

DICTIONARY OF TEXTILE TERMS

(Continued from August issue.)

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- Easer:** Movable levers fixed in the rear of the harness of gauze looms for carrying the whip-threads, to slacken and tighten them as required by the twisting of the threads.
- Earth Flax:** A popular name for *amianthus*, the highest quality of asbestos.
- Easing Motions:** The term applied to certain motions which counteract the severity of the upward action of the counter-faller wire during backing-off of the mule.
- East India Cotton:** Indian cottons, as a rule, are coarser and shorter than American cottons. India depends upon the monsoon for its moisture, and the success or failure of the crop is decided by that phenomenon of nature. The land is prepared before, and the planting begins after the breaking of the monsoon. There is not the same care bestowed upon the cultivation of the Indian cotton, nor are such improved methods practiced there, as in America.
- The principle kinds of East Indian cottons are Broach, Oomrawuttee, Hingunghat, Bhownugger, Tinnevelly, Bourbon, and Saw Ginned Dharwar and Bengals. Lower classes of staples are included under the following names, *viz.*: Scinde, Veraval, Comp-tah, Rangoon, Dhollelah, Cocoanada and Assam.
- East India Wool:** Wool of a short, coarse and hairy nature coming from sheep in India, which from lack of cultivation grow material very near the original type of hairy wool. Largely used in the carpet trade.
- Eau de Javelle:** See Sodium Hypochlorite.
- Ecaille:** French silk dress goods made with ply warps and interlaced with 6 harness and 32 picks in repeat of pattern.
- Ecaille Work:** A specimen of fancy work in which spangles, cut from quills, are sewed on the fabric in regular patterns.
- Echevette:** A small skein of silk of a determined length, the weight of which determines its size count.
- Echizen:** A trade term applied to the best grades of Japanese silk fabrics.
- Ecossais:** A French dress goods, made of all worsted as well as with cotton warp and worsted filling; produced in bright colored plaid designs.
- Ecru:** Unbleached, as applied to textile fabrics; having the color of hemp in its natural state. Cross between a yellow and a fawn.
- Ecru Lace:** A variety of lace, produced with two kinds of braid, one plain and the other crinkled, which are worked into large prominent, usually geometrical patterns, by means of bars or braids of thread.
- Ecru Silk:** The fibre deprived of its gum to the extent of from two to five per cent., by washing in weak soap suds and afterwards bleaching. It has during the boil-off process only the most soluble part of its natural gum removed together with the coloring pigments the natural silk contains.
- Edging:** A narrow lace or embroidery especially made for trimming.
- Edisto:** Best grade of Sea Island cotton, possessing a very long, fine, uniform and silky staple.
- Edredon:** A fine, soft woolen fabric interlaced with the 3-harness twill; made with a filling of a great deal heavier count compared to the warp.
- Egalisol:** Borosulphate of soda, 3 per cent. of it being used with 4 per cent. of bichromate, to even up the color.
- Egipto:** The trade classification for "Soft Peruvian" cotton; furnishing the bulk of cotton grown in Peru, having a staple of about 1½ inches in length.
- Eggo Fibre:** See Ejow Fibre.
- Egyptian Cotton:** Cotton grown in Egypt, on *Gossypium herbaceum* seeds; characterized by its creamy-brown color; of a good, silky, fairly long staple and next in value to Sea Island. There are five different qualities of it known to the market *viz.*:
 MIT AFFIFI comprising 61% of crop.
 ASHMUNI comprising 20% of crop.
 YANNOVICH comprising 12% of crop.
 NUBARI comprising 6% of crop.
 ABASSI comprising 1% of crop.
 SAKALARIDES and ASSILI are two hybrids of Mit Affifi.
- Egyptian cotton, on account of its long staple and silky gloss, is imported in considerable quantities. It is largely used in the manufacture of hosiery, also for mixing with worsted yarn. Owing to its gloss it is also used for mixing with silk, and on account of its strength it is made into the finer sewing threads. Egyptian cotton is sometimes so charged with grease that it has a greasy smell; to make such cotton workable, it is necessary to sprinkle it with whitening. It has been observed that velvets woven with Egyptian pile filling do not finish as well as when using yarns made from American cotton, the reason for this being that the greasy nature of the Egyptian cotton fibre often varies in strength; one part compared with another frequently causes different shades in the finished goods. This greasy nature is said to be due to two things: (1) the fertility of the soil; (2) the extent to which the cell walls of the fibres are developed.
- Eider-down:** The down or short feathers of the eider-duck, valued on account of its lightness and warmth as a stuffing for coverlets, pillows, etc.
- Eider-down Blankets:** Blankets which have a fine soft nap on both sides, and are tufted and bound.
- Eider-down Cloth:** A heavy napped woolen fabric used in the manufacture of ladies' and children's outer garments, caps, cloaks and robes. Its special qualities are lightness combined with warmth. The original eider-down cloth was a knitted fabric, but now also includes woven fabrics.
- Eileton:** A linen or silk cloth upon which the eucharistic elements are laid to be consecrated; corresponding in this way to the *corporal* cloth of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Ejow Fibre:** The GOMMUTI PALM (as it is called by the natives) grows to a height of 20 to 30 feet. The fibres obtained from the base of the leaves are stiff, strong and horse-hair like, and are known in commerce as Ejow fibres. Besides making strong and durable cordage, the Ejow fibre is no doubt applicable to a variety of purposes for which horse-hair and bristles are now employed. As a plant yielding brush-making fibre it has gained a good reputation, and the same may be said of it for upholstery purposes. It is a native of the Asiatic Islands. Also called *Eggo* or *Gommuta Fibre*.
- Eksuti:** Cotton cloth made in India of single warp and filling.
- Elastic:** A narrow webbing made elastic by introducing india-rubber warp-threads in the structure during weaving; used for suspenders, garters, arm bands etc.
- Elasticity:** This denotes the tendency on the part of the finished cloth, assuming it to have been distorted by bending, of reverting to its normal shape. The same property with respect to tensional strain is less marked, as woven cotton cloth, although sufficiently supple, is not in any case particularly elastic, nor can it be rendered so (in the tensional sense) by the addition of materials to it. Elasticity is induced by the association with the fabric of a suitable dressing mixture. A starch paste of thin to medium consistency may be used, together with a modifying ingredient, such as dextrin, to control its capacity for setting hard or otherwise. The constitution, consistency, and application of the dressing mixture are governed to suit the degree of stiffness required in the finish, and gelatinous or glutinous agents may be added to or substituted for the starch, in accordance with their respective capacities and the circumstances of the case.
- Electric Dyeing:** Dyeing in which electricity is used to reduce or oxidize the salts.
- Elken:** Heavy cotton duck and sail cloth made in Roumania and Bulgaria.
- Ell:** A standard of length, varying in different countries; the Scotch ell is 37.2 in.; English, 45 in.; Flemish, 27 in.; French, 54 in.; a measure now rarely met with.
- Elliot:** A Highland tartan having a navy blue ground, with pairs of nut brown stripes far apart from each other, and with a wide blue stripe between the half of each pair. This blue stripe is split in the centre by a narrow red stripe.
- Elongated Twills:** Steep twills of more than a 45 deg. grading.
- Elsie Work:** A variety of embroidery worked upon cream colored canvas, also with the corners or borders of tinted linen. A design requiring to be filled in with fancy stitches is then traced upon the centre and filled in thickly with different stitches.
- Elsner's Reagent:** A solution of basic zinc chloride. 100 grams of dry zinc chloride and 4 grams of zinc oxide are mixed with 85 c. c. of water.
- Elysee:** Applique work; the floral patterns are cut out of two sateens of different colors and then embroidered.
- Elysian:** Heavy woolen cloth, napped and in turn rubbed on a chinchilla machine in a wave-like pattern.
- Embauba:** Very tough bast fibre, yielded by the trumpet tree in Brazil; used for bags.

- Embossing Machine:** A machine where by a system of engraved rolls (which are heated) designs are impressed upon velvets and other fabrics.
- Embroidery:** Working with the needle, raised and ornamental designs in threads of wool, worsted, cotton, silk, gold, silver, etc., upon any woven or knitted fabric. The bulk of embroidery now in use is produced by machinery.
- Embroidery Cotton:** A slack twisted two-ply cotton thread; used for embroidery.
- Embroidery Linen:** Linen fabric woven of an even, round thread; used for embroidery.
- Embroidery Silks:** Twisted threads of various thicknesses of a softer nature than sewing silk and which include twist, floss, filo, rope and etching silks, dyed in all colors.
- Emeraldine:** A dark green dye produced by treating aniline black with acids, previous to the black being completely developed.
- Emery Cloth:** A fabric coated with hot glue and sprinkled with powdered emery, used for polishing metal surfaces.
- Emperor:** A Bradford term for alpaca linings made in different textures, ranging from 25's to 50's black cotton warp, 76 to 94 threads per inch using 76 to 108 picks per inch of 24's to 30's alpaca in the grey cloth; interlaced with the 7 *up* 1 *down*, 8-harness twill.
- Empire:** Styles of women's dresses fashionable during the reign of Napoleon I, based on the mode of dress customary in ancient Greece.
- Empress Cloth:** Similar to poplin, made of hard twisted worsted filling and cotton warp. Was made a success in the early seventies of the last century by the Empress Eugenie of France.
- Enameled Cloth:** An imitation of leather made with a glazed finish, used for upholstery purposes.
- End:** The technical name for a thread, also one strand of sliver or roving.
- End and End Warp:** A warp that is dressed from two balls of warp, taking alternately one end from each ball.
- Endaze:** The Turkish ell; equal to 26 inches.
- Ended Hank:** A term applied to yarn dyed irregularly in the hank and showing a regularly repeated unevenness, corresponding with the hank length.
- Endochrome:** The colored substance within animal or vegetable cells.
- Engi:** The skirt worn by Burmese women, usually of mixed silk and cotton colored material.
- Engineer's Cloth:** A blue cotton fabric made in England, somewhat similar to dungaree; used for overalls.
- English Foot:** Hosiery with a seam at each side of the sole.
- English System of Worsted Spinning:** See Worsted Spinning.
- Ensign Cloth:** A plain woven cotton or linen fabric made in England; used for flags.
- Entering Draft:** The English term for what we call *drawing-in draft*. The arrangement for drawing the warp-threads into the heddle eyes of the harness.
- Entwining Twills:** A subdivision of the regular twill.
- Eolienne:** The name applied to a fine dress fabric characterized by having the filling of a much coarser count than the warp, and in consequence producing a corded effect across the width of the goods. This class of goods is made up of a raw silk warp and either cotton or worsted filling, with the warp ends per inch greatly in excess of picks per inch. The goods are made up in the grey, then dyed in the piece in any color the trade desires. The darker shades find most favor for fall and winter use, while the lighter shades are preferred for summer wear. The name comes from the Greek Eolus, God of the Winds.
- Epengline:** A union serge, having a silk warp and a Merino wool filling.
- Ephod:** The linen vestment worn by the Jewish high priest over the tunic and outer garment.
- Epidermal Layer:** The outer layer or skin of a fibre.
- Epingle:** French, for fine lustrous corded effects either warp or filling ways, in silk dress goods; often small ribs alternating with heavier ribs in figures and colors.
- Eponge:** A French term for sponge cloth, or a fabric made of soft nubby yarns; also applied to terry-like weave effects.
- Eprovette:** A silk reel supplied with a counter upon which echevettes are measured.
- Epsom Salt:** Epsom salt is an easily soluble salt which is marketed in the form of crystals or a crystalline powder. It is sometimes used as an addition to sizing agents, when magnesium chloride cannot be used on account of the risk of tendering the fibre (see magnesium chloride); it must therefore be free from any magnesium chloride, and foreign (alkali) metals. Used almost exclusively in finishing cotton goods, and where a quantity of from 4 to 6 times greater than the permissible amount of magnesium chloride may be added without injury to the cloth. It makes the fabric thicker, moister and softer. Also called *Magnesium Sulphate* or *Sulphate of Magnesia*.
- Equal Drafts:** The drafts necessary for reducing the thick *top* down to the thin *roving*, such being distributed equally over all machines employed in the set. The doublings employed under these conditions naturally become the important influencing factor in the reduction effected in the size of the sliver.
- Equational Box:** The English term for *Differential Motion*, which see.
- Equestrienne Tights:** A tight fitting knitted drawer for women's use, made with or without feet.
- Era Silk:** See Eri Silk.
- Eri Silk:** A specialty of wild silk found in Assam, India, the product of the Eri silkworm feeding on the castor plant leaves. It cannot be reeled, hence is manufactured into yarns by the process of waste silk spinning. It is uneven and coarse, but fabrics produced from it, though rough, are exceedingly durable, for which reason it is prized by the poorer classes in India. Also called *Era Silk*.
- Ermine:** A brown woolen dress fabric, made in England.
- Erskine:** A Highland tartan: Wide red bar, split in the center with a pair of narrow and closely placed green lines; a dark green bar, of the same width as the red, split as the latter with a pair of red lines.
- Eruc:** A strong fiber, yielded by the *Corypha urens* in the Philippines and used for cordage.
- Escamis:** A stout cotton barchent, from the Levant.
- Escorial:** Spanish needle-point lace, similar to Venise. Rich designs in trailing and winding patterns are produced in this lace.
- Eskimo:** An overcoating woven with a five-leaf satin, warp for face, or with a 3 *up* 2 *down* twill. A very thick single cloth, of fine wool, light, soft and fluffy texture.
- Esparto:** The commercial name for a fine, transparent and clear leaf fibre, yielded by the esparto grass in Algiers, Spain, etc.; used for cords, saddles, baskets, also for carpets, etc.
- Essequibo Cotton:** Trade name for Brazilian cotton.
- Estamene:** French all-wool dress serge, finished with a rough face.
An English fabric, made from crossbred yarn usually employing the 2/2 or 3/3 twill. It is given a raised rough finish.
- Estampados:** Ordinary cotton prints in Latin American countries.
- Estopa:** Tow in Brazil.
- Estopilla:** Batiste-like cloth made of fine linen yarn in South America.
- Estrella:** A crêpe-like, plain woven fabric, made with silk warp and very hard spun Botany filling, the latter being arranged 2 picks right hand twist to alternate with 2 picks left hand twist. The hard twist is imparted to the filling in order to produce the required crimped appearance in the fabric.
- Estremadura:** Six-cord knitting yarn.
- Etaise:** Table linen, made in Holland.
- Etamine:** A coarse, loosely woven cloth of cotton and wool, cotton and linen, linen or jute, silk and wool, or of hard twisted worsted yarn. The finished fabric has a network texture, and a popular use to which the fabric is put is to wear it in the form of a waist or skirt, over a gown of other material, like a woolen, worsted, or silk gown.
- Etamine a Voile:** Plain woven worsted mousseline made in France, mostly black and white; used for church vestments.
- Etamine Glacee:** A French dress goods made of organzine warp and worsted filling; also known as *Challis*.
- Etching Silk:** Hard spun silk thread; used for embroidering outlines.
- Etoffe du Pays:** Coarse homespun of natural grey wool.
- Etshigo:** Very thin Japanese silk.
- Eureka:** Cotton originated from a single stalk found on a Louisiana plantation many years ago, and for some time was called Mand Atkins. The plant is very vigorous and prolific; limbs of medium length; bolls rather large, oblong, not maturing early, holding the seed well in wet weather; lint 28 to 30 per cent., staple 35 to 40 mm., very fine, strong, and silky; seed quite small and sometimes black. One of the most popular long-staple varieties.