

Fig. 844.



Bowling. (*Hat-making.*) A mode of separating the filaments of felting-fur, and distributing them lightly in an openwork frame, called a basket. The oval sheet of fur thus obtained is worked by pressure, and a rubbing jerking motion, which causes the fibers to interlace (felt), so that the sheet of napping can be handled and shaped by the succeeding processes.

In *bowling*, the amount of fur is weighed out, placed in a wad on the bench, and, the bow being held over it, the string is twanged by a wooden pin in the hand of the workman, so as to pick up a quantity of the filaments at each vibration, and throw them on to the basket, or wire screen.