

DIMITY is a kind of cotton cloth originally imported from India, and now manufactured in great quantities in various parts of Britain, especially in Lancashire. Dr. Johnson calls it dimitty, and describes it as a kind of fustian. The distinction between fustian and dimity, in the sense in which these words are generally understood, seems to be this; that the word fustian is used to express a common twilled cotton cloth of a stout fabric, upon which no ornament is woven in the loom; but which is most frequently dyed after being woven. Dimity is also a stout cotton cloth of a similar fabric; but is ornamented in the loom, either with stripes or fanciful figures, and when woven is seldom dyed, but commonly bleached of a pure white. The striped dimities are the most common, as they require less labour in weaving than the others, and the mounting of the looms being more simple, and consequently less expensive, they can be sold at much lower rates. For the plans of mounting both kinds, as generally practised by weavers, see the article DRAUGHT and *Cording*.