

PSEUDO-WOOLLEN FABRICS.

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(Read at the Meeting, June 5, 1895.)

A CONSIDERABLE amount of attention was directed a few months since to some published statements referring to the material known as "flannelette." In common, no doubt, with many other persons, the writer was previously under the impression that flannelette consisted of wool and cotton in about equal proportions. To a casual observer, much of the flannelette sold would seem to be softer and warmer than many flannels.

It is likely, therefore, that for some years past flannelette has been purchased frequently for the clothes of delicate persons and children, under a mistaken notion that it was the most suitable material for that purpose; instances of this are known to the writer.

The published statements alluded to above pointed to the probability that an investigation of samples of flannelette of different values, and procured at various times and places, would be of some interest.

The results of a microscopical examination of ten samples of flannelette, obtained in various neighbourhoods, and supplied at different prices, showed that six of them were all cotton, and that four of them did not contain more than 5 per cent. of wool.

Of nineteen samples of material sold as "sanitary flannel" similarly examined, sixteen were found to be all wool, one nearly all wool, one chiefly cotton, and one all cotton.

Eighteen samples of "flannel" were found to consist entirely of wool.
