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order to fit them for the dyer, they are first freed from all greasiness and foulness by the operation of fulling, in which the cloths are beaten by heavy *mallets* as they lie in water, with which a quantity of fuller's earth has been mixed. This earth unites with the greasy matter and renders it soluble in water; so that, by continually supplying fresh streams while the beating is going on, all the foulness is at length carried off. The operation of fulling has the further effect of thickening the cloth, and rendering it more firm and *compact*, by mixing the threads with each other, something in the manner of a felt. The cloths of inferior fineness are mostly called narrow cloths. Some of those used for great coats, by their substance and shagginess, resemble the original fleece, or rather the fur of a bear, and render unnecessary the use of furred garments. Indeed, with the single material of wool, art has been able much better to suit the different wants of man in his clothing, than can be done by all the productions of nature. What could be so comfortable for our beds as blankets? What so warm, and at the same time so light, for pained and palsied limbs, as flannel? The several kinds of the worsted manufacture are excellent for that elasticity which makes them sit close to a part without impeding its motions. This quality is particularly observable in stockings made of worsted. Even the thinnest of the woollen *fabrics* possess a considerable degree of warmth, as appears in shawls. The real shawls are made of the fine wool of Tibet, in the eastern part of Asia; but they have been very well imitated by the product of some of our English looms. Carpeting is another article made of wool, equally appropriated to luxury.

Men must have been far advanced in the observation of nature, before they found out a material for clothing in the labours of a caterpillar. China