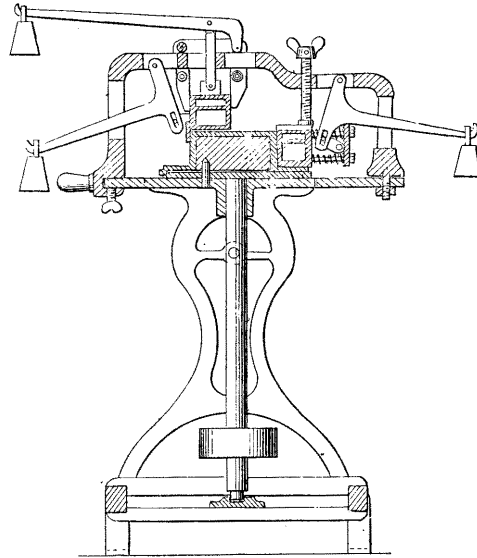


Hat-ironing Machine. A machine for performing the ironing formerly done by hand, by

Fig. 2434.



Hat-Ironing Machine.

which the final operation of finishing a hat is accomplished.

The block supporting the body rotates at a high speed, while hollow irons, heated by interior gas-jets, steam, or hot air flowing through, or by heated slugs introduced within them, are held against the whole surface by pressure of a weight or spring. The tip-iron usually has a lip on one side, which bears over the square.

The under brim is either finished by hand or by inverting the block on the machine, so that an iron may bear upon it. In some instances the block is so supported on its spindle as to allow an iron to bear on the under brim at the same time that the crown is being treated.

In the example, the blocked hat revolves on a turn-table; the irons are pendent from an upper bridge-frame, and their pressure is regulated by levers and counterweights; the irons are heated by gas-burners.