Batting-machine. (Fiber.) A machine in which cotton partially loosened and cleaned by the withdrawing-machine (which see) is scutched, blown, and topped so as to fit it for presentation in a soft, downy, and even wad to the carding-machine.

As a preliminary process, the cotton is carefully weighed, a given quantity being distributed on a certain surface of the slatted feed-apron, which has right angles upon a revolving shaft, so as to strike on the cotton as it issues from between the feed-rollers. The scutcher makes 2,000 revolutions per minute in near proximity to the grated concave C, through which dirt escapes. The cotton is wafted on to a traversing slatted apron D, which revolves on the rollers f, passing beneath a revolving cage-cylinder E, inclosed by the cover k, in the top of which is a dust-duct i, in communication with a revolving fan, which exhausts the air from the interior of the machine, and therewith withdraws the dust. The reticulated cylinder E allows the air and dust to pass, but retains the cotton fiber, which is pressed into a bat upon the apron D, and delivered to a second pair of feed-rollers l, when it is again exposed to a scutcher E, which acts similarly to the one before described. This scutcher has 2,200 revolutions per minute, and delivers the cotton to an apron G, which carries it beneath another reticulated, dust-withdrawing cylinder in communication with the air-exhaust duct m.

The cotton thence passes in a floccy mass to the pressure-rollers o p, which deliver the compressed fleece to the cylinder whose axis is loaded by suspended weights L, which bear it down upon the carrying-rollers K K, whereby the fleece is condensed as it is wound. As the lap-cylinder I increases in diameter, the links rise, carrying the weights L, and when the lap has attained the required size, the main portion of the machine is thrown out of gear, while the twin rollers p p continue to revolve, and thus tear the bat apart in the middle between the pairs of rollers o p. The attendant then removes the lap, hooks up the weighting device, places another lap-cylinder in position, starts the machinery, restores the action of the weight, and guides the advanced edge of the bat around the cylinder. See Cotton-cleaner.