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WOOL
FROM THE RAW MATERIAL
TO THE FINISHED PRODUCT

BY

J. A. HUNTER

UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA

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PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION

To the addenda made for the purposes of the Second Edition have been added certain revisions and a new chapter relating to wool and woollen manufacture in time of war. It is trusted that the changes are all of a nature to make the book more useful as a general introduction to its subject.

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION

It is in broad terms true to say that cotton is the clothing of the East and wool the clothing of the West. Cotton forms the staple of attire in the hot and backward countries. Wool is the chief covering of dwellers in more temperate climes, and of those in general who have adopted Western standards of comfort. In a rather special sense wool is at once a measure and a signal of the advance of modern civilisation.

The history of wool over a number of centuries is virtually the history of British commerce. From the earliest times wool or wool goods have formed a great part of England’s foreign trade, and the utilisation of wool for clothing goes back to the depths of antiquity.

In all ages, British wool and woollens have enjoyed a high reputation for excellence in the penetrable parts of the outer world. The manufacture is one in which our people have developed a marked special aptitude,
and "English" or, it may be, "Scotch" or "Irish" remains the highest commendation the foreign tailor can bestow on the cloth he exhibits to his customer. The respect shown to those names is not diminishing, and although representatives of all nations come here to learn British methods, and although British machinery is used largely by them, the learners do not surpass the tutor.