Ironing Machine. A machine for pressing clothes, fabrics, or hats, to smooth and polish the surface.

Sanson's machine, Fig. 1464, is a pressing machine for tailors' use. By means of the swivel frame moving on friction roller, the iron can be moved in any direction. The lifting and depressing is parallel and evenly distributed over the surface of the board. The pressure is by treadle which is counterbalanced, and is adjustable up to 1,000 pounds. The machine has wide and narrow pressing boards, for optional use. The iron is moved by hand, and heated by gas from a flexible tube.

Thurston's polishing machine for a laundry obtains the pressure by a spiral spring communicating with the iron by means of universal joints and levers. The table is stationary, and the pressure of the iron can be regulated by a lever to suit the work.

Walker's machine for tailors' use has an iron swiveled at the end of a double-jointed arm, free to turn about a vertical shaft, and raised or lowered by a spring and foot-lever. The iron is moved by hand and has an inserted iron heater.

In the Stover presser, the goose may be turned in any direction at the end of an arm, connected by a pivoted link with the upper end of a Z-shaped arm supported on a horizontal bearing. The pressure is by a foot-lever; the iron is heated by an inserted hot plate and is moved by hand.

In Lepold's ironing and polishing machine the article is laid upon a horizontally reciprocating and automatically reversible board. The iron is heated by steam, and has a short, rapid reciprocating movement by means of a short vertical shaft, rotated from a horizontal shaft held in an arm adapted to be vibrated horizontally. The iron support has a ball-joint and a handle which is grasped by the operator, and is moved over the material on the bed while being reciprocated mechanically.

Tyler's machine has a small polishing iron with a concavity in its upper surface, and is pressed down on the material by means of an adjustable spring on a hinged arm, pivoted at the outer end of a swinging frame. The table is adjustable.

Fig. 1465 is Osterheld & Eichameyer's machine for ironing the sides, crowns, and tips of wool hats. An iron frame is secured on the edge of the finishing-bench; on it is a revolving table which supports the block on which the hat is drawn. The iron is heated by a Bunsen gas-burner fed by a flexible tube, and the lever which connects the iron with the joint is a wrought-iron pipe, and serves as a leader to the upright pipe and forms a chimney which produces sufficient draft to carry off all the gases and prevent the formation of soot and the soiling of the hats.

Fig. 1466 is a block ironing machine. The iron is of a shape to suit the object which is blocked, and the object is rotated beneath the counterbalanced lever which carries the iron. The pressure is by means of a treadle.