*An Account of the Woollen Manufactures exported from Great Britain, distinguishing each Description of Goods, from* 1820 *to* 1838.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date.** | **Cloths of all Sorts.** | **Napped Coatings or Duffles.** | **Kersey­meres.** | **Baizes.** | **Stuffs Woollen or Worsted.** | **Flannels.** | **Blanketing.** | **Carpets and Carpeting.** | **Woollens mixed with Cotton.** | **Hosiery.** | **Sundries.** | **Declared Value.** |
|  | **Pieces.** | **Pieces.** | **Pieces.** | **Pieces.** | **Pieces.** | **Yards.** | **Yards.** | **Yards.** | **Yard».** | **Dozens.** | **L.** | **L.** |
| **1820** | **288,700** | **59,644** | **78,944** | **37,183** | **828,900** | **2,569,105** | **1,288,409** | **526,124** | **407,716** | **59,960** | **39,337** | **5,586,138** |
| **1821** | **375,464** | **69,622**  **67,757** | **91,402** | **41,610** | **1,022,342** | **3,504,851** | **1,424,238** | **764,922** | **627,800** | **107,979** | **38,986** | **6,462,866** |
| **1822** | **420,497** | **95,870** | **43.447** | **1,078,428** | **4,503,612** | **1,926,711** | **884,922** | **1,120,326** | **136,597** | **47,042** | **6,488,167** |
| **1823** | **356,027** | **54,226** | **94,344** | **41,539** | **1,150,133** | **4,311,997** | **2,131,632** | **778,426** | **918,469** | **106,420** | **44,619** | **5,636,586** |
| **1824** | **407,720** | **51,585** | **108,012** | **47,105** | **1,242,403** | **3.105,961** | **1,990,041** | **848,842** | **1,393,443** | **113,123** | **43,361** | **6,034,051** |
| **1825** | **384,880** | **45,268** | **126,448** | **47,100** | **1,138,808** | **2,959,594** | **2,162,834** | **888,324** | **1,793,301** | **106,498** | **45,335** | **6,158,648** |
| **1826** | **328,559** | **41,800** | **86,038** | **36,862** | **1,125,308** | **2,432,120** | **1,082,582** | **903,597** | **531,517** | **71,922** | **37,223** | **4,966,879** |
| **1827** | **371,965** | **51,690** | **122,049** | **47,574** | **1,258,667** | **2,518,887** | **1,899,600** | **1,195,939** | **846,768** | **148,117** | **43,559** | **5,245,649** |
| **1828** | **335,042** | **40,646** | **84,524** | **49,567** | **1,310,853** | **2,539,766** | **2,097,542** | **1,197,947** | **981,152** | **159,463** | **48,314** | **5,069,741** |
| **1829** | **363,075** | **16,186** | **33,465** | **52,777** | **1,307,558** | **1,572,920** | **1,839,961** | **811,538** | **1,074,077** | **91,285** | **41,948** | **4,587,606** |
| **1830** | **388,269** | **22,377** | **34,714** | **49,164** | **1,252,512** | **1,613,099** | **2,176,391** | **672,869** | **1,099,518** | **111,146** | **54,038** | **4,728,666** |
| **1831** | **436,143** | **13,892** | **29,650** | **30,259** | **1,487,404** | **1,572,558** | **2,546,328** | **678,656** | **1,000,004** | **143,774** | **64,648** | **5,232,013** |
| **1832** | **396,661** | **23,453** | **40,984** | **34,874** | **1,800,714** | **2,304,750** | **1,681,840** | **690,042** | **1,334,072** | **152,810** | **55,443** | **5,224,478** |
| **1833** | **597,189** | **19,543** | **31,795** | **43,036** | **1,690,559** | **2,055,072** | **3,128,106** | **667,377** | **1,605,056** | **232,766** | **78,236** | **6,294,432** |
| **1834** | **521,214** | **22,868** | **23,891** | **43,338** | **1,298,775** | **1,821,394** | **2,537,772** | **606,912** | **1,723,069** | **173,063** | **75,841** | **5,736,871** |
| **1835** | **619,886** | **20,083** | **29,203** | **47,854** | **1,673,069** | **2,067,620** | **3,122,341** | **938,848** | **1,778,389** | **207,014** | **110,689** | **6,840,511** |
| **1836** | **720,587** | **22,814** | **29,610** | **45,555** | **1,406,000** | **2,190,008** | **4,333,876** | **1,008,013** | **1,467,927** | **163,182** | **142,553** | **7,639,353** |
| **1837** | **387,587** | **23,605** | **22.930** | **43,477** | **1,041,636** | **1,635,457** | **2,431,683** | **753,964** | **1,051,972** | **74,047** | **92,617** | **4,655,977** |
| **1838** | **587,903** | **26,847** | **36,428** | **41,813** | **1,358,984** | **1,779,522** | **2,558,806** | **727,539** | **1,846,231** | **109,758** | **123,335** | **5,795,069** |

In 1815, Mr Stevenson estimated the whole value of the woollen manufactures of Great Britain at L.18,000,000, and the number of people actually employed at 500,000. Mr M'Culloch estimates the value in 1827 at L.22,500,000, on the supposition that the manufactured article is worth three times the value of the wool, the quantity of which he estimated at 490,000 packs English, or 117,600,000 lbs. ; and 30,000,000 imported, a quantity far within the present amount. Our calculation proceeds on the basis of 226,298 families, earning on an average 17s. 6d. per family, and allowing a consumption of wool worth L.10,000,000, with an allowance of twenty-five per cent. on all outlay for wear and tear, interest, and profit of capital. We then have the following estimate:

|  |
| --- |
| Value of wool employed L.10,000,000 |
| Oil, dye-stuffs, soap, &c 1,500,000 |
| Wages 10,206,059 |
| Wear and tear, profits, &c ,....4,359,311 |
| L.26,155,870 |

We now come to describe the manufacture of the wool of the sheep in its two great divisions of woollen and worst­ed manufacture. Before we enter fully into the two pro­cesses, it may be well to indicate in what the difference consists. We have already described that peculiar pro­perty of wool called the felting property, by which the fibres, when submitted to heat, moisture, and pressure com­bined, form one almost homogeneous mass. Of this pro­perty advantage is taken in almost every article of woollen manufacture, the yarn being softly and loosely spun for the purpose. In the case of worsted, on the other hand, the felting property is neglected, the wool is submitted to the process of combing, which rather impairs, though it does not destroy, the felting property ; and the fibres being elongated and laid even, the thread is twisted and spun hard, so as to feel close, hard, and thread-like to the touch, and not soft and loose like the yarn destined for the manu­facture of woollen cloths. Keeping this distinction in view, we will first treat of the manufacture of cloths, the most perfect of woollen fabrics ; and the following is a ca­talogue of the processes, which we shall describe *seriatim.*

1. Sorting the wool.

2. Scouring or washing.

3. Dying (when wool-

dyed).

4. Willying or twillying.\*

5. Picking or moating.

6. Oiling.

7. Scribbling.\*

8. Carding.\*

9. Slubbing.∙

10. Spinning.\*

11. Reeling.\*

12. Warping, patenting.

13. Sizing.\*

14. Weaving.\*

15. Scouring.

16. Dying (when piece-

dyed).

17. Burling.

18. Fulling or felting.\*

19. Scouring.

20. Drying (tentering).

21. Raising, dressing, or

teazling.\*

22. Shearing or cutting.\*

23. Brushing.\*

24. Picking, drawing, and

marking.

25. Pressing.\*

26. Packing.

\* These processes are performed by machines.

The sorting of the wool, and the *tact* or delicacy of hand and nice discrimination which it requires, have been de­scribed in the first division of this article. The sorter is usually attended by a boy to distribute the sorts : so at­tended, a skilful sorter can sort a pack of German wool in about two days, and a pack of English in one. The wages which a sorter is capable of earning vary from 25s. to L.2, L.2. 10s., and even L.3 ; but the latter demands a union of skill and rapidity seldom attained.

The proper sort having been selected, the wool is scoured or washed, to free it from the animal grease with which it abounds. This in the west of England invariably, and in Yorkshire generally, is effected as follows. Stale urine, called in the west of England “ ley,” is mixed with a small quantity of soap, and heated to about 120°. In this detergent the wool is soaked. On removal, it is placed in a wire basket, and submitted to the operation of running water, by which the grease and other impurities are washed away. By some manufacturers of Yorkshire, the wool is washed with warm soap and water, and, after receiving a second washing in clean water, to free it from the soap, is passed through strong iron rollers, by which the wool is pressed nearly dry. The business of scouring or washing is performed by men ; and by the first process, two are capable of cleaning two packs in a day.

Cloth, other than white cloth, is either “ wool-dyed” or “ piece-dyed.” Of the former, the dyeing is the first pro­cess after washing. The larger manufacturers themselves dye all the common colours, such as browns and olives ; but the true or woaded colours, such as blue, wool-black, and green, can only be well done by those who make it their special business. The small manufacturers send all colours to the dyers. The prices paid for dyeing vary, ac-