S. P. HODGEN & J. W. YELTON.

MACHINES FOR MAKING BARRELS.

No. 178,928. Patented June 20, 1876.

Fig. 1.

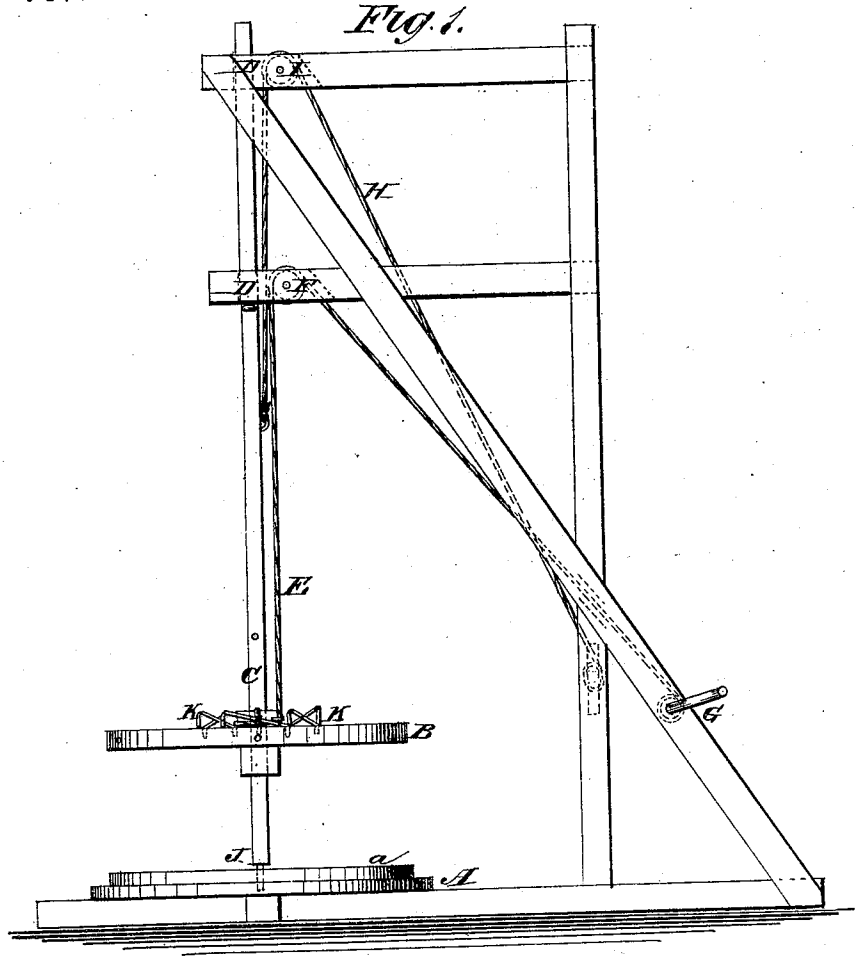
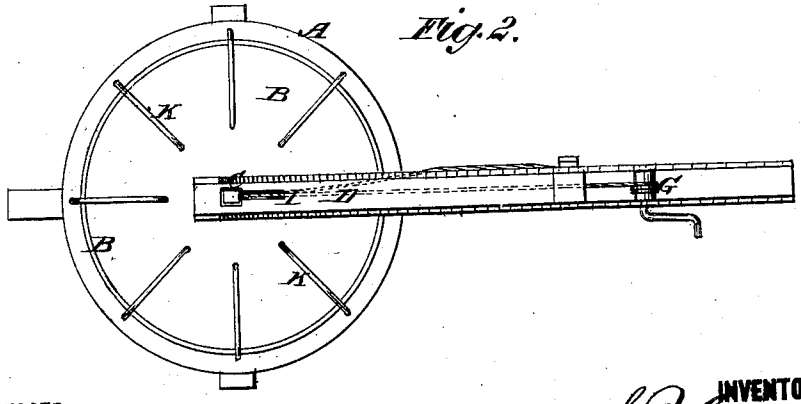


Fig. 2.



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SAMUEL P. HODGEN AND JOHN W. YELTON, OF NEOSHO, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINES FOR MAKING BARRELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **178,928**, dated June 20, 1876; application filed May 1, 1876.

To all whom may concern:

Be it known that we, SAMUEL PARK HODGEN and JOHN WHEELER YELTON, of Neosho city, Newton county, Missouri, have invented an Improvement in Machine for Making Barrels, of which the following is a specification:

Our invention consists of a circular vertically-adjusting follower, arranged over a platform, on which the lower head is placed to nail the staves on, the follower being hooped with a band of iron for clinching the nails driven against it, and is employed as a gage, around which to set the staves, and for clinching the nails used in nailing on the hoops, said follower having a box securely attached in its center, so that the rod or shaft will pass through it without binding, and at the same time hold said follower perfectly true as it is raised or lowered, and having suitable means for raising it from place to place as the hoops are nailed on.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of our improved machine, and Fig. 2 is a top view of the same.

In the drawing, A is a circular platform, over which is a chime-board, *a*, on which is placed a circular follower, B, fitted to slide up and down on the shaft C, which is also capable of sliding up and down in the bearings D.

The follower has a rope, E, attached to it, which passes over the pulley F to the windlass G, for pulling up the follower from time to time; and the shaft has a rope, H, passing over the pulley I for raising it. The shaft also has a point, J, in the lower end, which sets in the lower head temporarily, when the head is set on the chime-board for setting up a hogshead, barrel, &c.

In setting up a hogshead or barrel, the staves are nailed to lower head as they are set up, and are held at the top against the follower by a hoop supported by hooks K. Said hoop is nailed fast to the staves as they are placed in position, and nailed to the lower head. The hooks K are then loosed and folded in, and the follower is then let down, when it is in position for clinching the nails of the second hoop from the bottom. The hoops above are then nailed on in the same way, the follower being raised to correspond. The follower is then raised clear of the hogshead, and the rod or shaft is also raised; the hogshead is turned out on its side; then the bottom hoop is nailed on, driving the nails through into the head. This enables the staves to be set upright and fitted round, so that the top head, being made of the proper size, and also round, will fit without special fitting, as the heads have to be, when the hogsheads, &c., are set up in the ordinary way, on account of not being round.

Commonly, a man has to get inside of the hogshead to hold a tool for clinching the nails, and assist in keeping the staves up straight, but, at best, the work cannot be done as well as with this contrivance, which dispenses with the man inside.

The lower head of the hogshead or barrel is laid on chime-board *a*, shaft C lowered, and point J set in central hole of head. The follower B being then lowered, the end of each stave is set on platform A and nailed to the head, while a rope is passed around the hogshead or barrel above the follower, and drawn until the staves fit closely. Then the lower middle hoop is nailed to each stave, and the nails clinched by follower, the latter lapping the ends of the hoop. The rope is now, with the follower, raised to the place for nailing on the upper middle hoop, and tightened while the hoop is nailed, as before. Then the rope is raised to the top of hogshead or barrel, tightened, and the top hoop nailed. The hogshead or barrel is then turned out on its side to receive the bottom hoop, through which the nails pass into the head, and the top head, which is easily fitted, being of the same size as the bottom one.

Having thus described all that is necessary to a full understanding of our invention, what we claim, is—

The combination of vertically-adjustable shaft C, the follower B, adjustably mounted on said shaft C and acting as a gage and clincher, and the platform A, all substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:
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