## Contents

List of Illustrations	9
Acknowledgements	11
Money Matters	15
Introduction. Growth and Decline of a Textile City	17
Chapter 1. Flemish Resilience? Cloth and its Markets	25
Ypres Cloth in Medieval Europe	26
Heavy and Light Cloth: A Broken Balance	32
An Industry in Continuous Transition	35
Conclusions: Rise and Decline of an Industry	40
Chapter 2. Of Weaving Looms, Spinning Wheels and Fuller's Troughs.	
Cloth and Technology	43
Labour and Textile Technology	43
A Mercantile Prelude	47
Wool preparation	51
Weaving	53
Fulling	58
Cloth finishing	61
Dyeing	64
Conclusions: technological innovation and the emergence of the 'grande	
draperie'	69
Chapter 3. The Rise and Fall of Industrial Suburbia. Cloth and the Urban	1
Fabric	71
Urban Change in Medieval Ypres	71
Revolt and Taxation	72
Textiles in the Urban Fabric	80
City Walls and Social Segregation	83
The 'Marshy Meadow'	87
Towards a Post-Industrial City?	90
Conclusions	95

Chapter 4. The Boinebrokes of Ypres. Cloth and Mercantile Capital	97
The Shadow of Boinebroke	98
The Boinebrokes of Ypres	
A Hostile Take-Over?	108
How did Woollens Find their Way to International Customers? Merchants	
and Brokers	114
Conclusions	118
Chapter 5. The Clothiers' Century. Cloth and Entrepreneurship	121
From merchant entrepreneurs to clothiers: a social revolution in 1280?	124
Access to Entrepreneurship	130
Monitoring Cloth Manufacture	134
Access to Capital	138
Conclusions: A Dance of Capital and Labour	145
Chapter 6. The Rules of the Game. Cloth, Labour and Guilds	151
Craftsmen and Guilds	151
Clothiers and their Workers	155
Running a Textile Workshop	156
Starting a Guild Career: Apprenticeship	159
The Rewards of Skill: Journeymen and Unskilled Workers	163
Hiring a Labour Force	166
The Bells of Labour	168
Conclusions	170
Chapter 7. All in a Wage Cloth and its Rewards	173
Labour and Cloth	176
A Textile Wage: What is in a Name?	178
Wages in Ypres	183
The preparation of wool	183
Weaving	185
Fulling	186
Shearing and cloth finishing	187
Dyeing	189
Textile Wages and Builders' Wages in the Fourteenth Century: a Comparison	189
Chapter 8. 'Whether He or She'. Cloth and Gender	193
Women, Guilds and Entrepreneurship	194
Gender Inclusivity in the Ypres Cloth Industry	199
It is (Becoming) a Man's World	203
Chapter 9. A Time to Protest. Cloth and Revolt	207
Medieval Revolts in Flanders	207
Cokerulle: A True Social Conflict?	214
Revolt and Restoration 1302-1328	217

Social Friction and Political Dissent 1328-1377	219
The Last Revolts (Late Fourteenth-Fifteenth Centuries)	225
Labour Conflict, Political Conflict	228
Chapter 10. Roads of Capitalism	231
A Rural Epilogue to an Urban Industry?	234
Ypres and Florence: Two Sides of the Same Coin?	245
Rise and Fall of a Textile City	252
Bibliography	257
Glossary of textile terms (in the Ypres sources)	275