Reel. A revolving device on which fiber, thread, cord, rope, fabric, etc., are wound, to form them into hanks or skeins, and for various other purposes.

1. (Cotton-machinery.) A machine on which cotton is wound, making hanks each having 840 yards in length of thread.

The circumference of the reel is 4½ feet; when it has performed 80 revolutions a lay is formed, measuring 120 yards, and 7 of these lays make up a hank.

The hank-yarn is specially designed for warps.

2. (Silk.) The revolving frame on which silk is wound from the cocoons, or yarn is wound off from the spindle of a hand-spinning machine, and reeled into cuts or hanks.

3. (Rope-making.) Span yarns are wound on a reel preparatory to tarring or laying up into strands as the twisting of each length is completed. See Rope.

Fig. 4222.

Reel for Cotton Yarns.