

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUISE GRAISSOT, OF LYONS, FRANCE, ASSIGNOR TO GILLET & FILS, OF
SAME PLACE.

DRESSING SILK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 371,498, dated October 11, 1887.

Application filed May 24, 1887. Serial No. 239,248. (No specimens.) Patented in France January 22, 1887, No. 181,030, and in
England April 7, 1887, No. 5,205.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUISE GRAISSOT, spin-
ster, a citizen of the Republic of France, and a
resident of Lyons, France, have invented new
5 and useful Improvements Relating to the Treat-
ment of Fabrics Composed of or Containing Silk
for Improving the Appearance of the Same,
(for which I have obtained a patent in France,
dated January 22, 1887, No. 181,030, and for
10 which I have applied for provisional protec-
tion in Great Britain, No. 5,205, dated April
7, 1887,) of which the following is a specifi-
cation.

This invention relates to an improved pro-
15 cess of treating fabrics composed of silk only,
or of silk combined with cotton or wool, for
the purpose of producing upon the said fabrics
certain effects of shrinkage, and thereby giv-
ing to these fabrics an entirely new appear-
20 ance.

According to the nature of the fabrics to
which this treatment is applied, and also ac-
cording to modifications in the process, which
will hereinafter be described, these effects of
25 shrinkage are produced either in a plain form
with convex effects or with fleecy effects,
longitudinally folded and craped.

This process is applicable to any varieties
of silk fabric, and especially to fabrics de-
30 signed for crapes, English crape imitations,
silk handkerchiefs, comforters, and the like,
and particularly to fabrics designed for gof-
fering. It is, moreover, applicable not only
to pure silk fabrics, but also to mixed fabrics,
35 such as cotton and silk, wool and silk, the cot-
ton and the wool not being affected.

This process is carried into practice in the
following manner. A cold bath is prepared,
which is formed of chloride of zinc or other
40 zinc salts and water, the strength varying, ac-
cording to the nature of the fabrics that are
to be treated, from 20° to 40° Baumé, weak
baths being adapted for light fabrics and
strong baths for reduced fabrics. The fabrics
45 are then immersed in this bath, and left
therein for from an hour to an hour and a
half if they are reduced fabrics, and for only
from half an hour to three-quarters of an hour
if they are light fabrics. During any one of
50 these periods care must be taken to renew the
surfaces of contact of the fabric with the bath.

At the expiration of the aforesaid periods the
fabric is removed from the bath, dried, and
carried to a tepid chamber, the temperature
of which varies between 25° and 30° centi- 55
grade. The fabric is left in this chamber for
a variable time, which is determined by touch
and observation of the progress of the shrink-
age and craping which are gradually produced.
When this effect is obtained to the desired de- 60
gree, the fabric is removed, and then treated
for about a quarter of an hour in a solution
of cold carbonate of potash at 10° Baumé. It
is then dried, washed in flowing water, dried
again, and finally boiled with soap. The boil- 65
ing with soap can also be effected immediately
after the fabric is removed from the hot cham-
ber, the bath of carbonate of potash being
thus dispensed with. The fabric is after this
subjected to the ordinary operations of the 70
industry. For these various operations the
apparatus usually employed in the silk indus-
try for operations of this kind is used.

What I claim is—

1. The method herein described of produc- 75
ing the effect of shrinkage on fabrics contain-
ing silk, which consists in subjecting the fab-
ric to the action of a bath of zinc salt, then
removing and drying the fabric in a tepid
chamber, substantially as set forth. 80

2. The method herein described of produc-
ing the effect of shrinkage on fabrics contain-
ing silk, which consists in subjecting the fab-
ric to the action of a bath of zinc salt, remov-
ing and drying the fabric, placing the same in 85
a tepid chamber to develop the shrinkage, and
subsequently boiling the fabric with soap, sub-
stantially as described.

3. The method herein described of produc-
ing the effect of shrinkage on fabrics contain- 90
ing silk, which consists in subjecting the fab-
ric to the action of a chloride-of-zinc bath,
then removing and drying the fabric and plac-
ing the same in a tepid chamber, and subse-
quently subjecting the said fabric to the action 95
of a solution of carbonate of potash, substan-
tially as set forth.

LOUISE GRAISSOT.

Witnesses:

GEORGES FREYDIER-DUBREUL,
XAVIA JANICOT.