

SHUTTLE, in the *Manufactures*, an instrument used by the weavers, which, with a thread it contains, either of woollen, silk, flax, or other matter, serves to form the woofs of stuffs, cloths, linen, ribbands, &c. by throwing the shuttle alternately from left to right, and from right to left, across between the threads of the warp, which are stretched out lengthways on the loom.

In the middle of the shuttle is a kind of cavity, called the *eye* or *chamber* of the shuttle; in which is inclosed the poul, which is a part of the thread destined for the woof; and this is wound on a little tube of paper, rush, or other matter.

The ribband-weaver's shuttle is very different from that of most other weavers, though it serves for the same purpose: it is of box, six or seven inches long, one broad, and as much deep; shod with iron at both ends, which terminate in points, and are a little crooked, the one towards the right, and the other towards the left, representing the figure of an  $\infty$  horizontally placed.