

**MANGLE.** (1) A machine for pressing and smoothing clothes after washing (see LAUNDRY). The word was adopted from the Dutch; *mangel-stok* means a rolling pin, and *linnen mangelen*, to press linen by rolling; similarly in O. Ital. *mangano* meant, according to Florio, "a presse to press buckrom," &c. The origin of the word is to be found in the medieval Latin name, *manganum*, *māgonus* or *mangana*, for an engine of war, the "mangonel," for hurling stones and other missiles (see CATA-PULT). The Latin word was adapted from the Greek *μάγγανον*, a trick or device, cognate with *μηχανή*, a machine. (2) To cut in pieces, to damage or disfigure; to mutilate. This word is of obscure origin. According to the *New English Dictionary* it presents an Anglo-French *mahangler*, a form of *mahaigner* from which the English "maim" is derived, cf. the old form "mayhem," surviving in legal phraseology. Skeat connects the word with the Latin *mançus*, maimed, with which "maim" is not cognate.