

THE
PROGRESS OF WOOL,
FROM
SHEEP-SHEARING
TO
THE WEAVING OF CLOTH.

DESIGNED AS A COMPANION TO
HARVEST HOME, OR THE PROGRESS OF WHEAT.

LONDON:

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William Taylor
with his Aunt Lucy's
best love. —

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

SHEEP WASHING



THE
PROGRESS OF WOOL;

FROM

Sheep-Shearing,

TO THE

MANUFACTURE OF CLOTH.

BY THE AUTHOR OF

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INTRODUCTION.

FLATTERED by the favourable reception of a small Book, entitled “ Harvest Home, or The Progress of Wheat, exemplified,” I am induced to attempt a Description of the Progress of Wool; and should my endeavours to enlighten and amuse my young readers, be successful, no further inducement will be necessary for me to continue this species of information on other subjects.

The AUTHOR.

THE PROGRESS
OF
WOOLLEN CLOTH.

THERE is no-thing we possess, but what grows and has its o-ri-gin from the earth, e-ven the dres-ses we wear, whe-ther they are made by the tai-lor or the mil-li-ner. Here let us ac-

know-ledge the good-ness of God, how boun-ti-ful he has been in pro-vi-ding us with the ma-te-ri-als, and we can-not be suf-fi-ci-ent-ly thank-ful for the sense we in-he-rit, that en-a-bles us to em-ploy them for our use and com-fort.

Wool-len Cloth is made of the wool which grows up-on sheep; and they, as well as man-kind, were cre-a-ted by

God, from the dust of the earth.

About the beginning of June, the wool becomes very thick, and would be extremely injurious to sheep during the intense heat of Summer, were it not that the Farmer commences Sheep - Shearing at this season of the year.

Before the wool is shorn, it is cleansed from all dirt and

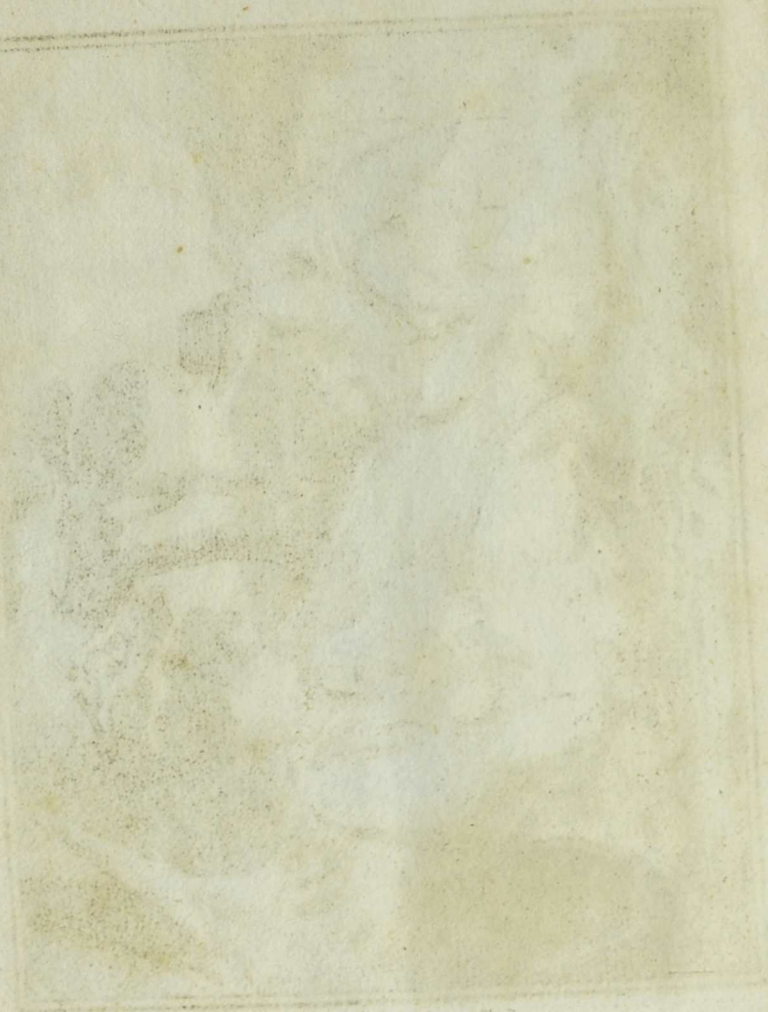
filth by men who enter a pond up to their waists: the animals are put in, and being made quite clean, are driven to a Meadow, where they remain till they are dry. This is called the Sheep-Washing. They are next shorn with a pair of hand-shears, and are held in the manner described by the plate.

The animals pa-ti-ent-ly sub-

SHEEP SHEARING



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WILKING & BUCKING

WEIGHING & PACKING



mit to the o-pe-ra-tion, as though con-sci-ous it is for their be-ne-fit as well as for that of man. The wool from the back of each sheep is roll-ed tight to-ge-ther, which is call-ed a fleece.

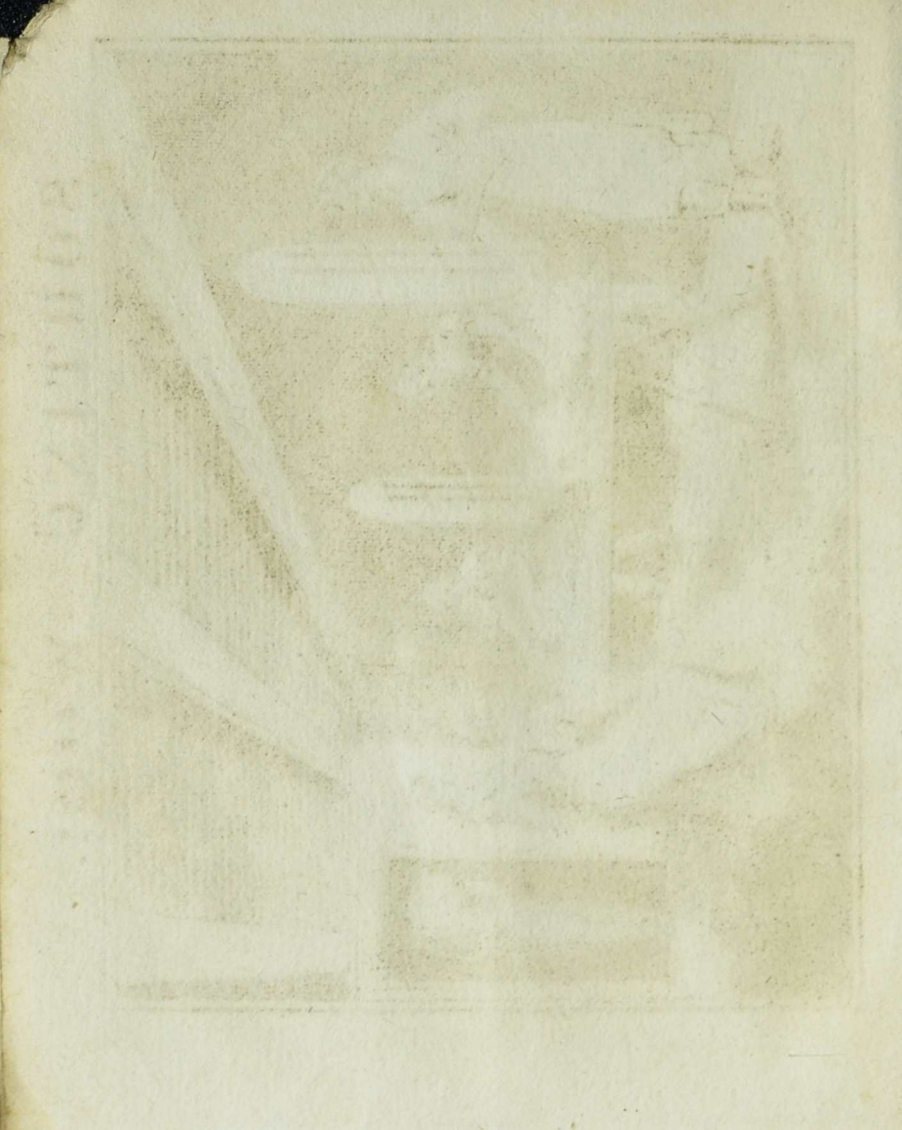
Wool is sold by weight, at a cer-tain price per tod (28 pounds).—When the shear-ing time is fi-nish-ed, the Ma-nu-fac-tu-rer of Cloth rides to the

different Farmers, who re-gale him with the best their houses afford, and having agreed upon a price, proceed to weigh and pack the wool.

Hav-ing ar-ri-ved at the Cloth-er's ma-nu-fac-to-ry, it is con-vey-ed to the Sort-ing-chamber, here re-pre-sent-ed; where men and wo-men se-pa-rate with a pair of hand - shears the fine from the coars-er parts.

SORTING WOOL





THE LIFE OF THE

THE DYE HOUSE



It is taken from hence to the Dye-house, in large baskets, to the handles of which a long pole is applied, and supported on men's shoulders.

A large copper (under which is a furnace) is filled with water, and certain ingredients called dye-stuff, mixed with it.—A sufficient quantity of wool is then put in for a piece of cloth, which is

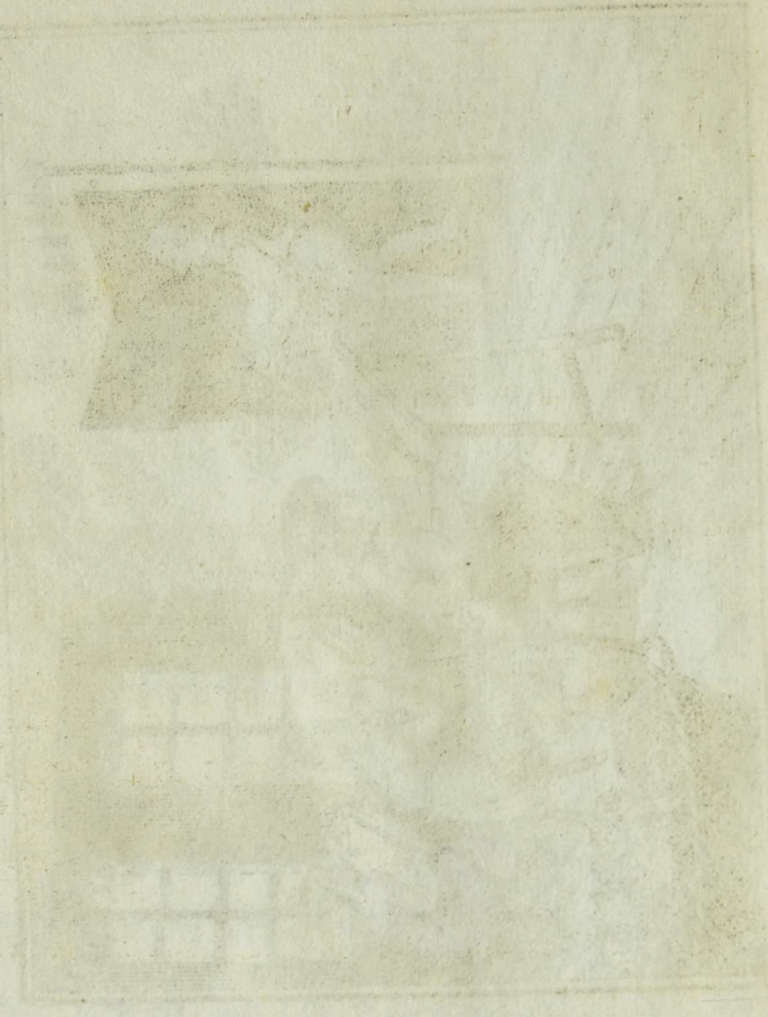
boil-ed till it has at-tain-ed the de-si-red colour :—It is then car-ri-ed back in bas-kets to a field, where it is strew-ed up-on hur-dles to dry.

In the next pro-cess, a quan-ti-ty of oil is mix-ed with the wool, and it is then con-vey-ed to the Card-ing - room ; where men comb or card it. When made suf-fi-ci-ent-ly smooth to be spun in-to thread, it is ta-

CARDING



CAMBRIDGE



SPINNING

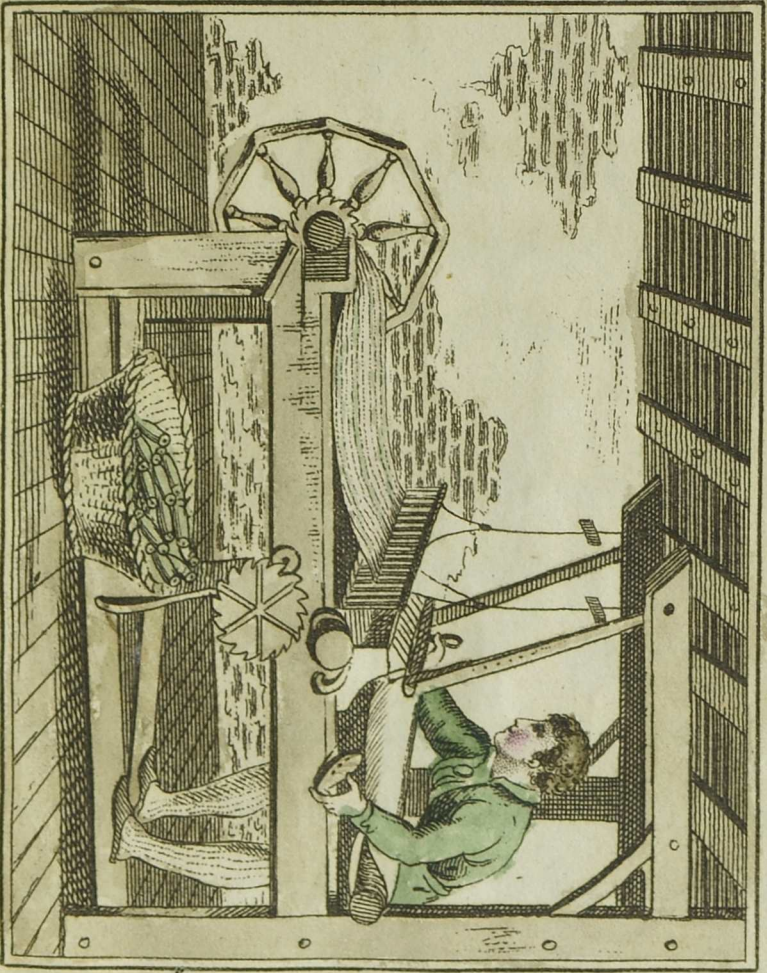


ken to the Spin-ning - house, where wo-men are em-ploy-ed in the use of ma-chines, call-ed spin-ning jen-nies. A wheel is turn-ed with the right hand, and the wo-man draws out the wool which she fas-tens to a spin-dle with her left, at the same time re-ti-ring back-wards, when the ac-tion of the wheel spins it in-to thread.

After-wards it is wound up on bob-bins by a wheel call-ed a reel :—this is the work of children, who car-ry them to the Wea-ver.

The Wea-ver works in a loom ; he throws to-and-fro the thread con-tain-ed in the shut-tle, call-ed the warp, be-tween the threads ex-tend-ing length-ways, which is the woof. —A piece of su-per-fine cloth

WEAVING



READING



is a-bout 40 yards long ; and a wea-ver will com-plete it with the im-pro-ved fly-shut-tle in a week.

Af-ter the piece is woven, it un-der-goes ma-ny o-pe-ra-tions ; all of which are now per-form-ed by most cu-ri-ous ma-chi-ne-ry, viz. dres-sing, shear-ing, &c. which must be seen, to form an ac-cu-rate i-de-a of their per-fec-tion.

The cloth is finally hot-pressed, and packed up ; when it is conveyed to the Wool-len - Dra-per for Sale.

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