Tab'by, a. Having a wavy, watery, or more variegated appearance.—Diversified in color; brindled; as, a tabby cat.

n. (Manuf.) A term formerly applied to certain figured silks and other goods upon which an irregular pattern had been stamped, either by the pressure of engraved rollers, or by folding the stuffs in such a way as to produce, by the mutual pressure of their fibres, an inequality of surface, which, by reflected light, gave rise to the appearance called watering.