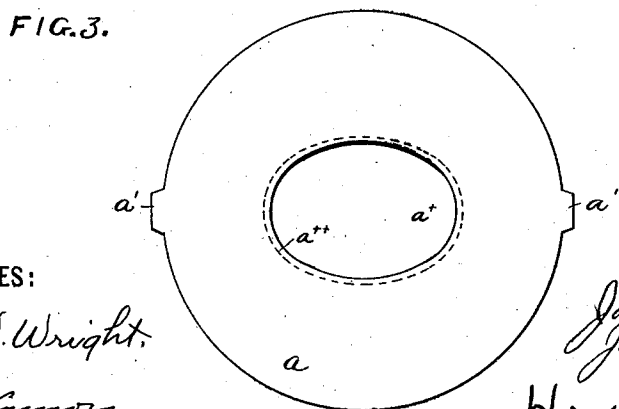
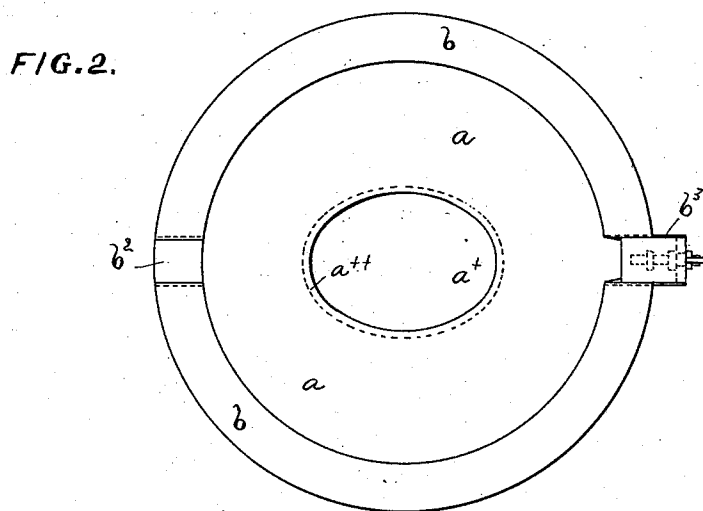
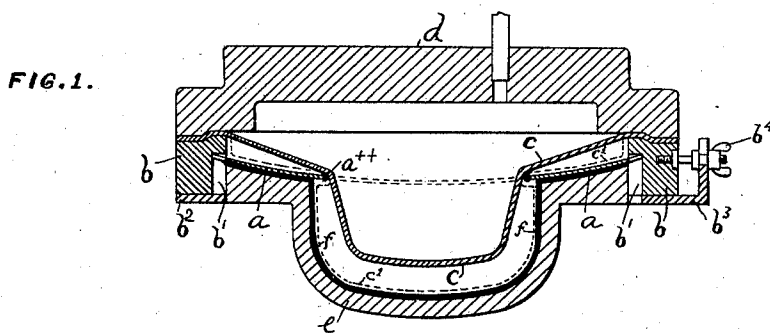


(No Model.)

J. & J. W. ROWLEY.
APPARATUS FOR PRESSING HATS.

No. 580,804.

Patented Apr. 13, 1897.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH ROWLEY AND JOHN WILLIAM ROWLEY, OF DUKINFIELD, ENGLAND.

APPARATUS FOR PRESSING HATS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,804, dated April 13, 1897.

Application filed September 14, 1896. Serial No. 605,842. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH ROWLEY and JOHN WILLIAM ROWLEY, subjects of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Dukinfield, in the county of Chester, England, have invented new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Pressing Hats, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to dispense with the necessity for placing a loose flexible plate upon the brim of every hat before it is pressed by the ordinary water-bag and for changing the plate for various sizes of hat, and also with the necessity for turning the edge of the hat-dish to fit the ring which fixes the water-bag to the cover of the press.

Figure 1 on the annexed drawings is a sectional elevation of so much of a hat-pressing apparatus as is necessary to illustrate the application of our invention thereto. Fig. 2 is an underneath plan view thereof, and Fig. 3 is a plan of the press-plate detached.

For the purposes of our invention we provide a plate *a*, of suitable curved metal, made circular at its outer edge to fit exactly into the clamping-ring *b*, which fixes the ordinary water-bag *c* to the press-cover *d*. The plate *a* can be retained in the ring *b* by lugs *a'*, sliding in suitable recesses *b'* in the ring *b*, the recesses *b'* being covered by removable plates *b² b³* or their equivalent, which prevent the curved metal plate from becoming disengaged from the ring. One of these plates *b³* may be bent, as seen at Figs. 1 and 2, and slide in dovetailed grooves in the under side of the ring *b* and be moved back, so as to release the plate *a* by means of an adjusting-nut *b⁴* or otherwise.

The curve of the metal plate *a* corresponds with the curve of the brim of the hat-dish, which is shown at *e* on Fig. 1 and may be of any known description, and in the center of the metal plate *a* we form an oval hole *a^x*, not larger than the smallest hat required.

We form the curved plate of thin sheet metal and we may strengthen the outer and inner edges thereof, the inner edge being by preference provided with a round flange *a^{xx}* to prevent damage to the water-bag *c*, which

protrudes into the crown of the hat, as usual, when the pressure is applied.

In Fig. 1 the hat *f* is shown in solid black, and the dotted line *c'* represents the position of the water-bag when inflated.

The curved plate *a*, being suited to the smallest required size of hat and being round and by preference strengthened at its inner edge, will serve for the larger sizes also, and thus only one plate *a* will be required for a great number of hat-dishes and the plate *a* will be always ready and in working position, as it is carried in and by the ring *b* on the cover *d* of the press.

As the curved plate *a* fits the inside of the ring *b*, fixed to the press-cover *d*, there will be no need to make and turn the outer edge of the hat-dish *e* to fit the said ring *b* accurately, (which is at present necessary,) as the curved plate *a* is sufficiently broad to cover the brims of smaller-sized hat-dishes and covers the space between the dish *e* and the said ring *b* and will prevent the water-bag *c* from being forced into such space and being thereby burst, a great many water-bags being at present burst owing to the dish being too small for the press-cover, and leaving a space between the said dish and the top ring of the press.

As before stated, all loose brim-plates will be dispensed with.

We claim as our invention—

In apparatus for pressing hats, the combination with the press-cover, water-bag and clamping-ring, of a plate carried by the ring, fitting the inside thereof below the water-bag and made in the form of a curved ring sufficiently broad to cover the brim of the smaller-sized hat-dishes, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH ROWLEY.

JOHN WILLIAM ROWLEY.

Witnesses:

JNO. HUGHES,

J. E. HUGHES.