MILLMAN, HUNT & CO.,
— AND —
SAMPSON LONGBY & CO.,
NIND MILLS, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE.
Manufacturers of Fine Woollen Cloths, Printers' Blanketing, Serges, Worsted Coatings, etc.

MESSRS. MILLMAN, HUNT AND COMPANY'S mills, at Wotton-under-Edge, are interesting not only by reason of the high stand they take in the cloth industry in Gloucestershire, but also by reason of their long and eventful history. At one time Wotton-under-Edge was the centre of a number of mills of more than national reputation, though from various causes they were one by one suspended, this Company being the only survivor. It is probably now the oldest cloth mill in this entire section, a portion of the premises still occupied having been in use for upwards of three centuries. In recent years several changes have taken place in the personnel of the proprietors, the present Company having been formed in 1890. In 1893 the business, which had for many years been very successfully carried on by Messrs. Samuel Long and Company, at Charford, near Wotton-under-Edge, was also taken over by this Company, the present members of whom are Messrs. Francis Millman and Benjamin Hunt. It is interesting to know that both the Millman and Hunt families have been prominent in the West of England cloth manufacture for several generations.

Although the Nind Mills, as Messrs. Millman and Hunt's Wotton-under-Edge mills are called, arc old established, they have been kept thoroughly up-to-date by the addition of new buildings and the installation of the latest machinery. In 1890 a new weaving shed—a particularly well-lighted and well-arranged building—was erected, and equipped with the most modern and approved looms, and other scarcely less important additions have been made.

The freehold premises owned and occupied by the Company comprise sixteen acres in one tract. A noticeable advantage is the fine water power available, with an falling supply sufficient to drive three large water wheels. The reservoir is fed by the "Little Avon," and as the Nind Mills are the first to use this stream,

"NIND MILLS, WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE.

ROBERT S. DAVIES & SONS,
STONEHOUSE MILLS, STONEHOUSE.

Woollen Cloth Manufacturers.

Over a century Messrs. Robt. S. Davies and Sons' Mills have been well known in the West of England cloth trade, the industry having been established in 1738 by Mr. Robt. Stephen Davies, the grandfather of Mr. William Davies, J.P., the present head of the Firm. The Firm operate at Stonehouse two mills, known respectively as the Upper and Lower Mills, situated about a quarter of a mile apart. The two mills cover a large area of ground, and are admirably situated near both the Great Western and the Midland railways. In 1847 the Upper Mill was destroyed by fire, being rebuilt in 1875, when it was materially enlarged and improved. In both the mills alterations have been made from time to time in the buildings and the mechanical equipment, and every provision has been made to meet the requirements of an extensive patronage. Through the courtesy of the Firm we are enabled to present here two excellent engravings giving a general view of the Upper and Lower Mills. We regret that no engraving could give an adequate idea of their very picturesque surroundings, an advantage which these, like many of the Gloucestershire cloth mills, possesses in a marked degree.

Messrs. Davies and Sons manufacture fine worsteds in black, blue, and mixtures, vicunas, flannels, riding tweeds and Bedford cords, fine blue navy cloths, and doeckins, beavers, meltons, Venetians, Devons, scarlets, waterproof covert coatings, carriage and livery cloths, etc. The dying is done on the premises, all colours being guaranteed. A great speciality is made of indigo blue for naval purposes, and woollen blacks for liveries. At the first International Exhibition, London, 1851, and at subsequent exhibitions they were awarded medals for the excellence of their manufactures, and their cloths have long enjoyed the highest reputation among the leading London and provincial woollen merchants.

Messrs. Davies and Sons carry a very large stock and their warehouse is replete with an endless variety of the latest styles of material.

Industrial Gloucestershire 1904

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