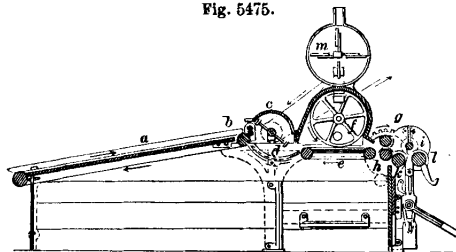


Spread'ing-ma-chine'. (Cotton-manufacture.)

A machine in which cotton is subjected to the batting process and formed into a continuous band ready for carding.

The cotton is laid upon the endless feed-cloth *a* and fed between the nipping-rollers *b*, whence it is drawn into the drum *c* and subjected to the action of the revolving batting arms *d*, by which the dirt is beaten out of it. It is then received upon a second feed-cloth *e*, and being compressed between this and the roller *f* is carried between the two rollers *g h*, pressed together

Fig. 5475.



Spreading-Machine.

by weights, and is finally wound upon the roller *i*, which is held down upon two other rollers *k l*, so that the band of fiber is compacted as it winds upon the first-named roller. The feed-cloth *a* is divided into equal parts by transverse lines, so that by increasing or diminishing the equal weighed amounts of cotton laid upon each division different thicknesses of batting may be produced. The dust arising during the process is carried off by the fan-blower *m*. See SCUTCHER.