib-crêpe effect.

Crépon: A structure of a crêpe-like character but of a firmer and thicker texture, which is obtained by a combination of materials, by weave combination, by combination of materials and weaves, by mechanical arrangements during weaving, or finally by subjecting plain-woven fabrics to a special chemical process during finishing. Crépons are produced in one color and in single tones. From the French: to make crisp. Also called Crisp.

Cretinette: Heavy cotton cloth printed in large designs, used for drapery and upholstery purposes. From Cretonne a Frenchman who first made this cloth. Also called Chintz, or Chintz.

Crewel: A loosely twisted worsted yarn, used in fancy work and embroidery.

Crimp: Another term synonymous with crépon, but less frequently employed.

Crimpiness: The waves or crimps natural to the wool fibre, which in the case of merino's, etc., largely assist the felting of the fabric, which takes place during the fulling and scouring operations. Also called Curliness.

Crimson: A red color having bluish tints; however, it is redder than purple; deep red in general.

Crinoline: A stiff fabric composed of cotton warp and horsehair filling, or in cheaper grades made in all cotton
yarns. It is sold in varying widths, usually from 18 to 20 inches wide, and is used by tailors and dressmakers in stiffening skirts, collars or other parts of garments. It is a cheap cloth of low texture and simple coloring. The distinguishing feature being the stiff finish with either a dull or highly glazed face on the cloth.

Criscoio Cotton: Or Maranhão cotton is a cotton grown in Brazil, a species of Peruvian cotton.

Crossed: To knit, entwine or loop wool, worsted, silk or cotton into a fabric with a single hooked needle. Nuns' lace; originally made by drawing the threads from pin to pin on a cushion in small hobbins; now made almost wholly by one continuous thread worked into patterns by means of a small hook.

Crossed Cotton: A cotton thread doubled twice, but the first doubling is in the opposite direction from that in which the yarn has been spun, while the second doubling is in the same direction. In other words, the twisting for cotton yarn is in the opposite direction from that of spinning. The strength and quality of the above products are determined by the quality of the spun yarn and the number of strands twisted together.

Crocheting: Knitting with a needle.

Crochet Lace: Any point lace made with the crochet hook. Hand knitted lace.

Crocodile-cloth: The name given to woolen or worsted jacquard dress goods, having Bedford cord weaves for their figure; in vogue about 1891.

Crofting: Exposing linen on the grass after bowling, or baking, to bleach it.

Croisé: A velvet weave in which the weft ribbons each other at the back, forming a kind of twilled back. From croisé, French for crossed.

Croisère: The twist (crossing) to which the raw silk thread, as coming from the ribbon, is submitted in reeling to smoothen the raw silk thread.

Crommelin: A starch substance used to thicken some thin dress goods employed in the washing of calicoes.

Cropper: A machine for cropping or removing all threads and fluff from the face of the cloth previous to its being mangled or calendered, by means of a series of knives working along both sides of the cloth.

Cropping: Cutting the nap of a cloth to a level.

Cross-band: This means warp twist, or twist from right to left, looking up the yarn; vice versa, openband or filling twist which means the opposite direction of twist, or twist from left to right, looking up the yarn. Both terms are derived from the one-thread spinning wheel. When the hand or string from the rim to the spool is opening open, the twist of yarn produced was called openband, and when the hand was running across between the rim and spindle, the twist produced was naturally called twist.

Cross-barred: Marked by traverse bars, produced either by difference in material, color or weave.

Cross Border: The heading to a piece of cloth formed either by a change in color, and of quality of the filling, or by a change in the pattern.

Cross-bred: Sheep bred by the crossing of two distinct breeds of the species, such as Leicester with Southdown, Merino with Cotswold, etc.: also the wool from such cross-bred sheep. Equivalent to the term Half-bred.

Cross Drawing: A fancy drawing-in draft for the warp; any other drawing-in draft but a plain or straight draft.

Cross-dyed: The piece dyeing of a fabric usually composed of two materials, for example cotton warp and wool or silk, one of these materials usually, the warp, has been yarn or warp dyed prior to weaving, so that there only remains the second material (usually the filling) to be dyed.

Cross-over: Fabrics known by this name have stripes, either of color or weave effect, extending across the width of the cloth, i.e., in the direction of the warp threads, besides interlacing with the filling, are twisted around threads of its own system, the resulting fabric showing openwork effects; gauze or linen fabrics.

Crotalaria Juncea: Sun hemp, the fibre from which strong hemp ropes are made.

Crown Foot: A defective appearance in fabrics usually due to defectively spun yarns.

Crown Foot Twills: The 4-harness broken twill (also known as the 4-harness satin) and the 6-harness satin; using warp or filling effect in either instance. The first mentioned weave is more frequently called the small crown foot twill so as to distinguish it from the latter weave.

Crown: A term used in card clothing indicating a staple between the points; it may be 1/4 or 1/4 inch, more or less.

Crown Lace: Early lace in which rival crowns were used as part of the pattern, dating back to the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

Crown Lining: Fine crinoline or stiff tarlatan, used by milliners for lining the crowns of ladies' bonnets.

Crown of Card Clothing: The number of wires in one inch along a sheet of card clothing.


Croydon: A heavy make of plain cloth, bleached and finished to give stiffness and a glossy surface.

Croydon Finish: This refers to a standard cotton finish in which the cloth is run through a three-bowl hot water mangle, conditioned over the tins, beetled about 30 minutes both ends, slightly calendered, given three dips, chased on the round, then beetle again for from 20 to 30 minutes, plaited, flat beetled to feel, made up, pressed in the hydraulic press; the aim of the operation is to obtain that thready appearance characteristic of linen, an appearance not obtainable by any other means than beetling.

Crumb Cloth: A stout kind of cloth intended to be placed under the table to receive the falling fragments and thus keep carpet or floor clean.

Crutchings: Wool removed from the fleece a month or more before the immediate shearing for the purposes of facilitating that operation, improving the growth of new wool, and relieving the annual of an unprofitable burden. Also called knit.

Crystal Carbonate: Pure crystalized soda, containing, however, only 18 per cent, water of crystallization.

Crystaline: See Amalgam.

Crystal Soda: These are small crystals, and generally purer than the large crystals; owing to the much larger soda content, they are much more economical in use. Used in dye boiling in the bleaching of cotton goods.

Cubical: A worsted fabric of fine texture used for linings.

Cubist Designs: Irregular triangles and other straight-sided figures of different colors massed together in apparent disorder with perhaps an occasional segment of a circle or an ellipse. Colors often range from full-strength to light tints, frequently there is just a trace of color or buff.

Cudbear: See Orchil.

Cuff: That part of a garment, made either of linen, lace, fur or other fabric which covers the wrist, either under or over the sleeve.

Curtain: A fine woolen cloth of Scotch origin, used for undergarments and health.

Cuit Silk: Prepared from raw silk by thoroughly boiling-off in a bath containing 10 to 15 grams of soap per liter. When examined under the microscope it is seen to be devoid of the granular layer of gum and composed of but one fibre. It is much more lustrous than raw silk.

Cushion-board: See Cushion-board.


Cumbi: A cloth made in Peru and made for the Indian women.

Cupric Sulphate: See Copper Sulphate.

Curcumin: The coloring matter of turmeric. Pure curcumin occurs as a cinnamon-colored translucent mass, insoluble in water, partially soluble in hot benzene, and readily so in ether, alcohol, acetone, hydrocarbons, fats, and in oils. Like the yellow dye obtained from turmeric, curcumin is very fugitive to light, and by exposure to sunlight it becomes bleached. With alkalies, alkaline earths, and borax it yields intensely reddish precipitations, to which an excess of acid restores the yellow color.

Curd Soap: The same is produced solely from solid or liquid fats or fatty acids with or without the addition of resin and are technically pure; in a fresh state they contain at least 60 per cent of soap-forming fatty acids, including stearic. Additions of salts, soluble glass, flour or similar filling materials are not permissible.

Cut Goods: Underwear made either ribbed or flat; knitted on the machine into long rolls and cut up afterwards into sections for garments, which afterwards are sewed together.