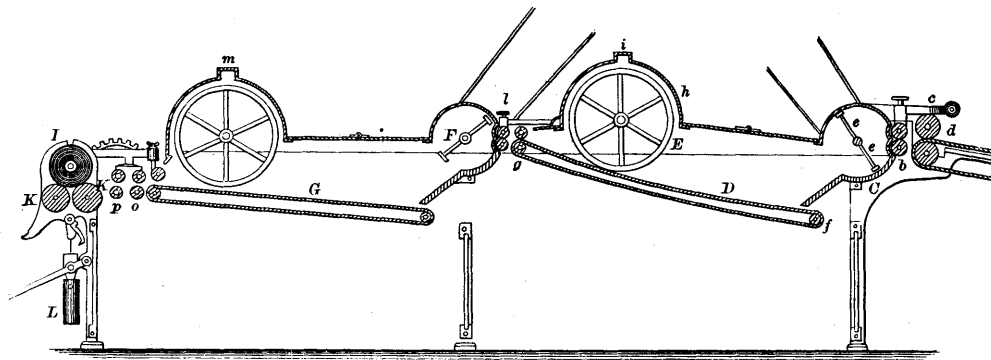


**Bat'ting-ma-chine.** (*Fiber.*) A machine in which cotton partially loosened and cleaned by the *willowing-machine* (which see) is *scutched*, *blown*, and *lapped* so as to fit it for presentation in a soft, downy, and even wad to the carding-machine.

As a preliminary process, the cotton is carefully weighed, a given quantity being distributed on a certain surface of the slatted feed-apron, which has

right angles upon a revolving shaft, so as to strike upon the cotton as it issues from between the feed-rollers. The *scutcher* makes 2,000 revolutions per minute in near proximity to the grated concave *C*, through which dirt escapes. The cotton is wafted on to a traversing slatted apron *D*, which revolves on the rollers *f g*, passing beneath a revolving cage-cylinder *E*, inclosed by the cover *h*, in the top of which is a dust-duct *i*, in communication with a revolving fan, which exhausts the air from the interior

Fig 601



Batting-Machine.

of the machine, and therewith withdraws the dust. The reticulated cylinder *E* allows the air and dust to pass, but retains the cotton fiber, which is pressed into a *bat* upon the apron *D*, and delivered to a second pair of feed-rollers *l*, when it is again exposed to a scutcher *F*, which acts similarly to the one before described. This scutcher has 2,200 revolutions per minute, and delivers the cotton to an apron *G*, which carries it beneath another reticulated, dust-withdrawing cylinder in communication with the air-exhaust duct *m*.

The cotton thence passes in a fleecy mass to the pressure-rollers *o p*, which deliver the compressed fleece to the cylinder whose axis is loaded by suspended weights *L*, which bear it down upon the carrying-rollers *K K*, whereby the fleece is condensed as it is wound. As the lap-cylinder *I* increases in diameter, the links rise, carrying the weights *L*, and when the *lap* has attained the required size, the main portion of the machine is thrown out of gear, while the twin rollers *p p* continue to revolve, and thus tear the bat apart in the middle between the pairs of rollers *o p*. The attendant then removes the lap, hooks up the weighting device, places another lap-cylinder in position, starts the machinery, restores the action of the weight, and guides the advanced edge of the bat around the cylinder. See COTTON-CLEANER.