T. W. HAM.

Hand Cotton-Picker.

No. 220,607. Patented Oct. 14, 1879.

Fig. 1.

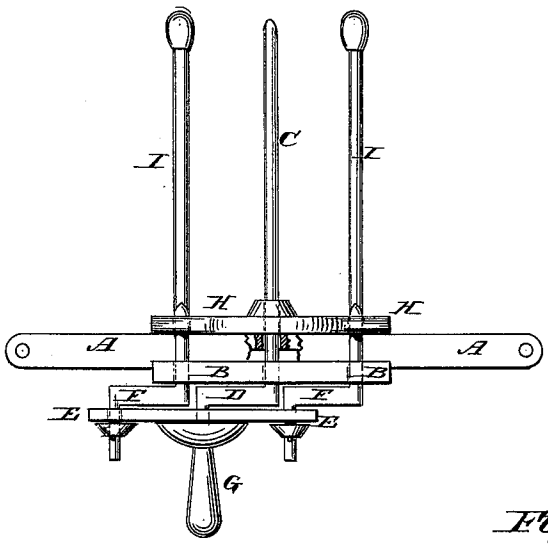


Fig. 2.

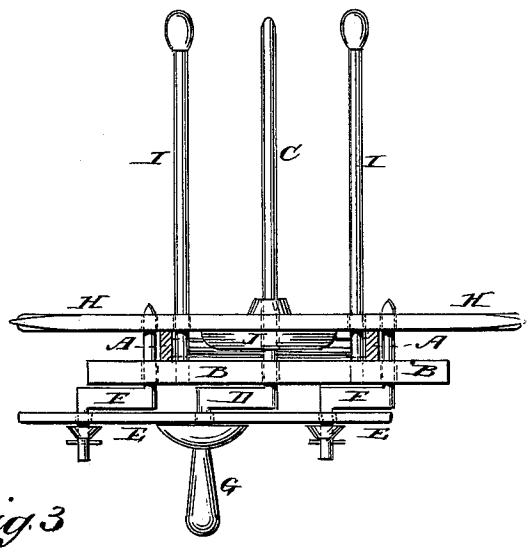
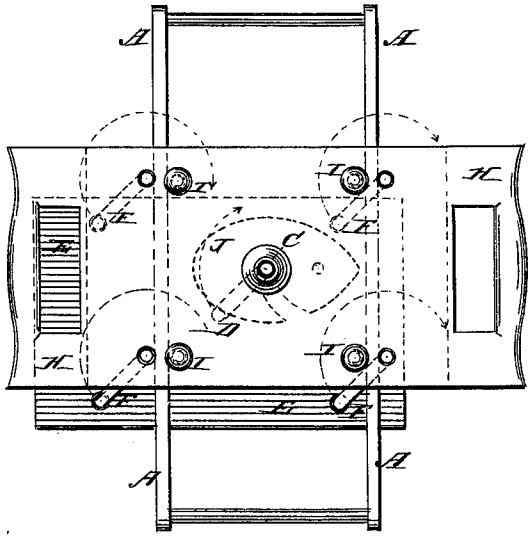


Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS W. HAM, OF FROSA, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND COTTON-PICKERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,607**, dated October 14, 1879; application filed August 5, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS WILLIAM HAM, of Frosa, in the county of Limestone and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hand Cotton-Pickers, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved machine, part being broken away to show the construction. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same. Fig. 3 is a front view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved hand-machine for picking cotton from the stalks in the field which shall be simple in construction, convenient in use, and effective in operation, removing the fiber quickly and entirely from the bolls.

The invention consists in the combination of the frame, the three boards, a series of cranks, the handle, a projecting spindle, and the four guide-pins with each other, and in the combination of a pivoted cap with the recessed shedding-board and the spindle, as hereinafter fully described.

A represents a small frame, formed of two side bars connected at their ends by rounds, which serve as handles in using the machine. To the middle part of the frame A, and concentric therewith, is attached a board, B, in the hole of which works the spindle C. Upon the spindle C, at the outer side of the board B, is formed or to it is attached the crank D, the pin of which works in a hole of the board E. The board E is connected at its four corners with the four corners of the board B by four cranks, F, so that the said board E will always be kept parallel with the said board B.

To the center of the outer side of the board E, and about in line with the crank-pin of the center crank, D, is attached the handle G, by means of which the said board E is operated to rotate the spindle C. The spindle C is designed to be made hollow and with an oval point, and passes through a central hole of the board H, which is placed upon four equidistant guide-pins, I. The bases of the guide-pins I are attached to the board B, and the said pins have knobs or heads formed upon or attached to their forward ends to serve as stops to keep the board H from passing off the said ends.

In the rear side of the shedding-board H is formed a recess to receive water to keep the spindle C moistened, so that it will take hold of the cotton more readily, which recess is covered by a cap, J, as shown in Fig. 2 and in dotted lines in Fig. 3. The cap J is pivoted at one end to the shedding-board H, and has a curved slot formed in it, to allow it to be swung on and off the spindle C.

In using the machine the spindle C is thrust endwise into the cotton-bolls, and is turned around by operating the crank to wind the fiber upon it. When the spindle is loaded the frame A is rested upon the edge of the basket and the board H is pushed down, pushing off the fiber and shedding it into the said basket.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination of the frame A, the three boards B E H, the series of cranks D F, the handle G, the spindle C, and the four guide-pins I with each other, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination of the pivoted cap J with the recessed shedding-board H and the spindle C, substantially as herein shown and described.

THOMAS WM. HAM.

Witnesses:
JAMES B. SCOTT,
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