

J. M. & J. L. JONES.

Wheelbarrows.

No. 143,767.

Patented Oct. 21, 1873.

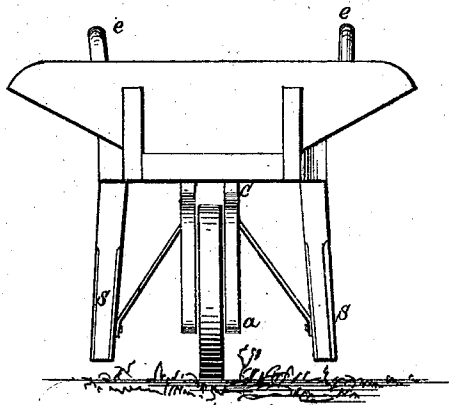


Fig. 1

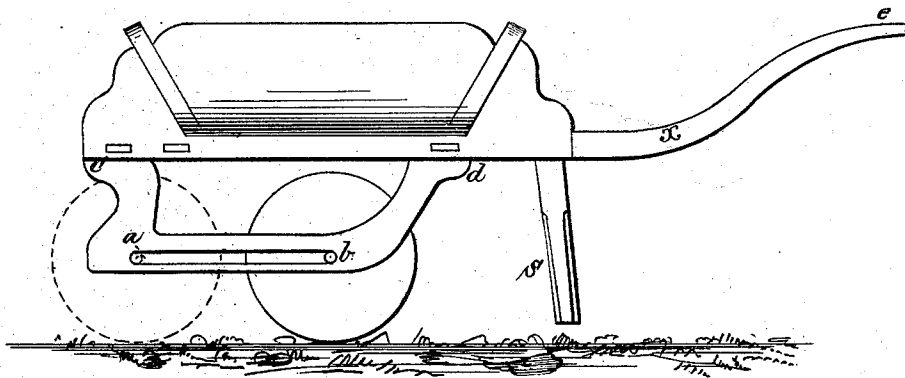


Fig. 2

Witnesses
Ed Taylor
Math Turner

Inventors
Joseph Matthias Jones
James Lawrence Jones

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH M. JONES, OF PARIS, AND JAMES L. JONES, OF LEXINGTON, KY.

IMPROVEMENT IN WHEELBARROWS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **143,767**, dated October 21, 1873; application filed August 30, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH MATTHIAS JONES, of Paris, and JAMES LAWRENCE JONES, of Lexington, in the State of Kentucky, have invented an Improved Wheelbarrow, of which the following is a specification:

The object of our invention is to so arrange a common wheelbarrow that the wheel will slide back and forth in a slot, as seen in the drawing, from a point forward the wheelbarrow to a point under its center. By this arrangement, when the handles are raised and the barrow started forward, the wheel, being at *a*, slips back to *b*. This point being the center the whole weight of the load is thrown upon the wheel instead of the hands, as in the common barrow. When the wheel is thus under the center of the load, the weight being on that point, the only labor required is to push forward. This plan admits a larger bed to the barrow, and takes the strain off the laborer. He is enabled, in consequence, to do more work than with the common barrow; but if the wheel were stationary under the center of the bed it would be almost impossible to keep it from tilting while being loaded. This difficulty is obviated by having a shifting-wheel, which slips to *a* while the barrow is being pulled back to be reloaded. The wheel being at *a* the barrow will not tilt when being loaded, as the weight will then rest largely upon the legs instead of the wheel. When loaded a slight push forward slips the wheel to *b* again and the barrow will roll forward. The slot *a b*, through which the wheel slides, should be from twelve to eighteen inches long, according to the size of the barrow. The side pieces, in which the slot *a b* is cut, are to be

placed immediately under the bed, fastened to cross-pieces at *c d*, and may be made of wood or cast at the pleasure of the manufacturer. They should be placed parallel, and so close together that the wheel, by the aid of a slight enlargement or washer around the pivot, will run plumb. These side pieces may be cast entire or separate, and should have shoulder-braces cast with the piece to strengthen and hold them firm. In order that the slot *a b* may be held level while wheeling the barrow the leg *s* is to be lower than the wheel, and the handle is to be bent up at the point *x*. By this arrangement, when the handles are raised in the act of wheeling the leg *s* clears the ground and the slot *a b* is kept on a level. Another object is accomplished by the crooked handles: If the wheel were at *b* and the barrow loaded it could not be propelled with the ordinary straight handle on account of the angle formed by the handle, the axle, and the ground, the tendency being to push the wheel into the earth and the handles over the top of the barrow. The crooked handle obviates this trouble and keeps the load level. The handles are to be of one piece and bent.

What we claim, therefore, as our improvement is—

In a wheelbarrow, a sliding wheel to work in slots in the hangers, from a point forward of the bed to a point under its center, to be operated by crooked or inclined handles, substantially as above described.

JOSEPH MATTHIAS JONES.

JAMES LAWRENCE JONES.

Witnesses:

ED. TAYLOR,

MATT. TURNEY.