



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES P. DERDEN, OF BASTROP, LOUISIANA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COTTON-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 136,422, dated March 4, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES P. DERDEN, of Bastrop P. O., in the parish of Morehouse and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cotton - Presses, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to improve the means now in use for pressing cotton, hay, and similar commodities; and it consists in a press with the parts constructed and arranged as hereinafter described.

Figure 1 represents a sectional side elevation. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of Fig. 1, taken on the line *x x*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is a rectangular-shaped frame, consisting of side and end pieces B C. D is an upright frame of triangular form, consisting of two uprights, E, whose lower ends are connected by a cross-timber, F, upon which one end of the frame A rests. G is a screw, which is revolved in the end pieces C of the frame A. This screw has no longitudinal motion, but is simply revolved by means of a pulley, H, on the end thereof, and a belt from the motive power. I is a truck-frame, through which the screw presses as through a screw-nut. As the screw is revolved this truck-frame travels back and forth. J J are truck-wheels, which revolve on axle-arms K K of this frame, and traverse on top of the frame A, as seen in Fig. 2. L is a lever, whose fulcrum is at the point M near the top of the upright triangular frame D.

The long end of this lever is connected with the truck-frame by the bar N. O is the follower, suspended from the short end of the lever by the bar P by means of a slot and pin, which allow the follower more or less play.

The bale to be pressed is represented in dotted lines.

As seen in the drawing, the connecting-bar N is inclined to an angle of, say, twenty-two degrees, and the follower is raised. Now, if the screw is revolved so as to move the truck-frame outward and bring the bar to a right angle with the lever, it will be seen that the follower will be forced downward with inward power. The truck-frame and the bar N form a toggle or knee joint to operate upon the lever, while the toggle-joint is actuated by the screw.

The advantages of this press are many, and must be obvious to all. The press is very simple, easily constructed, and not likely to fail or get out of order.

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

A cotton-press consisting of the frames A, D, and I, lever L, connecting-bar N, screw G, truck-wheels J J, and follower and bar O P, when the same are constructed, combined, and arranged to operate substantially as shown and described.

JAMES PATTERSON DERDEN.

Witnesses:

FRANK VAUGHAN,  
A. S. HELMICK.