

(No Model.)

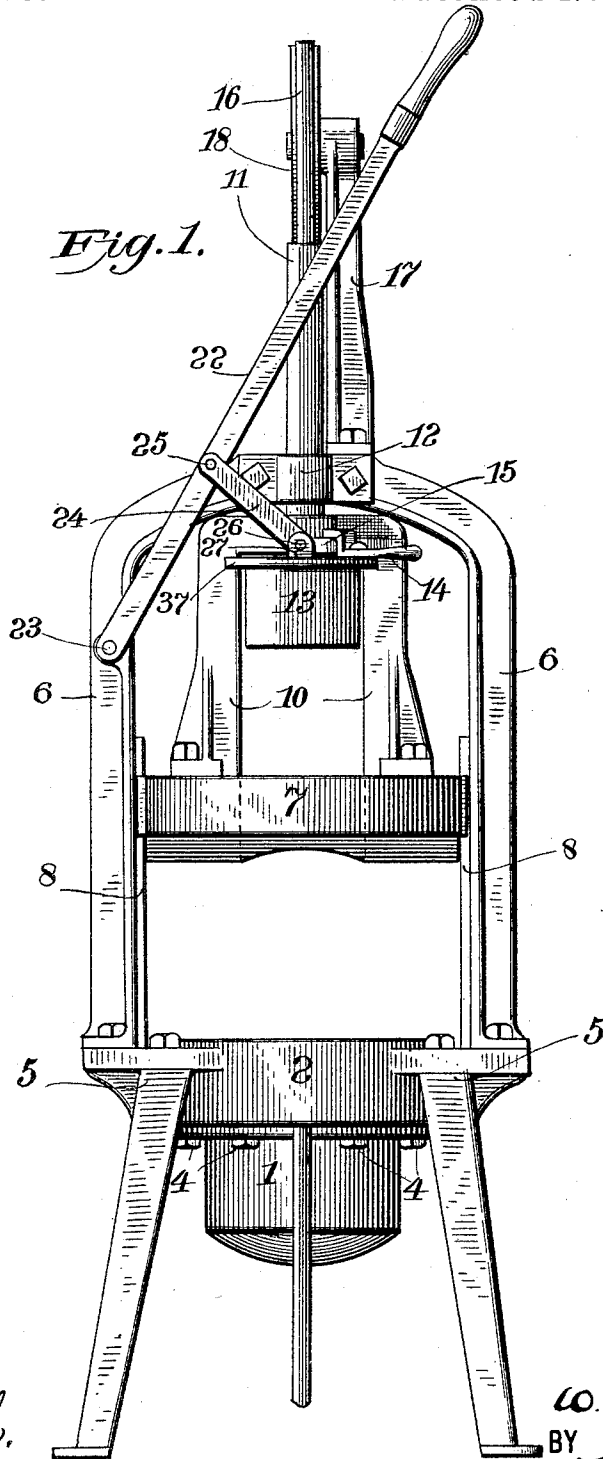
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. H. PITTILLA.

HAT BLOCKING AND BRIM PRESSING MACHINE.

No. 462,585.

Patented Nov. 3, 1891.



WITNESSES:

J. F. Kuch.
S. S. Williamson.

INVENTOR

W. H. Pittilla

BY

F. W. Smith
ATTORNEY

(No Model.)

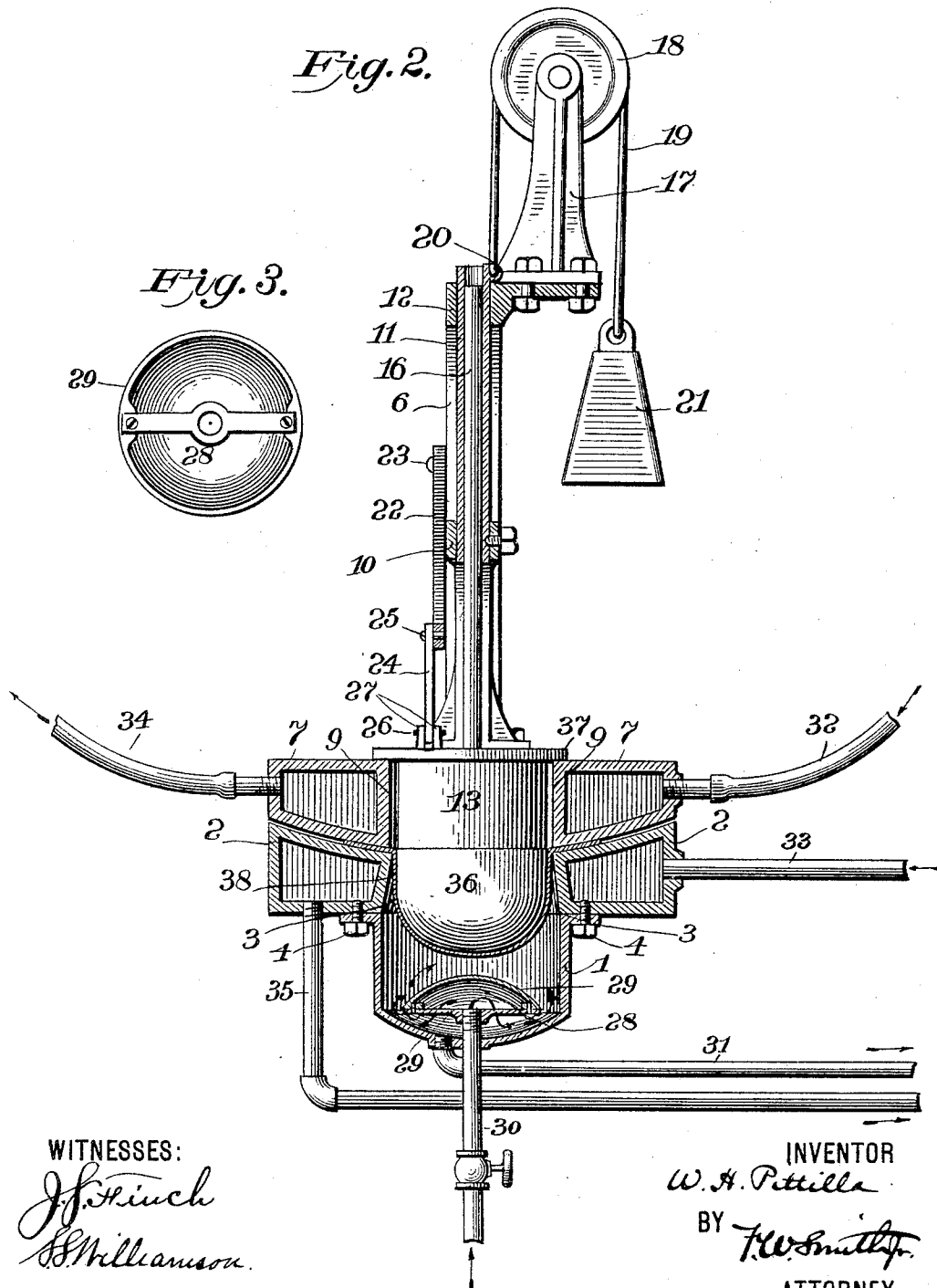
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. PITTILLA, OF DANBURY, CONNECTICUT.

HAT-BLOCKING AND BRIM-PRESSING MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 462,585, dated November 3, 1891.

Application filed July 30, 1891. Serial No. 401,196. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. PITTILLA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Danbury, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Blocking and Brim-Pressing 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 appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in hat-blocking and brim-pressing machines, and has for its object to improve the construction shown and described in Letters Patent No. 450,422, issued to me April 14, 1891.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may fully understand its construction and operation, I will proceed to describe the same in detail, referring by numbers to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved machine; Fig. 2, a sectional side elevation of the same, and Fig. 3 a detail bottom view of the steam baffle-plate.

Similar numbers of reference denote like parts in the several figures.

1 is a steam-box open at the top to admit the hat, as will be hereinafter set forth.

2 is the base of my machine, made hollow so as to be heated by steam and having a central opening 3, flared outwardly from top to bottom and communicating with the box 1, which latter is secured to the bottom of said base by bolts 4. The base is supported on any suitable stand 5, having uprights 6 rising therefrom and united at the top after the manner of a yoke.

7 is the brim-presser, hollow for the admission of steam and guided on ways 8 at the inner faces of the uprights. This presser has an opening 9 therethrough adapted to admit the hat-block and registering with the opening 3 in the base.

10 is a yoke rising from the brim-presser and adapted to admit the hat-block, as will be presently explained.

11 is a hollow spindle extending through a

bearing 12 at the top of the yoked uprights 6 and adapted to have a free vertical movement in said bearing. The lower end of said spindle is secured to the yoke 10.

13 is the block-presser guided in any ordinary manner within the yoke 10 and capable of a free vertical play.

14 is an ordinary turn-button pivoted on the upper face of the presser 13 and adapted to be operated to overlie the shoulder 15 on the yoke 10, whereby said presser and yoke are locked together.

16 is a rod adapted to slide freely within the hollow spindle 11 and secured at its lower end to the block-presser 13.

17 is an arm rising from the top of the yoke of the uprights 6 and having journaled therein a pulley 18. Over this pulley runs a rope 19, one end of which is secured to an eye 20 on the spindle 11, while to the other end is attached a counterpoise 21, which latter is about equal in weight to the weight of the yoke 10 and the parts moving in harmony therewith.

22 is a hand-lever, pivoted at 23 to one of the uprights 6, and 24 is a link whose ends are pivoted respectively at 25 to the said lever and at 26 to ears 27, rising from the presser 13.

28 is a condensing-chamber in the lower portion of the box 1, and is formed by securing a baffle-plate 29 over the mouth of the inlet steam-pipe 30. The object of this plate is to prevent the waters of condensation from being blown against the hat, thereby wetting the latter, and furthermore to insure the admission of live steam only to the hat-crown. 31 is the exhaust-pipe leading from said box.

32 33 are pipes, whereby steam is admitted to the brim-presser and base, and 34 35 are the respective exhaust-pipes thereof.

The operation of my improvement is as follows: The parts of the machine being in normal position, as shown at Fig. 1, a hat is placed with its crown within the opening 3 in the base and its brim resting upon the latter. The lever 22 is now operated to depress the presser 7 upon the brim and steam admitted within the box 1 to soften the crown of the hat. The brim being tightly clamped, no steam can possibly attack the same. The block 36 is then placed within the hat-crown 38, the button 14 cast off the shoulder 15, and the lever

22 operated to depress the presser 13 against the block, thereby forcing the latter completely within the softened crown of the hat. A flange 37 on the presser 13 abuts against 5 the brim-presser, and thereby limits the effective action of said presser 13, so that it is impossible to force the block too far within the hat-crown. The flaring of the opening-3 allows the steam to soften the sides of the crown, so that the blocking of the hat may be 10 complete and uniform from the brim to the tip.

The box 1, base 2, brim-presser 7, yoke 10, block-presser 13, and steam supply and ex- 15 haust pipes are all substantially the same in structure and function as are the corresponding parts in my Letters Patent above referred to, my present invention having particular reference to the means employed for effecting 20 the operations of the brim and block pressers.

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

1. In a brim-pressing and hat-blocking machine, the combination, with the brim-presser 25 and block-presser guided in suitable ways and capable of a free independent vertical reciprocation, of an operating-lever pivoted to a stationary part of the machine, a link whose 30 ends are pivoted, respectively, to said lever and block-presser, and means for locking said brim-presser and block-presser together,

whereby the brim and crown of the hat may be operated upon one in advance of the other, substantially as set forth. 35

2. In a machine of the character described, the combination, with the vertically-guided and reciprocatory brim-presser and block-presser, of an operating-lever pivoted to a 40 stationary part of the machine, means for locking together or separating said pressers, and operative connections between said lever and block-presser, whereby the latter may be depressed, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of the hollow spindle 45 guided and operated within suitable bearings, the rod interior of said spindle and having a free movement therein, the brim-presser and block-presser secured to the lower ends of said spindle and rod, respectively, a counter- 50 balance mechanism connected to said spindle and adapted to keep the latter normally elevated, the pivoted operating-lever, means for locking together said pressers, and the link whose ends are respectively pivoted to said 55 lever and block-presser, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. PITTLA.

Witnesses:

GEORGE WAKEMAN,
A. G. ISING.