



**THE COVER ILLUSTRATION** is taken from a seventeenth century engraving showing the activities of a typical paper mill of the period. The vat man, coucher, and lay man, can be seen performing their respective duties. In the background is shown a stamping mill used, in this case, for the preparation of the fibrous raw material. The heads of the stamps are raised by the cams on the main driving shaft from a water wheel. The pipe emerging from the vat on the left is the "pistolet", a heating device introduced about this period for warming up the fibrous suspension in the vat, thus increasing the rate of drainage of the suspension and speeding up the process of web-formation. .