

Dictionary of Technical Terms Relating to the Textile Industry.

V

- VALANCE OR VALENCIA:**—A damask fabric of silk, or silk and wool, used for furniture coverings.
A short hanging drapery about the tester of a bedstead.
A linen cloth resembling piqué, used for waist-coats, etc.
- VALENCIENNES:**—Lace worked upon a hexagonal mesh with two threads plaited and twisted.
- VANADIC ACID:**—The ammonium salt of this acid is used as a carrier of oxygen in the aniline black process. It is comparatively expensive but the quantity required is far less than when other agents are used. It is in many cases replaced by copper sulphide, copper acetate, or ferrous sulphate. A solution containing one gram of the ammonium vanadate will as a rule suffice for the oxidation of 200 kilograms of aniline salt.
- VANDUARA SILK:**—Artificial silk obtained by using gelatine as a basis, the threads, after spinning, being treated with formaldehyde to render them insoluble in water. It is a beautifully lustrous fibre, and fairly strong and elastic in the dry condition, but if wetted it becomes extremely tender. It is now little, if at all, used.
- VANDYKE:**—Pointed effects seen in laces, jet, silk trimmings, knitting, etc.
- VAN WOOL:**—Australian merino raised on the Island of Tasmania, the climate of which is well suited to the raising of wool, with the result of a fine fibre, of good length and strong staple, readily spun up to 80's worsted yarn. Its color is a pure white, making it well suited for the dyeing of light colors. It possesses excellent felting properties; the shorter sorts are suitable for woolen yarns.
- VARIEGATED WOOL:**—Wool of a badly grown type, showing streaks of various colors in individual staples. Wool of this type may also be formed by mixing discolored lots of wool.
- VARIEGATED YARN:**—A yarn composed of a number of colors usually obtained by printing.
- VEGETABLE HAIR OR SPANISH MOSS:**—This curious, slender, parasitical plant is found among the trees in many parts of Jamaica, but does not grow so commonly there, nor so luxuriantly, as it does in the northern provinces of Central America, where it is said to overrun whole forests. It is frequently imported from Jamaica to the United States, for the use of the saddlers and coach-makers, who commonly stuff their panels and cushions with it.
- VEGETABLE SILK:**—A climbing plant growing wild in the Himalayas and other parts of India. The seed hairs or plumose fibres are from half an inch to an inch long. The fibres are easily detached from the seeds, and have a white silky lustre. Used for stuffing pillows, cushions, mattresses, etc.
- VEILED WOOL:**—Wool partly disorganized in staple, in which fibres from one staple have become attached and mixed to fibres from another staple.
- VEILING:**—Includes light-weight, usually plain woven fabrics of various constructions; composed of singed or polished yarns, in solid colors.
- VEINING:**—A gauze design obtained by crossing the warp every fourth, sixth or eighth pick, working the omitted warp-threads in one.
- VELOUR:**—French for velvet. From the Latin *vellosus*—hairy.
A cotton fabric used for curtains. It is the same on both sides, dyed in solid colors, and is woven with a coarse stiff pile.
A woolen cloth or cassimere with a velvet finish.
A hatter's lustring and smoothing pad of silk or plush.
An attempt has been made some time ago in France to discriminate for customs purposes between velour (velvet) and plush. Manufacturers claimed that if the pile is shorter than three and one-half millimeters the goods should be called velvet, otherwise they should be known as plush. The government fixed the limit at four millimeters.
- VELOURS:**—An upholstery velvet or plush woven with mixed linen and cotton, or jute and cotton.
- VELOURS ALBIGEOIS:**—A fancy striped velour fabric in two or more tones, the stripes running seven or eight to the inch.
- VELOURS-ANTIQUE-ECOSSAIS:**—An antique-plaited effect velours; practically a watered Scotch poplin, showing the distinctive antique figuring.
- VELOUR DU NORD OR NORTHERN VELVET:**—Something between a velvet and a plush, the pile threads in it being shorter than those of plush.
- VELOURS ECRASÉ:**—Similar to miroir velvet.
- VELOURS GROSGRAIN:**—A grosgrain weave with a rich, soft, velvet-like finish.
- VELOURS OTTOMAN:**—Resembling Faillé Française.
Having a broader rib effect than Gros de Tours, made with a heavier binder warp.
- VELOURS PERSIEN:**—Trade name for velours in Persian effects.
- VELOURS RUSSE:**—A fabric of glacé foundation with silk cords and stripes of contrasting colors.
- VELOURS SOLEIL:**—Velours with bright sheen imparted in the finish.
- VELOUS CHIFFON:**—A very light, soft and pliable chiffon velvet.
- VELOUS PANNÉ:**—Velvet faced or finished with a hot pressing or ironing effect, imparting to the fabric a peculiar lustre.
- VELOUTÉ:**—Velvety.
- VELU:**—Shaggy or hairy.
- VELURE:**—Any fabric of or resembling velvet; velvet or velveteen; especially a heavy velvet-like fabric of linen, silk or jute for hangings, table-covers and the like.
- VELUTUM:**—The middle Latin name for velvet.
- VELVERET:**—An inferior sort of velvet, the web of which is of cotton and the pile of silk. It is stiff and does not keep its color well.
- VELVET:**—From the Italian *velluto*, woolly feeling to the touch, as a woolly pelt or hide; this word is

applied to the covering of a deer's horns, and seems to take root in the furry feeling to the touch.

A silk fabric closely woven and having on one side a thick, short smooth nap or cut pile, the back or foundation of the cloth being plain. True velvet is wholly of silk, and is sometimes called silk velvet to distinguish it from velvert and velveteen (cotton velvet).

VELVET-CARPET:—A pile carpet having its loops cut, like Moquette and Axminster carpets.

VELVET CLOTH:—A smooth cloth with high lustre, used in fancy work.

VELVETEEN:—The cotton imitation of velvet, woven with a floating face filling which in the finishing is cut, to form the pile. (See Fustians.)

VELVET FINISH:—A finish in which a fairly dense pile of a velvet description is produced upon a woolen fabric by wet-raising in about equal proportions in both directions, and then cropping just to level the pile, but not to leave the threads to be seen, allowing no subsequent operation to lay down the nap.

VELVET-PILE:—Pile of or like that of velvet; also, any fabric having such a pile.

VELVET-PILE TAPESTRY CARPET:—Tapestry carpet having its pile loops cut.

VELVET-SATIN:—Satin fabrics with a raised pattern in velvet-pile.

VELVET-UPON-VELVET:—Velvet on which a raised pattern appears, produced by part of the pile (figure) being longer than the rest (ground).

VENETIAN:—A soft woolen or worsted material resembling fine broadcloth in texture, but with a twilled, instead of a smooth face. The warp yarns are firmly twisted, the twist being in the opposite direction to that of the filling.

A species of twill weaving in which the lines or twills are of a rounded form and arranged in a more or less upright (63 deg. twills) position; a closely warp textured cloth, the 5-leaf double satin (3 up and 2 down) being the weave most often used.

The term was originally applied to a dress face woolen cloth, but later worsted dress venetians have been made, and later still cotton venetians.

VENETIAN BAR:—A bar crossing an open space in needlework, made by covering a thread or threads with buttonhole-stitching.

VENETIAN CARPET:—A coarse worsted warp, wool or wool and hair filled carpet for stairs and hallways, commonly of a simple striped pattern, produced by different colors in the warp which form face and back of the fabric, the filling resting more or less imbedded in the centre of the structure.

VENETIAN EMBROIDERY:—Embroidery on linen in which the spaces between the figures are cut away and sometimes crossed over by bars of needlework, giving the appearance of lace.

VENETIAN POINT LACE:—Point de Venise. Needlepoint lace in floral pattern with the designs very close together and connected by bridges ornamented with picots.

VESTINGS:—Heavy, fancy figured, plain or colored material of cotton, worsted, silk or their mixtures; used for making vests.

One of the most important species of woven textile design to which scheme of coloring relates, is vestings. These fabrics are composed of various materials and constructed on different principles of design, but with the exception of the quilting vesting, they are colored and figured by the filling.

VIBRATOR:—A spring rod fixed across the warp to give elasticity to the tension.

VICTORIA LAWN:—A kind of muslin used for fittings, and sometimes for women's dresses; a fine white lawn.

The chief point of difference between this fabric and India linen is that the former is made of slightly heavier yarn, the goods weighing nine to ten yards to the pound.

VICTORIA TARTAN:—Shows white, green, blue and black plaids, while a yellow and white bar run together both ways.

VICUGNA, VICUÑA:—The vicugna is found in the most elevated localities of Bolivia and Northern Chile, and so far has been found to be very wild and untamable. It lives in herds, near the regions of perpetual snow. The short, soft, silky fur of this animal is very valuable, causing the death of thousands, which are slain merely for the sake of their coats. The color of the vicugna is nearly uniform brown, tinged with yellow on the back, and fading into gray on the abdomen. Natives spin and weave the yarn in hand-looms into blankets, shawls, etc., which in quality and finish rival camel-hair shawls.

VICUGNA CLOTH:—Woolen or worsted spun cloth made from the wool of the vicugna. It is very soft and used for women's fine dressgoods.

VIGOGNE:—The name given to special spun yarns composed of cotton and wool mix, and fabrics made from it. Sometimes up to 90 per cent cotton is used; spun on the wool principles (with oil). Originally made in Belgium. The woolly appearance is given to the fabric by dyeing the cotton with substantive colors in the loose state, *i. e.*, before it is spun in the oil.

VIGOMEMOM:—Applied to plain or twill mixture, woven of undyed natural wool yarns. The French spinners found that the strongest were those of the undyed wool; sometimes two or more shades or tones are spun into one thread. The name is French for strong.

VIGOREUX OR VIGOUREUX:—This differs from beige in that the yarns (wool) are printed (in the sliver) before being spun, giving the goods an appearance like that produced by mixed yarns. Without close examination, it is difficult to distinguish whether the goods are dyed in the yarn or in the stock.

VINE COTTON:—Cotton grown in Cuba, belonging to the herbaceous type; remarkable for its large pods which contain an abnormal number of seeds.

VIRGINIA SHEEP:—About the beginning of the seventeenth century the first English sheep were introduced into Virginia (Jamestown). Repeated importations were made during the next two centuries, and thus was founded a very good specimen known as the Virgian sheep, being a long-wool sheep. Leicester, Cotswold, and South-down sheep have since then been imported and crossed with the same.

VISCOSE:—A term met with in connection with artificial silk, and cotton fabrics treated to simulate leather.

The sulphocarbonate of cellulose prepared ordinarily from woodpulp.

VISCOSE SILK:—Artificial silk produced by a process invented by Cross & Bevan.

VIYELLA:—A light cloth largely made from cotton and wool carded together; principally used for underclothing.

VOILE OR VOILES:—A soft, semi-transparent dress material, like heavy veiling, plain woven from hard twisted cotton, silk, wool or worsted yarns. As clear a face as possible is secured in finishing, the cloth being singed or sheared very closely if the yarns as used in the construction of the fabric have not been singed previously to weaving. They are dyed in solid colors, and often ornamented by embroidered figures.

VOILE (COTTON):—A fine thready cloth, generally lace yarn warp, and filling finer and closer than etamine.

Lyons Silk Market.

According to figures recently published by the Lyon conditioning house, 17,947,390 pounds of raw silk, organzine, and tram were registered at the conditioning house last year as compared with 17,606,643 pounds in 1912 and 16,271,445 pounds in 1911.

Imports and exports of raw silk, expressed in pounds, during the first 11 (January-November) months of the last 3 years, were as follows:

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
1911.....	14,072,325	3,985,075
1912.....	15,309,779	3,768,361
1913.....	15,701,761	4,852,374

Prices of raw silk show a gradual advance from January to October and then a considerable decline.

The demand of European, and particularly of Lyonnaise manufacturers, for raw material in 1913 absorbed the production of the mills of Europe, the Levant and the extreme Orient. The result of the absorption was noticed as early as March in the decrease in the stocks of silks and dry cocoons.

PRICES OF COCOONS.

The average prices of French fresh cocoons varied between 29 and 34 cents per pound in 1913, as compared with 24 to 27 cents in 1912. The increase was due to the smallness of the 1913 crop, which was probably 30 per cent less than that of 1912.

Notwithstanding the partial surplus in the crops of the Levant and the extreme Orient, the opinion in Lyons is that the silk production of the world for 1913 is not likely to reach that of 1912.

South China Silk Trade.

The South China silk trade in 1913 had one of the most successful seasons the trade has known in many years, the United States being largely responsible both for the increased sales of the product abroad and for the enhanced prices which were realized for the product, although during the recent strike of silk workers at Paterson, the influence of the American market was depressing.

So successful has the year proved on the whole that there is a marked increase in production of late, and it is understood that all over the Pearl River Valley farmers are commencing to grow mulberry

trees by converting rice fields into mulberry groves and are otherwise making preparations for an increase in the country's output of the fibre.

Production in the Canton field during 1913 exceeded that of 1912 by nearly a fifth, the total crop being placed at 50,000 bales as compared with 42,000 bales in 1912, 37,000 bales in 1911, and 48,000 bales in the banner year of 1910.

During 1913 the exports of raw silk, waste silk, and cocoons through Hongkong, according to figures furnished by the various chambers of commerce concerned, increased from a total of 10,837,866 pounds, valued roughly at \$17,534,096—i. e., \$14,695,296, \$2,442,000, and \$396,800, respectively—in 1912 to 12,176,533 pounds in 1913, valued roughly at \$22,512,778—raw silk, \$19,854,912; waste silk, \$2,331,200; and cocoons, \$326,666.

Shipments to Europe increased by about 45 per cent, while those to the United States increased by about 24 per cent, and shipments on the whole increased about 12.3 per cent.

Exports on the whole were the largest for many years. The exports to the United States were the largest since 1910. The most satisfactory feature of the trade was that of increased prices. Strong demand from both Europe and the United States was experienced as early as February, and there was a special demand for quick deliveries early in the year which enhanced prices considerably. However, the Chinese producers in the interior who were troubled with robbers and pirates and disorders generally were just as anxious to sell as foreign consumers were to buy, and this prompt movement of products to the export markets held prices down below what they unquestionably would have reached under normal conditions.

Prices during the year advanced about 13 per cent, reaching a point not held for a number of years. The close of the year found the market practically cleared of all stocks.

There was less increase in the trade in waste silk, the United States taking less than its proportion of the general advance. Toward the close of the year prices ran unusually high, and factories in the United States and elsewhere reported that they secured less spun silk equivalent than the prices justified. The advance in the price of waste silk during the year amounted to about 22 per cent.

There was on the whole less success in the silk piece-goods trade during the year. Demand abroad in recent years has been for silks of an entirely different variety from those mostly manufactured in China, and in both north and south China there has been a tendency to decreased demand for the Chinese product.

The general course of the trade is indicated by the fact that the figures of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce indicate total shipments to Europe of only 988 packages in 1913, as compared with 1,206 packages in 1912, while declared exports to the United States fell from a value of \$49,325 in 1912 to a value of \$18,634 in 1913, a mere fraction of former trade. The best commercial estimates in Hongkong place the value of the imports of Chinese silk piece goods coming into Hongkong in 1913 at probably not to exceed \$5,500,000, as compared with a value of \$7,332,046 in 1912. The great bulk of these imports is resold to near-by Chinese ports, used locally, or taken up by the tourist trade.