



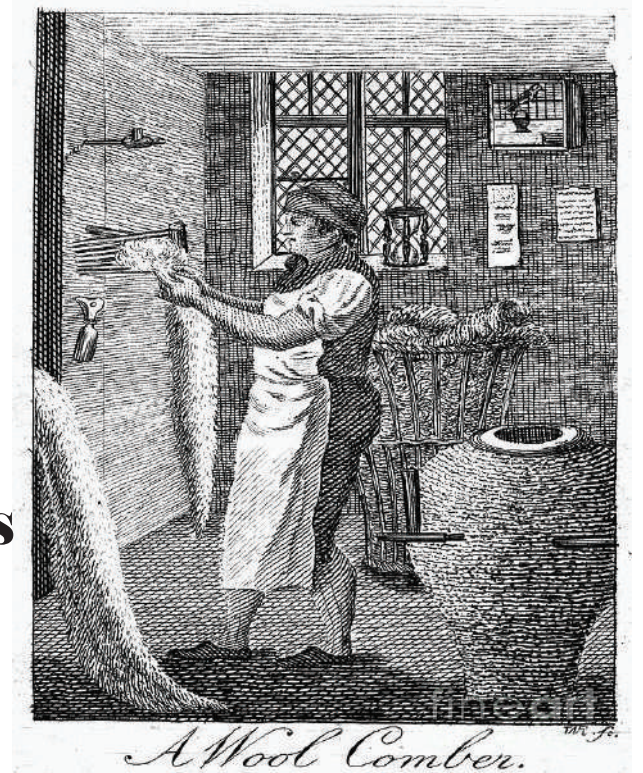
NSC PB 28

Rectilinear Comb

'Clint'

The Rectilinear Comb or 'French Comb' is the most essential machine in Worsted preparation. The comb is like a cleaner and extracts short unwanted fibres, vegetable matter, kemp and other foreign bodies including baler twine.

Traditionally Combing was done by hand to remove the short fibres, ready for hand spinning, using a hand comb which was drawn through prepared wool fibre. By the late 1800's hand combing had been replaced by combing machines including the Noble Comb, Lister Comb and Rectilinear Comb.



Drawn off Fibre

The Comb is a very effective piece of machinery and works by presenting a long fringe of fibres to pinch rollers which draw off the fibre of a predetermined staple length, leaving behind the fibre tips. The tips are clamped and pressed against a rotating pinned roller which combs away the short fibres and vegetable matter. The fibre is then brushed off by a rotating bristle brush and the extracted short (NOIL) fibre drops into the collecting bin under the machine. The fibre is then coiled off in a rope of fibre into a can. Once the rope of fibre exits the comb it is known as 'TOP'.

CLINT arrived from a Mill in Bradford and has been reconditioned from the sorry state he arrived in. His name? He is the Machine with no name.....hence Clint (Bad Spaghetti Western joke!)