

REELS, to reel ropes on from a six-thread ratline to a two-inch rope, have four ribs fixed at each end in a flat circular piece of wood; and round the edges are blades, or handles, to turn them: one of the circular pieces is called the *head*, and is made to slide off for taking the coil away. They turn on an iron spindle, and are from ten to thirty-six inches long, and from twelve to eighteen inches diameter. The *Bench-reel* used by sail-makers is similar to a spinning-wheel, and is used to expedite winding the twine from the skains to the twine-reel. *Log-reels* have several ribs fixed in a circular piece of board at each end, and turn or run upon a spindle, having a handle at one end. (See LOG.) *Twine-reels*, used by sail-makers, are short cylindrical pieces of wood, hollowed in the middle to receive the twine, with a hole through the middle for the spindle. Those used by rope-makers have four oak bars, about eighteen inches long, framed together at the ends on a wooden spindle; one of the bars slides, for the conveniency of taking off the twine. The *Yarn-reel* consists of a circular board fattened horizontally on the middle of a piece of oak four inches square, and sixteen long, with a hole through its middle to receive a bolt, on which it turns as its axis, and is used to wind spun-yarn off the coil. The *Hand-reel* is a narrow board, with three or four holes at each end, in which pegs are fixed for reeling marline and other lines.

REEL, in the *Manufactories*, a machine serving for the office of reeling.

There are various kinds of reels; some very simple, others very complex. Of the former kinds, those most in use are,

1. A little reel, held in the hand, consisting of three pieces of wood, the biggest and longest whereof (which does not exceed a foot and a half in length, and a quarter of an inch in diameter,) is traversed by two other pieces disposed different ways.

2. The common reel, or windlace, which turns upon a pivot, and has four flights, traversed by long pins, or sticks, on which the skain to be reeled is put; and which are drawn closer or opened wider, according to the skain.

Other reels used in particular arts, are explained under their particular articles; as the reel used in milling of silk, under the article **MILLING**; and that in the reeling or winding of silks, under the article of **SILK**, &c.