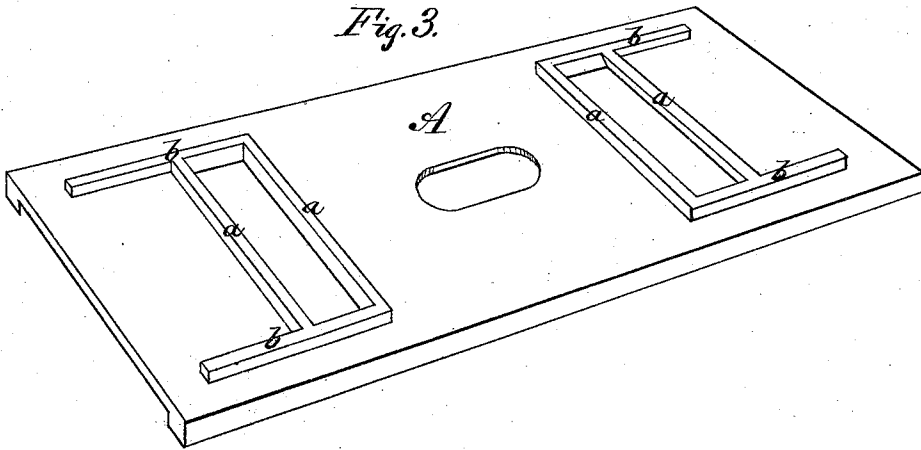
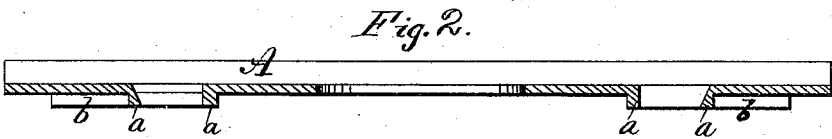
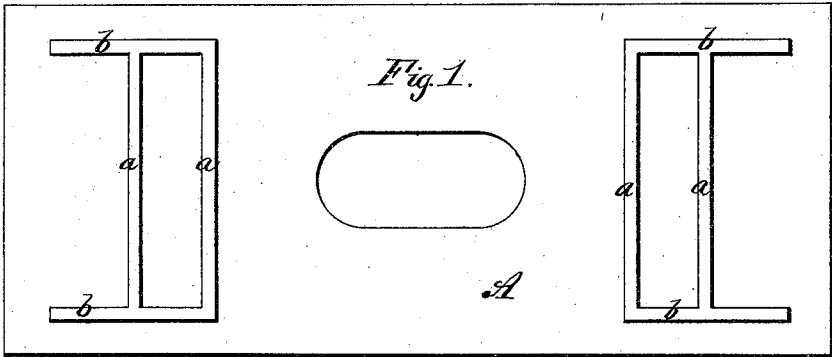


J. DENNING.
BRICK-MACHINE.

No. 177,815.

Patented May 23, 1876.



Witnesses
S. C. [Signature]
Geo. H. [Signature]

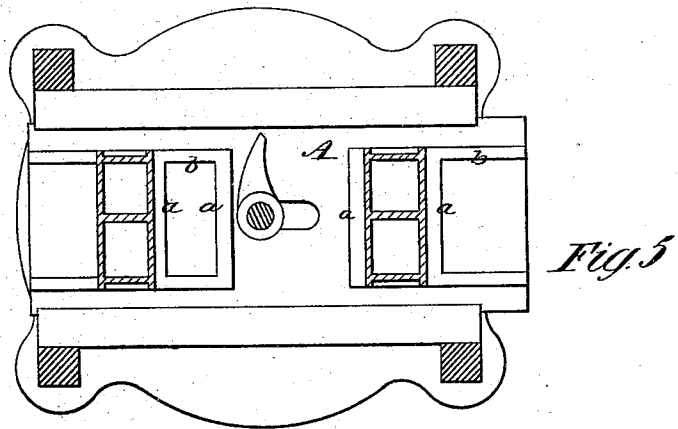
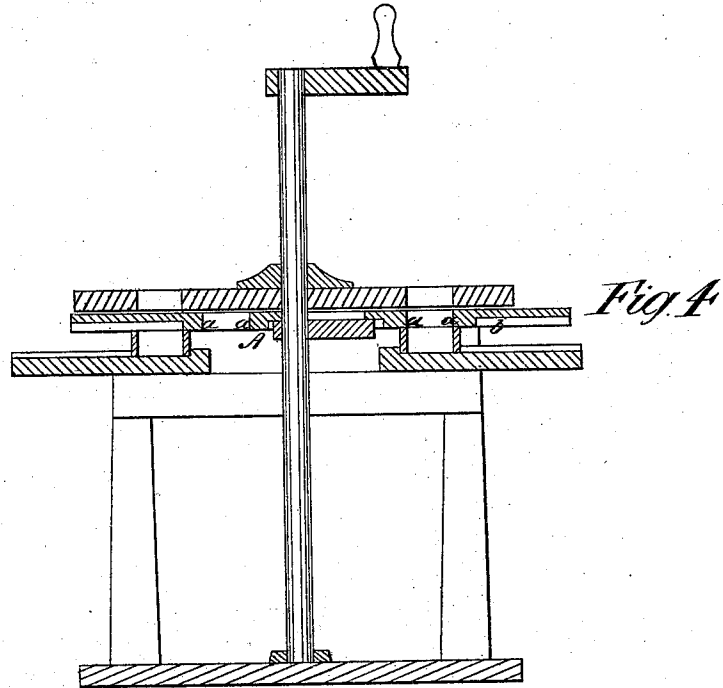
James Denning Inventor

Connelly Bros & Co Attorneys

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Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES DENNING, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO KEYSTONE
BRICK MACHINE COMPANY, (LIMITED,) OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BRICK-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,815**, dated May 23, 1876; application filed
March 25, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES DENNING, of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brick-Machines; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a bottom view of the knife. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a perspective of knife inverted. Fig. 4 is a vertical central section of a brick-machine embodying my improvement. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section of such a machine, showing the face or flanged surface of the knife.

This invention relates to improvements in knives or cut-offs of brick-machines, particularly of that class in which the cut-off reciprocates; and consists in the formation, on the face of the knife next the mold or die box, of re-enforcements or ridges around the edges of the clay-slots, or around the edge of the cutting portion of the knife.

The knife usually cuts in both directions, and in passing over the freshly-made brick in the molds underneath great difficulty is experienced in getting the new brick away from the knife, for the clay is a pasty sort of mass, and being moist it clings tenaciously to the surface of the knife, which must be smooth to

make a clean cut. This clinging is, of course, caused by atmospheric pressure. I propose to obviate this difficulty by constructing my knife as follows:

Referring to the accompanying drawings, A is the knife or cut-off. All around the edges of the opening or clay-slot I construct ridges *a b*, of equal depth from the face of knife A. To facilitate the ease of operation, I prolong the ridges *b* toward the ends of knife, so as to register with and form a guide or bearing for the ends of the molds.

When the knife moves to cut the brick, a clear space is left between the two surfaces, to which air has free access. Hence, there can be no suction or clinging, much friction is taken away, and no difficulty arises in removing the freshly-made bricks.

These strips or ridges may be placed on machines already made, or may be integral with the new knife or cut-off.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a brick-machine, a cut-off with the strips *a* and *b*, with or without the prolongation of the latter.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 16th day of March, 1876.

JAMES DENNING.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM KINSLER,
THOS. J. MCTIGHE.