

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COTTON FABRIC AND PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME.

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My invention relates to improved cotton fabrics and the process of manufacturing the same, and the object of the improvements is to provide a fabric made from cotton or other vegetable fibre which has an appearance similar to wool. My improved process is applicable to fabrics of any kind, such for example as woven or knitted fabrics, and the said fabrics are treated by the process before or after bleaching or otherwise treating the same.

In carrying out my improved process I impart a woolly appearance to the fabric by roughening or felting or dressing the same by suitable means such for example as cards, and thereafter exposing the same to the action of a strong alkaline solution such as sodium hydroxide of from 15° Bé. upwards. In some cases I put the fabric under tension while exposing the same to the action of the solution. By thus treating the fabric the projecting ends of the fibre are shrunk and curled, so that the fabric has a woolly appearance. In some cases I treat the fabric after shrinking and curling the fibre thereof with a suitable oil such as olive oil, the said oil being applied to the fabric by means of brushes or by passing the same over surfaces slightly coated with oil. Further, the effect may be improved by roughening the dry fabric on the woolly side by means of emery rollers or other suitable apparatus.

I claim:

1. The herein described process of impart-

ing a woolly appearance to textile goods, such as woven, knitted and other fabrics made from vegetable fibre, which consists in treating the goods so as to produce a slight nap thereon, and treating the same by means of alkaline solution to cause the fibres of the nap to shrink or curl.

2. The herein described process of imparting a woolly appearance to textile goods, such as woven, knitted and other fabrics made from vegetable fibre, which consists in treating the goods so as to produce a slight nap thereon, treating the same by means of alkaline solution to cause the fibres of the nap to shrink or curl, and oiling the same.

3. The herein described process of imparting a woolly appearance to textile goods, such as woven, knitted and other fabrics made from vegetable fibre, which consists in treating the goods so as to produce a slight nap thereon, treating the same by means of alkaline solution to cause the fibres of the nap to shrink or curl, and roughening and oiling the same.

4. The herein described fabric made from vegetable fibre, which has a surface appearance resembling wool, and which is manufactured by treating the fabric to produce a nap, and thereafter exposing the same to the action of alkaline solution to cause the fibres of the nap to shrink or curl.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

EMIL GMINDER.