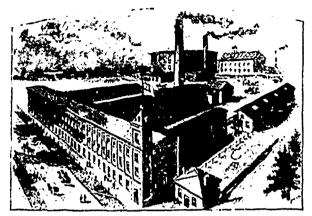
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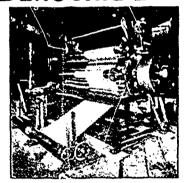
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Set English Wool Cards.

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All of above in first-class order and may be had cheap.

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WOOL SCOURING.

First of all, it is of the utmost importance that the water used for preparing or cleaning textile fabries should have special consideration, and unless water for wool scouring is either soft or to be softened, considerable damage may be done in the preparation of the cloth; besides, needless expense will be incurred, observes a writer in a foreign contemporary. When an excess of carbonic acid is present in water, it takes up from the earth time with which it comes in contact and forms carberate of lime in solution; that is to say, two parts of carbonic acid gas combine with one part of line, and this produces what is called temporary hardness. There are two ways of softeming water, either in a separate vessel, or in the tank from which the supply is drawn. Caustic soda softens water by precipitating both the carbonate and sulphate of lime, rendering them insoluble. To water of medium hardness add two pounds of caustic soda to each 1,000 gallons of water. To very hard water add three or four pounds of caustic soda to each 1,000 gollens of water. The caustic soda simply requires to be thrown into the water tank when full in the quantities I have given. It dissolves instantly, and the water only requires to be stirred once or twice to mix the caustic soda "through" and throw down the line. If the tank be left for three or four hours medisturbed the lime talls and settles to the bottom of the tank, and the clear softened water can be drawn off by placing the

exit tap rather above the bottom of the tank, thus leaving the sediment behind.

The next important thing in wool scouring is the soap, and I give two, viz., potash pearl ashes and potash soap. First, pearl ashes is the purest form of potash, and it is safer and better than ordinary carbonate of potash. Too often the latter is palmed off on consumers as pearl ashes; carbonate of potash, if held in the hand and a drop or two of water added will give off heat; pearl ashes will not give off any heat; this is a sufficient guide to distinguish between pearl ashes and carbonate of potash, but in cases of doubt recourse should be had to analysis Second, potash soap is made from caustic potash and water combined with fatty matter, or, speaking more correctly, in soap you have to deal with an alkali and a fatty matter. The alkali and this substance enter into combination, and when this is complete you have a new product, viz., soap. Wool washers find it to their advantage to make their own soap.

Next we come to the wool scouring, which operation consists in removing the only substance in the wool, which is called "yolk," and nearly one half the weight of this yolk is potash. This yolk is capable of forming a soap with an alkali in the bowl, consisting largely of potash, no soda being present. Be fere, however, the wool can be used for spinning, this grease must be removed in such a way that the fiber of the wool be not miured, or its natural bright color destroyed. This is best accomplished by the use of pure potash soap. The action of such a soap, which contains neither an excess of free or un-