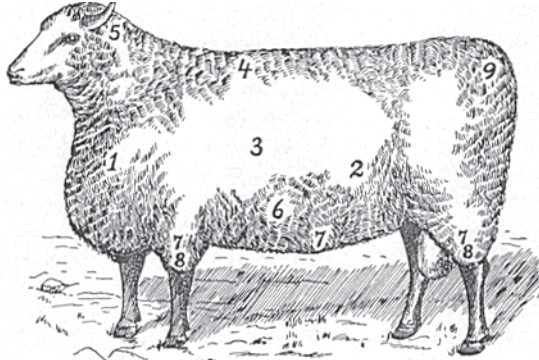


Dictionary of Technical Terms Relating to the Textile Industry.

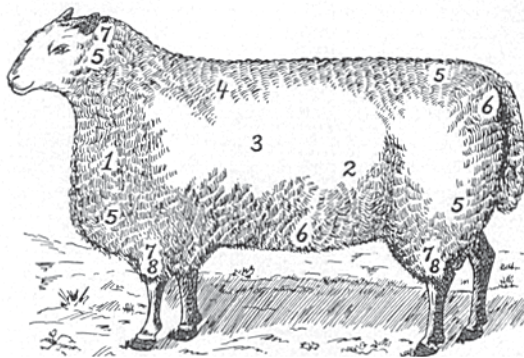
(Continued from page 11.)

SORTER:—One who sorts or divides wool into its various qualities.

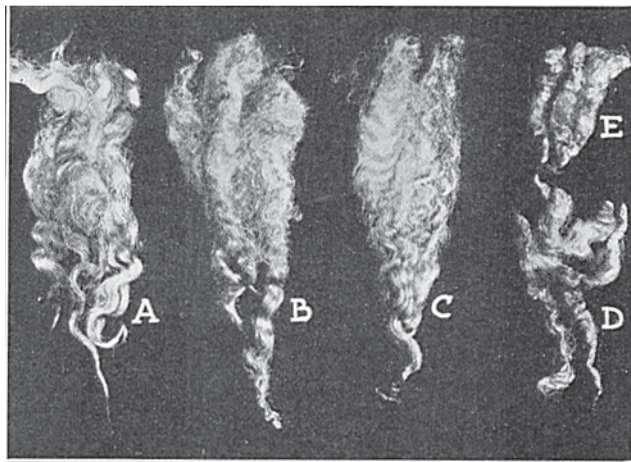
SORTING:—The dividing up of fleeces of wool into the various qualities. These qualities range from six



SORTING A FLEECE (for Clothing Wools.)
1 Picklock, 2 Prime, 3 Choice, 4 Super, 5 Head, 6 Downrights, 7 Seconds, 8 Abb, 9 Breech.



SORTING A FLEECE (for Combing Wools.)
1 Fine, 2 Blue, 3 Neat, 4 Brown, 5 Breech. 6 Downrights, 7 Seconds, 8 Abb. The last three grades are rarely used for worsted yarn, being used in the lower grades of wool spun yarns.



SORTING A FLEECE.
Typical Staples taken from a range of qualities found in a lustre fleece. A, from Haunches; B, from Middle of Side; C, Shoulders; D, Dis-colored; E, Shorts.

or eight in number in long wool, and from three to nine (according to breed) in short wool. Sort-

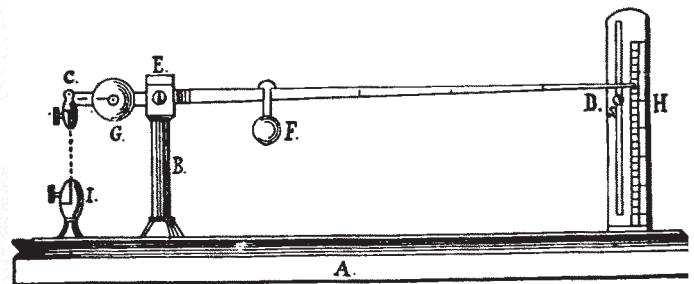
ing is necessary to obtain the maximum spinning result from any given material.

Separating prepared flax, hemp, etc., into grades of quality.

SORTING-BOARD:—The table on which the wool is sorted.

SOUFFLE:—Large designs of crepon, showing a raised or puffed appearance; from the French, for puffed-up.

SOUNDNESS OF FIBRES:—This characteristic quality of fibres signifies their elasticity or strength. It is readily ascertained in practice by drawing a few fibres out of a lot and grasping each singly by both ends, pulling them until they break. Special ap-



STRENGTH TESTER (for Testing the Soundness of Fibres.)
A, base; B, pillar for carrying lever C, D, by fulcrum E; F, weight for testing; G, counter weight; H, graduated scale; I, jaw for holding the fibre to be tested between it and the jaw secured to lever at C.

paratuses are also constructed for thus testing the soundness mechanically, at the same time recording the breaking strain. In either case two or more tests are made to obtain an average.

SOUPLE:—A dull effect in silk dyeing.

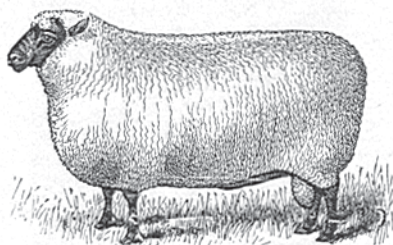
SOUPLE SILK:—Silk which has only lost from 5 to 12 per cent of its weight in scouring, and consequently is only partly deprived of its gum, sericin, or saliva. This silk is not as soft after the scouring process as is the case with completely ungummed, *i. e.*, boiled-off, silk.

SOURING:—Two of the processes of bleaching cotton, yarns or fabrics by the chlorine process. Brown sour, White sour, *i. e.*, acid treatment before and after chemicking. To decompose any lime soap that has formed and to wash out the lime.

SOUTACHE:—A very narrow, flat braid, made of wool, cotton, silk, or tinsel; sewed upon fabrics as a decoration, usually in fanciful designs.

SOUTHAM SHEEP:—The same was originated in Devonshire county, England, in the neighborhood of the Vale of Honiton, and up to the borders of Dartmoor. From thence they have extended into Cornwall, where they are extensively bred, and have been much improved by crossing with Leicesters. They somewhat resemble the Romney Marsh sheep, but with brown faces and legs. Crossing with Leicesters has removed this color as well as materially improved them in every other respect, so that they fatten earlier, and a finer and more silky fleece is obtained. The quality is moderately fine and the staple long. The fleece weighs about 9 lbs.

SOUTHDOWN:—One of the most valuable of short staple wools. A native of England, and one of the most valuable sheep of that country, being



SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.

raised in Sussex, Kent, Hampshire, and Dorsetshire. This sheep has also become naturalized in the United States, and its characteristic dark face and compact fleece have left their mark upon a large portion of our native sheep. It possesses a fine hair, is close and wavy and fairly sound in staple, but rather deficient in felting qualities. The shorter varieties are carded and made into flannels and other light-weight fabrics, while the longer qualities are used in the production of worsted goods. The weight of a Southdown fleece averages from 4 to 5 pounds.

SOUTHERN HOPE:—A cotton plant originated many years ago by Col. F. Robieu, of Louisiana, from seed said to have come from Peru. Plant pyramidal, limbs strong and straight, prolific; bolls large, pointed, maturing rather late; lint 30 to 32 per cent, staple $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. One of the best types for the southern cotton belt, but maturing too late for northern latitudes.

SOUTHERN WOOLS:—Those produced in the United States in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado.

SOW BOX:—The receptacle on the slasher for holding the sizing material.

SPANISH BROOM:—The broom plant fibres have been used for cordage purposes; according to Loudon, some of the earliest ropes were made from the fibres of *Spartium*. The plant grows profusely in dry hilly situations and on railway banks in Spain, where it is conspicuous for its yellow butterfly-shaped flowers.

SPANISH LACE:—Comprehensive term. Convent made, needlepoint lace. Cut drawnwork effects, also convent made. Needlepoint lace in large squares. Black silk lace in floral designs.

SPANISH MERINO:—The fine wool derived from the merino sheep, a native of Spain, and which is sorted there into four parcels, as follows: (1) The *refina* or the choicest wool (pick-lock), begins at the withers and extends along the back to the setting on of the tail, reaches only a little way down at the quarters, but dipping down at the flanks, takes in all the superior part of the chest, and the middle of the side of the neck to the angle of the lower jaw. (2) The *finá*, being a valuable wool but not so deeply serrated or possessing so many curves as the first mentioned sort; it occupies the belly, and the hind-quarters and thighs down to the stifle-joint. (3) The *terceira*, being found on the head, the throat, the lower part of the neck, and the shoulders terminating at the elbow; also the wool yielded by the legs, and

reaching from the stifle to a little below the hock. (4) The *interior* grade of wool procured from the tuft as growing on the forehead and cheeks from the tail and from the legs below the hock. A characteristic of the merino is what is called prepotency, that is, the power of imparting its excellence to inferior breeds with which it is crossed. Among the different varieties of merinos derived by crossing the Spanish merino with inferior breeds of other countries are the Saxon, the Prussian, the Silesian, the Hungarian, the French, the British, the American, the Australian merino, etc.

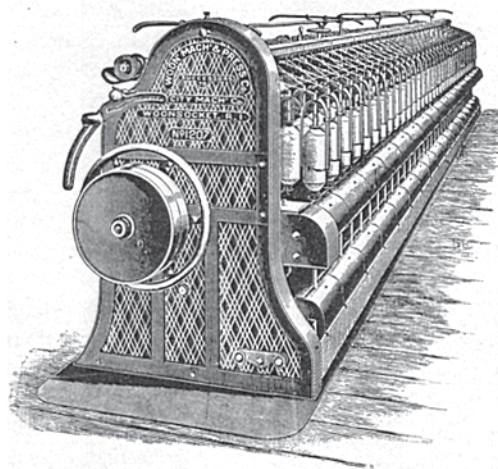
SPARTERIE:—Woven work made from the fibre of the *esparto*; also, the articles made of this material, as mats, baskets, ropes, nets, and mattresses.

SPECK:—A small portion of any kind of foreign substance that has not been carded from the stock before spinning.

To dress finally woven fabrics, as by touching spots of a foreign origin or color, to that of the fabric, with a specially prepared specking ink, using for this purpose a soft, coarse pen, or a quill.

SPECTRUM:—The result of the decomposition of a ray of sunlight into all the colors which form it; the streak of colors formed by a ray of light that has passed through a prism, or over a diffraction grating.

SPEEDERS:—Collective name for the various machines used for transforming cotton slivers, as received from the drawing frame, into roving for spinning on the ring frame, or on the mule, into yarn. The



SPEEDERS (*Slubber*).
Woonsocket Machine and Press Co.

same comprise the Slubber, the Intermediate, the Roving and the Jack frame, provided the latter is used; see Fly frames.

SPERMACETI:—A solid white crystalline fat, reduced from oil obtained from the head cavities and blubber of the spermaceti whale, which melts at a temperature ranging from about 115 deg. to 122 deg. *F*. Used in cotton finishing in the same way as wax or stearine.

SPIDERS:—A kind of fine gauze in which an extra thick warp is woven with the ground.

SPIDER-STITCH:—A stitch in lace or netting, in which the arrangement of the threads somewhat resembles that of the threads in a spider's web.