

DIMITTY (ML. *dimitum*, Gk. *διμτρος*, *dimitos*, dimity, from *δι*, *di*, double + *μτρος*, *mitos*, thread). The name originally applied to a stout figured cotton fabric, first made in Spain and used chiefly for bed hangings. Dimities and fustians were made by the Massachusetts colonists as early as 1643. The figure or stripe is raised on one side and depressed on the other, so that the two faces present reversed patterns. It is commonly white or of a single color; but variegated dimities are made, the pattern and the ground being of different colors. The name is also applied to a fine cotton fabric for dresses, which sometimes resembles the coarser kind in that the figure or stripe is reversible, being raised on one side where it is depressed on the other.