

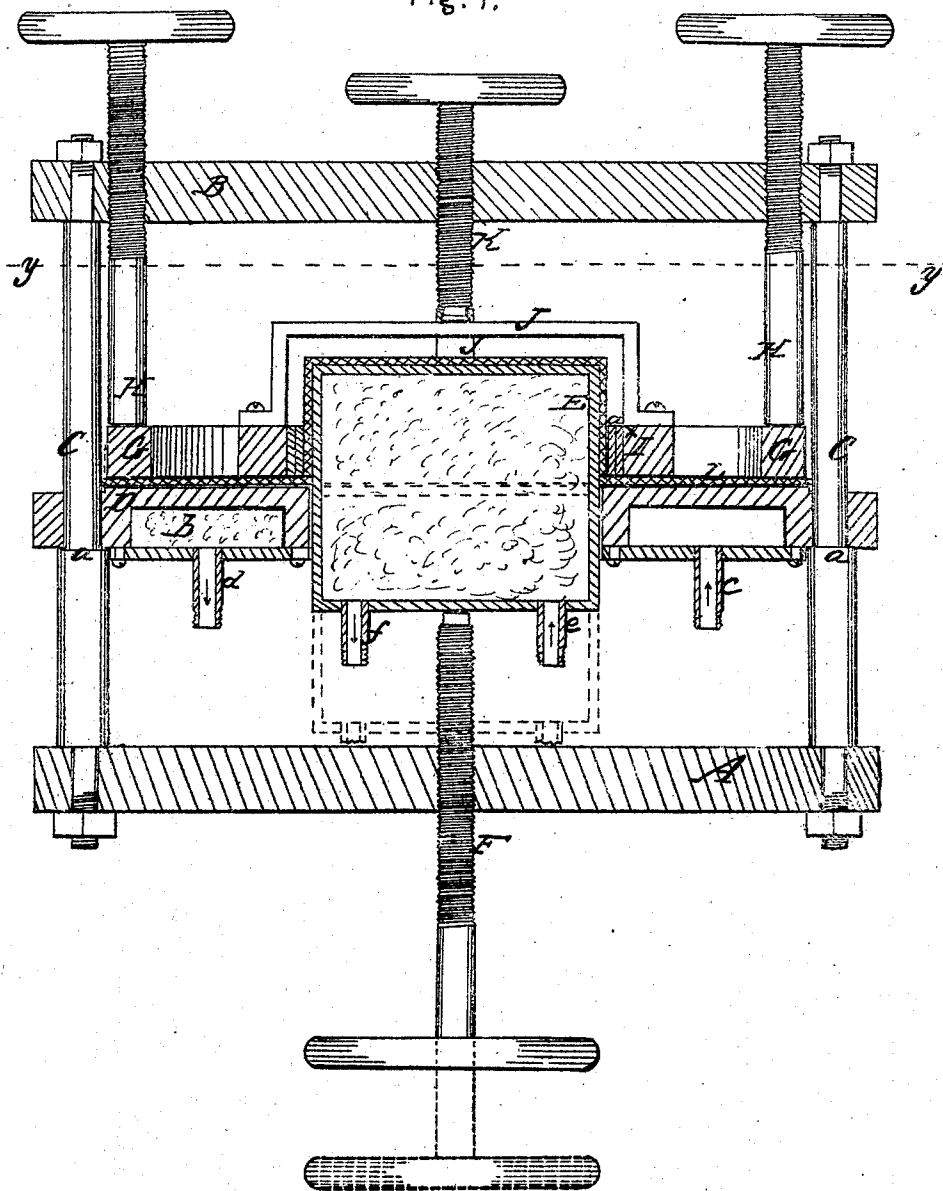
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Blocking & Stretching Hats.

N^o 1342
32346

Patented May 21, 1861.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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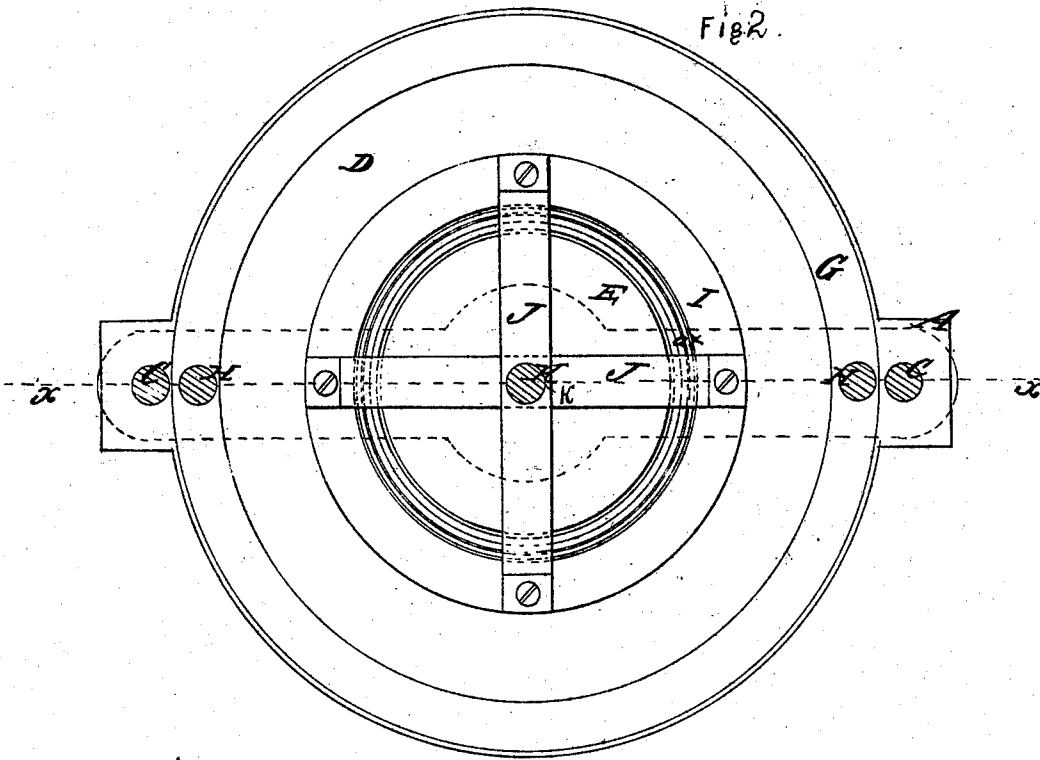
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Fig 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

G. E. BEATTY AND C. S. BEATTY, OF NORWALK, CONNECTICUT.

APPARATUS FOR FORMING HAT-BODIES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 32,346, dated May 21, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, G. E. BEATTY and C. S. BEATTY, of Norwalk, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Machine for Forming Hat-Bodies of Felt Cloth; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a vertical central section of our invention taken in the line *x, x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a horizontal section of the same, taken in the line *y, y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

The object of this invention is to obtain a machine for forming hat bodies from felt cloth in a very expeditious manner and by a very little labor or manipulation of the parts.

The invention consists in the employment or use of an adjustable steam hat block, in connection with a hollow steam bed and clamps arranged as hereinafter described to operate in such a manner as to effect the desired result.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct our invention we will proceed to describe it.

A. represents a bar or bed piece, and B. is a top piece; said parts being connected by rods C. C. as shown clearly in Fig. 1.

D. is a circular bed which is fitted on the rods C. C. and rests on shoulders *a, a*, see Fig. 1. The bed D. is of metal and has an annular recess *b*, made in it which serves as a steam chest, the steam being admitted into it through an induction pipe *c*, and allowed to escape through an eduction pipe *d*.

The bed D. has a circular opening at its center in which a hat block E. is fitted loosely. This hat block is constructed hollow of metal and has an induction and eduction pipe *e, f*, at its bottom for the admission and escape of steam as shown in Fig. 1. The hat block E. rests on a screw F. which passes through the center of the bar or bed piece A., and on the bed D. there is placed an annular clamp G. which has screws H. H.

bearing upon it, said screws passing through the top piece B. The clamp G. is nearly as large in diameter as the bed D.

I. is an annular clamp which is considerably smaller in diameter than the clamp G. being but little larger than the hat block E. This clamp I. has bars J. J. attached to it, said bars being bent and crossed at right angles and extending over the hat block E.

K. is a screw which passes through the top piece B. and bears on the bars J. J. where they cross each other.

The operation is as follows: The hat block E. and bed D. are heated by steam, and the block E. being lowered so that its upper end will be flush with bed D. a piece of moistened felt cloth L. is placed on the bed D. and the clamps G. I. pressed rather lightly thereon by turning screws H. H. K. The hat block E. is then forced upward by turning screw F. the cloth L. giving or slipping under the clamps G. I. which press on the cloth sufficiently to keep the cloth flat on the bed D. to form the brim of the hat but still allowing the cloth to slip so as to be forced up under the action of the block for the formation of the crown. By moistening the felt cloth it is allowed to stretch and conform to the shape of the block; but the cloth soon dries under the action of the heated block and bed, and the body is removed by raising the clamps G. I., the block E. lowered and another piece of felt cloth, placed on the bed D. for a succeeding operation.

Annular pieces of metal *a'*, may be placed at the inner side of clamp I. to compensate for different sized blocks E.

Having thus described our invention what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The steam hat block E. steam bed D. and the clamps G. I. arranged for joint operation substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

GEORGE E. BEATTY.
CHARLES S. BEATTY.

Witnesses:

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