

W. H. Degges,

Pug Mill.

N^o 12,997.

Patented June 5, 1855.

Fig. 1.

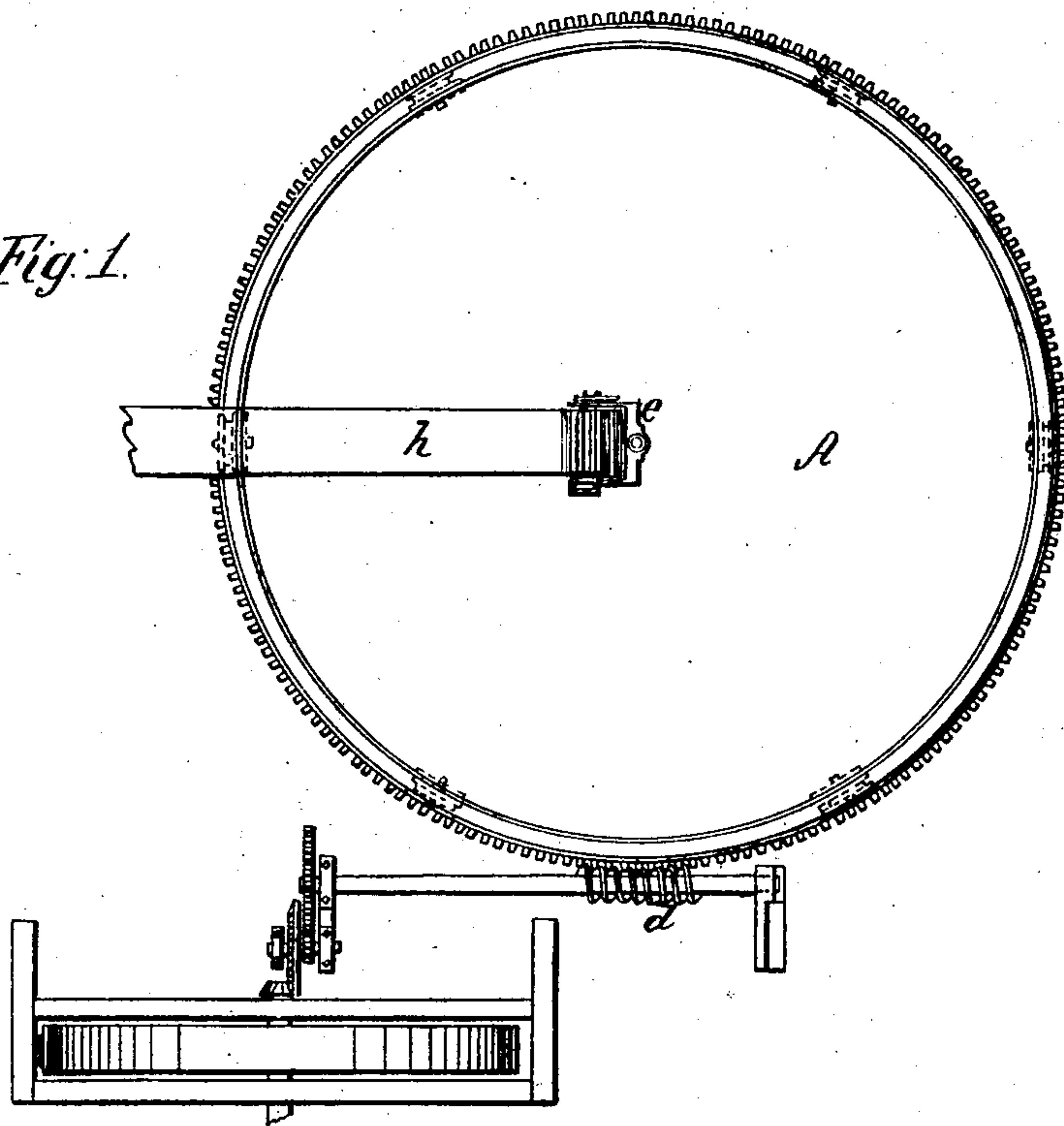
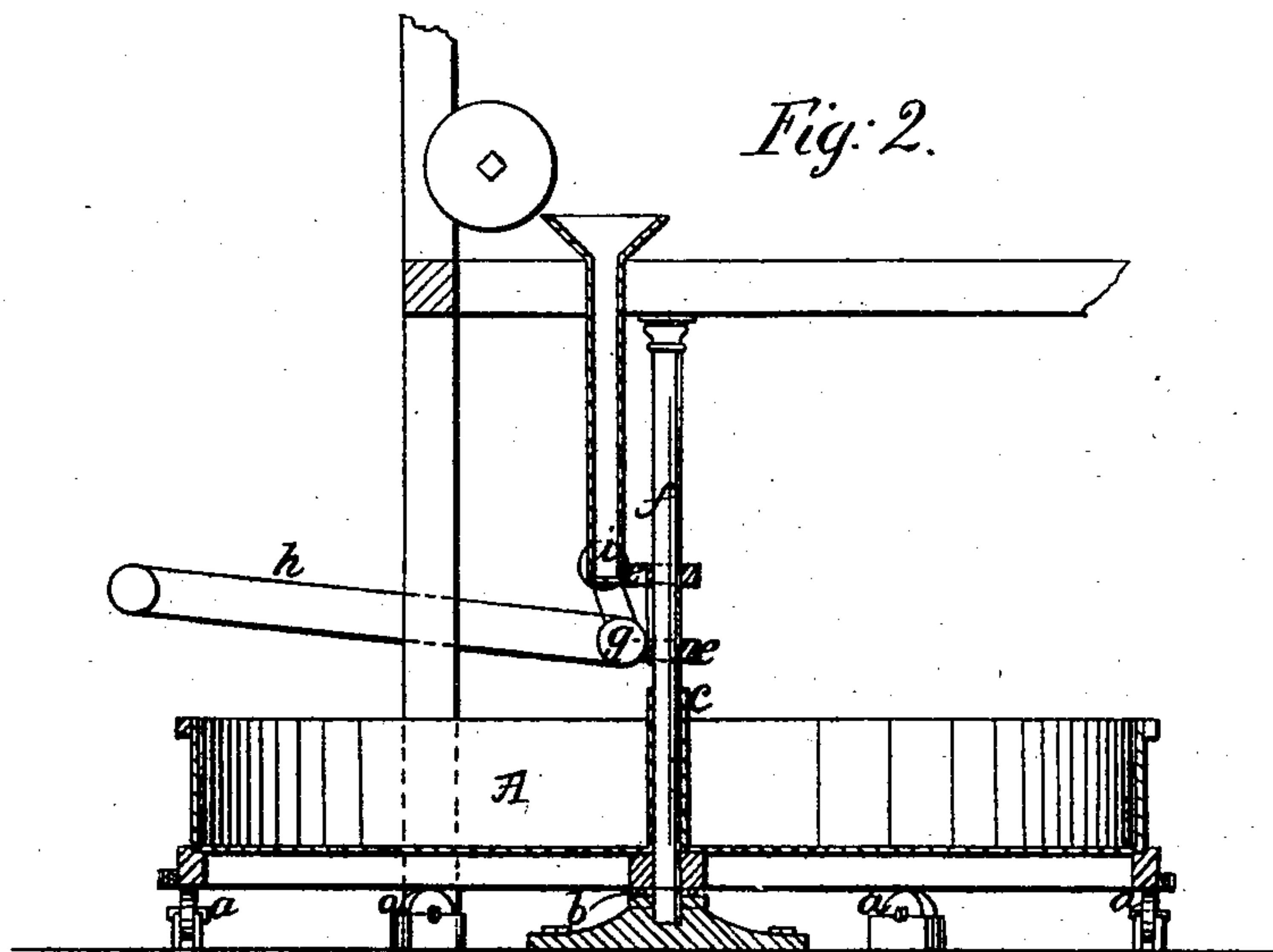


Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WM. H. DEGGES, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

SOAK-PIT OF BRICK-MACHINES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 12,997, dated June 5, 1855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. H. DEGGES, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Soak-Pits for Brick-Machines, and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to letters of reference marked thereon, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, represents a plan of the soak pit with machinery for operating it. Fig. 2 is a vertical section showing the manner of connecting it through the endless apron with a brick machine.

The same letters of reference occurring in both figures indicate corresponding parts.

The nature of my invention consists in causing the soakpit of a brick machine to revolve around its axis or center in such a manner that the clay is uniformly distributed and soaked, and conveyed to a convenient position to be fed into the machine.

To enable others to make and use my invention I will describe it by referring to the drawings.

The soak pit (A) is a shallow tub of large diameter supported on antifriction rollers (a) near its periphery and on balls or shot (b) in an annular groove around its center, rising in the center even with or above the sides of the tub is a tube (c), encompassing a cylindrical column (f) which forms the center or axis around which the tub revolves; its revolution is produced by a screw or worm wheel (d) gearing into teeth or cogs around the tub at or near the bottom; the shaft of the screw (d) is geared and operated in any convenient manner from the crank shaft of the steam engine; the hanger frame (e) is attached to the column (f) by bands or journal boxes above the tube (c) and furnishes bearings for the drum (g) around which the endless apron

(h) passes to convey the clay to the brick machine, also for the rotary screen (i) for dusting the apron.

The soak pit is put in motion around its center by the screw (d) which is so geared as to cause it to make but one revolution in a day when used in connection with a single press, its capacity being equal to a day's consumption if intended to supply two or more presses its diameter should be increased in proportion and its speed relatively diminished. The clay which has been previously pulverized and soaked in the pit is shoveled onto the endless apron, the pit being in motion keeps the edge of the clay bank therein all the time at the same distance from the endless apron, so that the hands supplying the machine need never change their position; a pulverizer situated over the opposite side of the tub, or on the other side of the apron is at the same time supplying clay at the rear end of the clay bank in the soakpit for the next day's consumption; thus affording uniformly twenty-four hours for every particle of clay to soak before it goes into the press, and being gradually fed up to the side of the endless apron enables about half the number of hands to supply the machine with the same amount of material.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The revolving soak pit or its equivalent for uniformly soaking the clay when pulverized and conveying it to a convenient position to be fed into the brick machine substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 19th day of May 1855.

W. H. DEGGES.

Witnesses:

A. GREGORY,
WM. M. SMITH.