

unknown to the defendants, and he did not communicate to them the particular purpose for which he wanted the cloth. The defendants made and supplied to the plaintiff cloth which was of the description ordered, and which corresponded with the sample. The plaintiff made the cloth into liveries which he supplied to a London club for the use of its servants. After the liveries had been in use for a few weeks, they showed signs of wear, the surface of the cloth came off, and the dye came out. It was admitted that the cloth was not strong enough in texture for the hard usage to which servants' liveries are subjected, and that it was altogether unsuitable for that purpose. There was evidence that one of the ordinary uses to which indigo blue cloth was applied was the making of servants' liveries, though it was also frequently used for other purposes, such as carriage linings, caps and boots. There was no evidence that the cloth supplied by the defendants was unsuitable for these latter purposes. Before ordering the cloth the plaintiff subjected the sample to the ordinary tests for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was suitable for liveries, and failed to discover that it was not so. The plaintiff having sued the defendants for breach of an implied warranty that the cloth was merchantable, the judge left to the jury the question whether it was merchantable as supplied to woollen merchants, and refused to leave to them the question whether an ordinary and usual use of cloth of the description ordered was the making of it into liveries. The verdict having passed for the defendants, the plaintiff moved for a new trial on the ground of misdirection.

LORD COLERIDGE, C. J. I am of opinion that in this case the direction of the County Court judge to the jury was right, and that there was not any such non-direction as made his direction amount to a misdirection. There is no doubt that if a manufacturer sells an article which he knows is bought for a particular purpose, he impliedly warrants that it is fit for that particular purpose. That is a principle which was established some sixty years ago in the case of *Jones v. Bright*, 5 Bing. 533, and has been acted upon ever since. But the present case is not within that rule, because nothing was mentioned to the seller as to the particular purpose for which this cloth was bought, and there was nothing to fix him with knowledge of that purpose. Here all that was shown was that the seller on the one side was a manufacturer, and the buyer on the other side was a woollen merchant. No doubt it was possible that the buyer might sell the goods to some person or other who might use them for a purpose for which they were not fit, and I may assume that the goods here were unfit for the particular purpose to which the plaintiff applied them.

But there was nothing, beyond the position of the parties, to show that the seller knew the specific purpose for which they were bought, and it could not be denied that they might have been used for a variety of other purposes for which they were fitted. The plaintiff might have sold them to be used for purposes for which they were applicable. But then it is said that the case of *Drummond v. Van Ingen*, 12 App. Cas. 284, in the House of Lords, carries the law farther than *Jones v. Bright*, 5 Bing. 533. In my opinion that is not so. There was no intention on the part of the Lords to extend the old rule. Lord Macnaghten expressly said that he did not go beyond it; so also did Lord Selborne. And Lord Herschell, on whose judgment special reliance has been placed, was particularly careful to explain that he did not intend to carry the doctrine farther. He said: "It was urged for the appellants by the attorney-general, in his able argument at the bar, that it would be unreasonable to require that a manufacturer should be cognizant of all the purposes to which the article he manufactured might be applied, and that he should be acquainted with all the trades in which it may be used. I agree. Where the article may be used as one of the elements in a variety of other manufactures, I think it may be too much to impute to the maker of this common article a knowledge of the details of every manufacture into which it may enter in combination with other materials." If the plaintiff is to succeed, it must be on the ground of the reasonableness of imputing such knowledge to the manufacturer. I do not see that there was any evidence that the making of liveries was the only purpose, or even the most usual purpose, for which this particular kind of cloth was ordinarily used, and unless that is so there is nothing to fix the manufacturer with knowledge which would bring the case within the rule.

LORD ESHER, M. R. The question which was left by the judge to the jury, and the sufficiency of which is now complained of, was whether the cloth supplied by the defendants to the plaintiff was merchantable as supplied to woollen merchants. The cloth in question was ordered under a particular name, namely, "indigo blue cloth," by a woollen merchant of a woollen cloth manufacturer, to be made according to sample. It was not denied that the cloth supplied answered the name, nor was it disputed that it agreed with the sample. But it was said that there was a breach of an implied warranty that it should be fit for the particular purpose of being made into liveries. Now the rule with regard to the implied warranty of fitness which arises in the case of a sale of goods is that which is laid down in *Jones v. Just*, L. R., 3 Q. B. 197, in the fourth of the five classes of cases there enumerated: