

Wool-wash'ing Ma-chine'. A machine for cleansing fleece-wool in the factory.

McNaught's machine (United States patent, April 27, 1869) has a series of rakes for traversing the wool along the cistern to an inclined plane, up which it is moved by a cradle *g*, and delivered to a series of rollers, which convey it to the squeezers *i i*. The cradle *g* has a four-motioned action, down, forward, upward, and return; the teeth on its lower side catching the wool and drawing it up the incline.

In Clark's machine, 1865, the wool is conveyed into and out of the trough by endless aprons, and passed through the trough between two other endless aprons, under one of which is a bed of rollers, and over the upper of which a series of vertical beaters or stampers is arranged, one above each roller. These stampers are successively operated by a revolving shaft having thereon a set of lifters, spirally arranged. An inclined shelf under the rollers carries off the dirt as it is washed from the wool into an adjoining compartment, preventing its falling upon the lower portion of the lower apron. Provision is also made for picking the wool as discharged, by means of a revolving cylinder, with radially advancing and receding teeth in conjunction with a set of stationary teeth.

In Murkland's machine, the wool is fed from an apron between a toothed roll and a concave, and caught by the spikes on the oscillating cylinder; the latter works above a perforated concave in the tank, and advances the wool toward the discharge end, where it is caught by a revolving picker and transferred by a belt to the squeeze rolls, which deliver it. Other wool-washers are like *centrifugal machines*, or resemble some of the numerous forms of *washing-machines*.

