

I. **F**ROM the few Monuments that remain of ancient Weavers and their Art, it's no easy Matter to form a distinct Idea of the way of making their Cloath and Linnen. If we may rely upon the Credit of the Figures that remain of the 4th or 5th Century, they wrought at this Trade with a great deal of Simplicity: We there find Women spinning<sup>9</sup>, others dressing the Cloth after it was made<sup>10</sup>, and the Weavers themselves standing at their Work<sup>11</sup>. In the old *Virgil* in the *Vatican*, thought to be of the 4th Century, and which formerly belong'd to our Monastery of *S. Denis* in *France*, as I have shewn in my *Diarium Italicum*, there's a Woman seen working at the Loom standing<sup>12</sup>, and instead of a Shuttle using a long Rod. I leave it to those that are skill'd in this Art to reason upon this way of Weaving. Another MS in the King's Library, which is a Commentary upon the Book of *Job*, exhibits to us a Weaver working at the Loom also in a standing Posture. Tho' this MS be no older than the tenth Century, yet the Figures in it are taken from MSS of greater Antiquity: For as it's said in an ancient Commentary, the oldest Copies of the Book of *Job* had these painted Images, which afterwards were inserted into later Manuscripts.



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