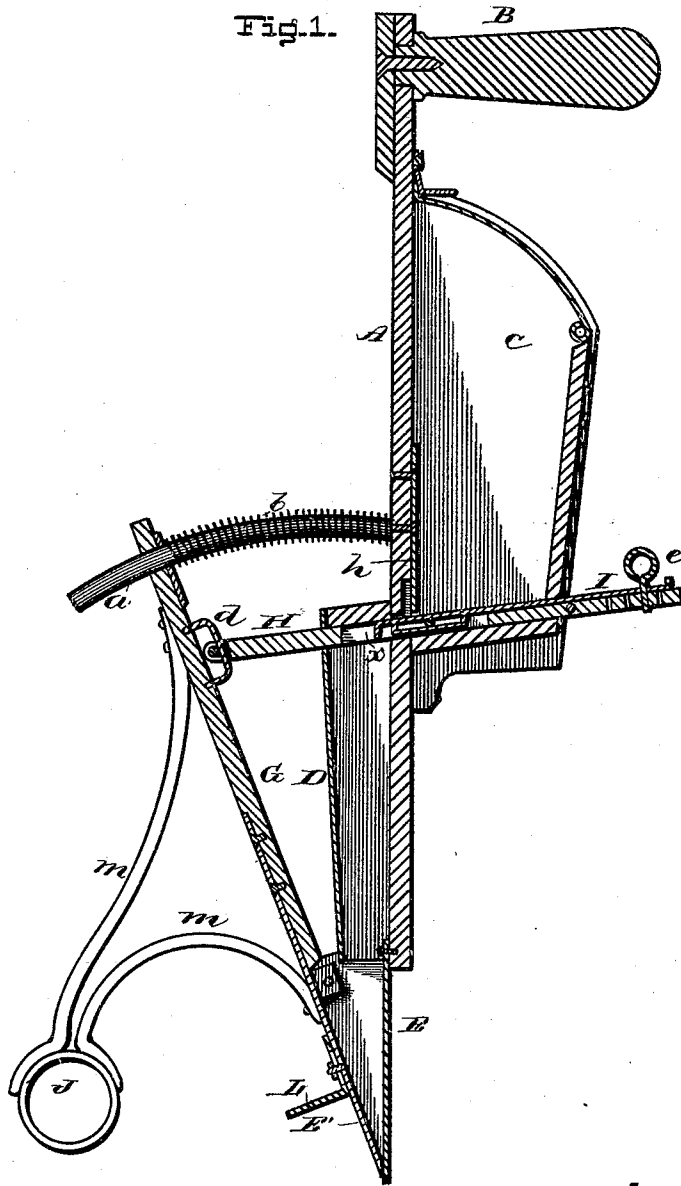


J. DOWNING.
HAND CORN PLANTER.

No. 181,825.

Patented Sept. 5, 1876.



WITNESSES:

Jas. F. Duhamel.
H. B. Brown

INVENTOR:

Jason. Downing.
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Fig. 2.

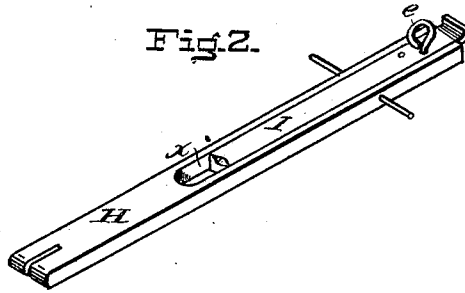


Fig. 4.

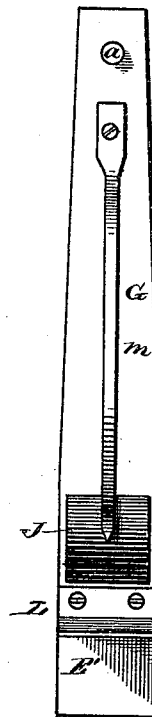


Fig. 3.

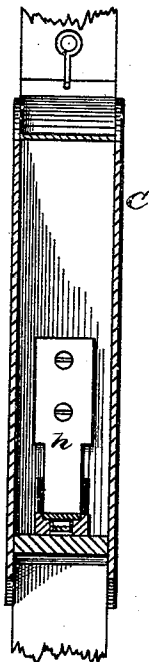


Fig. 5.

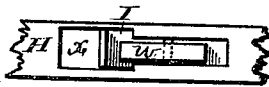


Fig. 6.



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JASON DOWNING, OF NEW MADISON, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND CORN-PLANTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **181,825**, dated September 5, 1876; application filed April 20, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JASON DOWNING, of New Madison, in the county of Drake and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand Corn-Planters, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a walking corn-planter, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section of my corn-planter. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the dropping-slide. Fig. 3 is a section of the grain-box, and Fig. 4 is a front view of the machine. Fig. 5 is a bottom view of the adjustable slide I, showing the loop *w* attached thereto. Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section of the same.

A represents a staff, with a handle, B, at the top, for carrying in the hand of the operator, walking along the ground somewhat in the manner of carrying a cane. C is the grain-box attached to the staff A, and having its sides made of thin sheet metal, making it both stronger and lighter than wood. D is the hollow tube, through which the corn passes from the grain-box into the shoe E at the lower end of the staff. This tube is made square, and hence fits the shoe and feed-bar better than if made round, as is usually the case. E' is the front plate of the shoe, attached to a lever, G, which is pivoted between the sides of the shoe. On the front of the staff A is secured a curved rod, *a*, which passes through a hole in the upper end of the lever G, and has a spiral spring, *b*, around it, between said lever and staff, to throw the upper end of the lever forward and close the shoe. On the inner side of the lever G is an elongated staple, *d*, on which is attached the dropping-slide H, passing through bottom of the grain-box C. This slide or feed-bar H has an aperture, *x*, to receive the corn within the box, and convey it and discharge it into the tube D, said aperture being adjust-

able—that is, can be enlarged or diminished, as required, to plant more or less corn in a hill—by means of a movable slide, I, fastened by a pin, *e*, through its rear end into any one of a series of holes in the feed-bar. The pin *e*, holding this adjusting-slide, cannot slip and change the feed, which is often the case where screws are used to regulate similar feed-bars. The adjustable slide I is provided with a loop, *w*, which receives the pin *y*, and holds the same in position. On the inside of the seed-box C is a brass spring, *h*, used in place of rubber or brush for a cut-off, which spring divides the corn better, and is not liable to get out of order. To the front of the lever G are attached two curved arms or braces, *m m*, to the front ends of which is secured a brass ferrule or tube, J, as shown, which is much lighter than the wooden balls of the same size.

The planter is operated by walking as with a cane, the brass ferrule, tube, or ball J being pressed firmly until the spiral spring *b* becomes folded. The planter is then raised quickly, when the spring closes the shoe again, and so on for every step. On the front plate E' of the shoe is a gage, L, to regulate the depth of planting.

This planter may be used for planting broom-corn and cane seed, as well as ordinary corn, in a perfect and correct manner.

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

1. The combination of the curved rod *a*, surrounded by a spiral spring, *b*, with the staff A and lever G, substantially as shown and described.

2. The adjustable slide I, provided with a loop, *w*, which receives the pin *y* of the feed-bar H, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JASON DOWNING.

Witnesses:

PETER DEITZ,
JOSEPH SNODGRASS.