



Figure 13. Males operated the knitting machines, or “stocking frames,” on which they produced quantities of knit stockings. Their wives or daughters often assisted in the work by spinning the yarn or winding skeins. Several stocking weavers practiced their craft in Chester County. Plate 314, “The Stocking Frame,” Charles C. Gillespie, ed., *A Diderot Pictorial Encyclopedia of Trades and Industry: Manufacturing and the Technical Arts in Plates Selected from “L’Encyclopédie, ou Dictionnaire Raisonné des Sciences, des Arts et des Métiers”* of Denis Diderot, vol. 2 (New York, 1959).



Figure 4. The men on the left are preparing the dried flax plants for seed removal. The man in the center is beating the seeds off the stalk by holding the stems over a scutching board and striking them with a scutching knife. Once removed, the seeds fall to the floor onto a winnowing cloth that facilitates easy collection. “Hand Scutchers at Work,” from *Great Industries of Great Britain*, vol. 1 (London: 1877–1880?), 212. Permission of the American Textile History Museum, Lowell, Massachusetts.