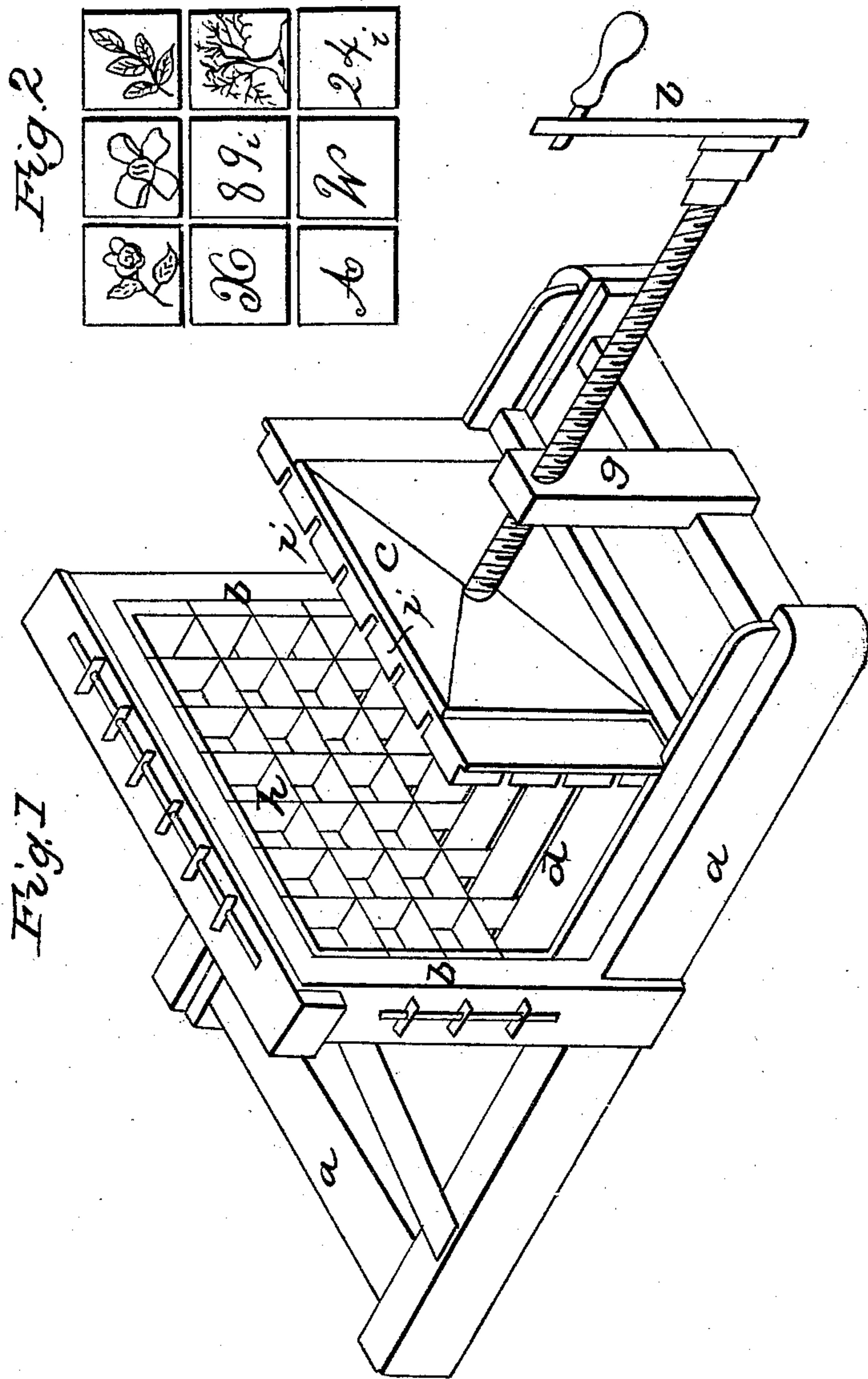


W. H. MANNING.
Machine for Cutting Soap.

No. 22,330.

Patented Dec. 14, 1858.



WITNESSES

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WM. H. MANNING, OF OWEGO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND LUCIUS H. OLMSTED, OF SAME PLACE.

MACHINE FOR CUTTING SOAP.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 22,330, dated December 14, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. MANNING, of Owego, in the county of Tioga and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improved Machine for Cutting Soap; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters and marks thereon.

My invention has for its object so constructing a machine that upon blocks or slabs of soap being placed therein such blocks or slabs may be cut and formed readily into bars or cakes to be boxed and packed for sale or transportation.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

Figure 1, of the drawings is a perspective view of a machine complete and ready for the block or slab of soap. Fig. 2, shows a section of the presser or follower for forcing the block or slab against the frame of cutters or knives and through the spaces formed by the cutters.

This machine is made up of a base or foundation frame (*a*), of a frame containing a set or series of knives or cutters (*b*), of a presser or follower (*c*), of a series of guiding and supporting bars (*d*), and of a screw (*e*), crank (*f*) to force the follower, and standard (*g*) to sustain the screw and within which is a female screw for moving onward the crank screw. The knives or cutters (*h*) are strips of steel or other suitable metal, arranged, as shown by the drawings, like the partitions of a set of pigeon-holes. The follower is made up of a number of blocks (*i*) or square sections, the grooves between the blocks, or constituting the dividing line of the divisions, being to the depth necessary to allow the blocks to pass into the space between the knives and have the faces of the blocks come flush with the delivering side of the knives. At the bottom of the follower there is a series of bars (*d*), each one of which bars is rigidly connected to one of the lowest of the series of blocks or sections, the line of the sections or, properly, the space between the blocks

or sections being continuous with the space or dividing line of the bars. Each bar passes through one of the spaces of the lowest series of the knives, so that when the follower is forced onward the bars are moved with it, sustaining the block or slab of soap and guiding the bars of soap.

The length of the bars (*d*) the dimensions of the blocks (*i*) and their number as also the number of the knives and their depth can be varied from what is here shown, as may be called for to adapt the machine to the cutting and forming from blocks or slabs the different kinds of soap into bars or cakes. When used for forming soap into cakes the faces of the blocks may have figures, or devices of various kinds upon them so as to give ornamental or other impressions upon the cakes, and in case it is desired to have both faces or sides of the cake of soap ornamented or impressed with figures, or other marks, a plate or frame of forms may be fitted into the frame of the knives upon the delivery side; thus the cake of soap being between the resisting surface of the outer plate and the blocks of the follower will have both of its faces impressed at the same time. Fig. 2 of the drawings shows a few of the blocks of the follower thus prepared.

From the description of the construction of the machine here given it will readily be perceived that, if a block or slab of soap as taken from the box or mold into which it has been run, be placed upon the series of bars (*d*) between the presser or follower and the frame of cutters, upon the turning of the crank and advancing of the screw the block or slab of soap will be forced up to the cutters and each space of the cutters will contain a cake or bar of soap, which upon further onward motion of the presser, will be forced through and out of the cutter space and be delivered on the other side of the frame in perfect condition for packing or storing. This machine is capable of doing the work of a number of individuals in the ordinary way in converting block and slab soap into bars and cakes. It may be constructed of wood, except the cutters, or it may be made of cast iron.

Having thus fully set out the construction and operation of my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

- 5 The machine herein described for converting block and slab soap into bars and cakes, consisting, substantially, of the frame or se-

ries of cutters, the guiding and supporting bars, and the presser or follower.

WILLIAM H. MANNING.

Witnesses:

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