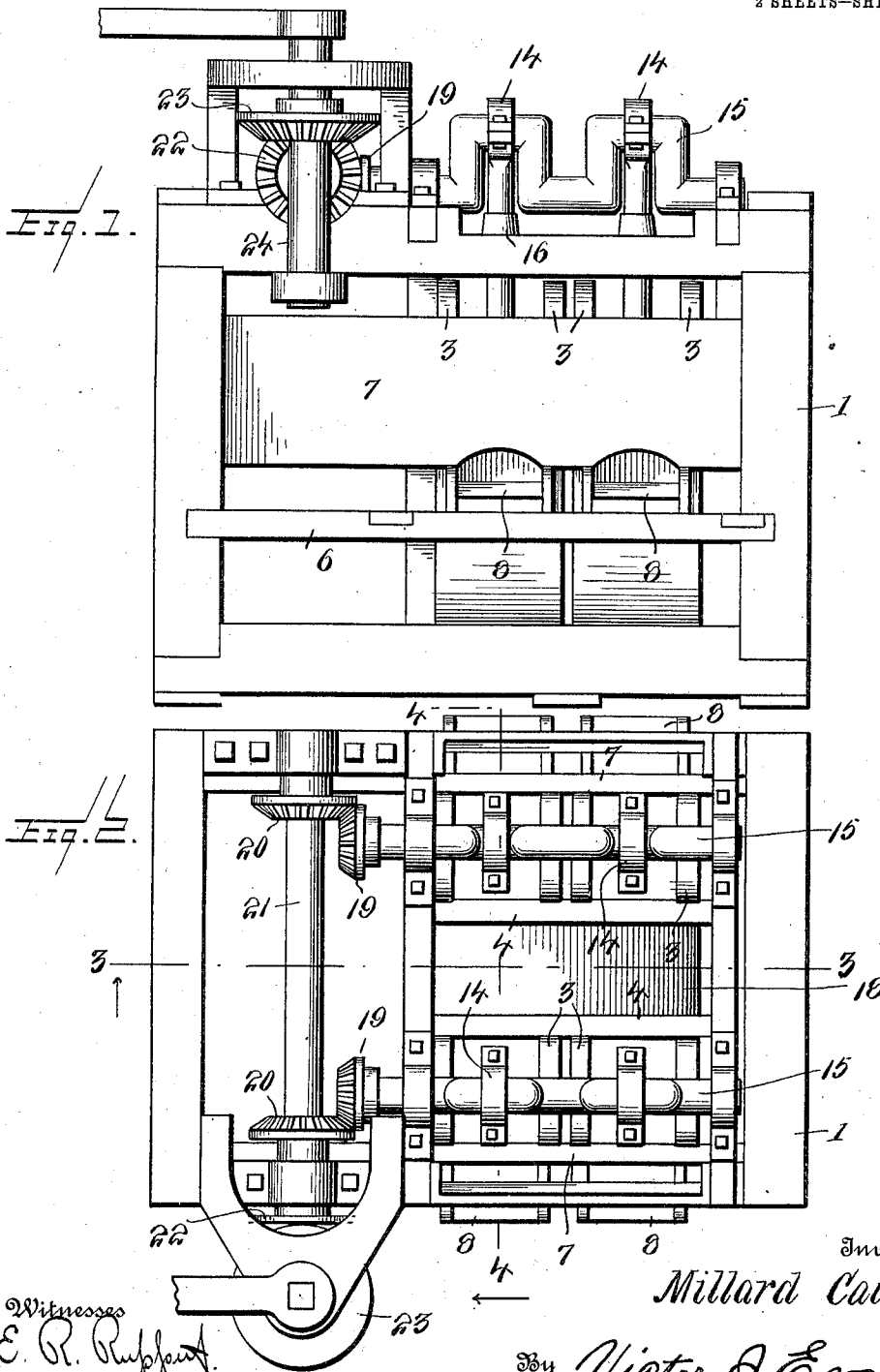


M. CATROW.
HEMP BRAKE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 22, 1910.

1,037,127.

Patented Aug. 27, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
E. R. Ruffert.
C. C. Hines.

Inventor
Millard Catrow

By Victor J. Evans
Attorney

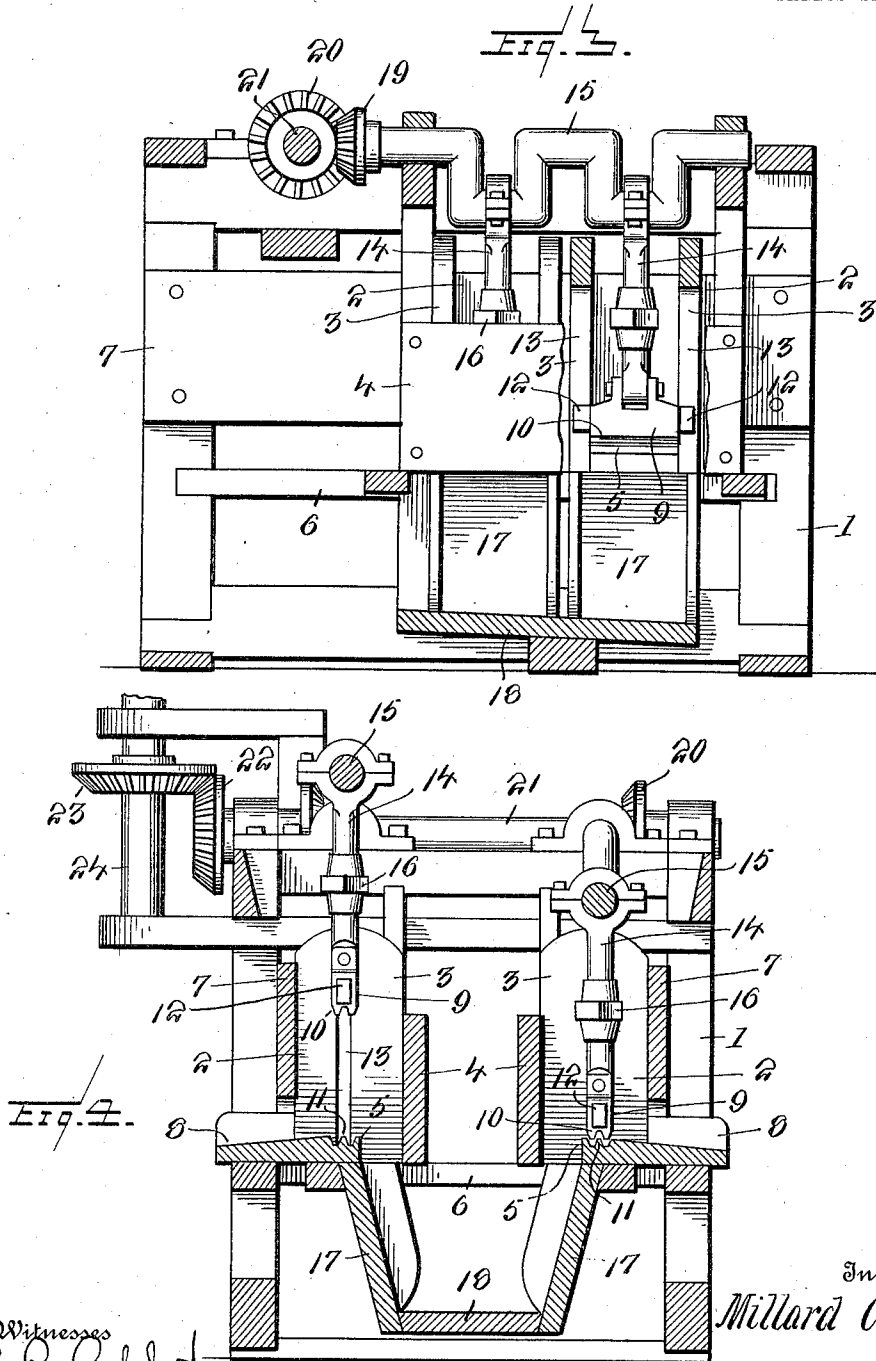
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILLARD CATROW, OF KENO, KENTUCKY.

HEMP-BRAKE.

1,037,127.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 27, 1912.

Application filed July 22, 1910. Serial No. 573,335.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILLARD CATROW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Keno, in the county of Pulaski and State of Kentucky, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hemp-Brakes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to hemp brakes, the object of the invention being to provide a simple and effective machine of this character whereby a maximum amount of hemp may be treated within a given time.

The invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of devices hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a hemp breaker embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a suitable supporting frame provided on each side of its longitudinal center with sets of breaking devices, the sets of breaking devices being of duplicate construction, so that a description of one will suffice for both.

Each set of breaking devices comprises a plurality of spaces or chambers 2, each formed of a pair of vertical side walls 3 and an inner or rear wall 4, the bottom of each space or chamber consisting of a grooved anvil or brake block 5. The respective sets of chambers are mounted upon the main frame and a supplemental frame 6 arranged within the main frame and are reinforced from said main frame by longitudinal bars or boards 7. The boards 7 form partial front walls for the respective sets of chambers 2, with the base portions of which latter communicate feed troughs or inlets 8, through which the hemp is inserted from the adjacent side of the machine into the chambers, the edges of the boards 7 above the troughs being cut away for the free entrance of the material.

Arranged to reciprocate in each brake chamber is a brake knife or beater 9 having a bifurcated lower breaking edge 10 to enter the underlying anvil groove and to cooperate with a breaking rib 11 arranged in said groove, by which the hemp will be broken

in an effective manner. The knives are provided with laterally extending guide lugs 12 to travel in vertical guide slots 13 formed in the side walls of the brake chambers, and the knives of each set are connected by pitman rods 14 with the cranks of a longitudinally extending superposed actuating shaft 15 journaled in bearings at the top of the main frame. Each rod preferably consists of two sections adjustably connected by a turn-buckle 16, whereby the rod may be lengthened or shortened to secure an effective breaking action of the knife.

The rear portions of the bottoms of the two sets of chambers communicate with inclined chutes 17 for the discharge of the broken hemp by gravity or to a table or platform 18 arranged between and below the two sets of breaking devices and supported by the inner frame, from which table or platform the broken hemp may be conveniently removed as occasion requires.

The actuating shafts are provided with bevel gears 19 meshing with corresponding gears 20 on a transverse transmission shaft 21 having one end projecting beyond the frame and provided with a beveled gear 22 meshing with a beveled drive gear 23 on a vertical driving shaft 24 which may be driven by hand or power, as desired.

In the operation of the device, the hemp is fed from the opposite sides of the machine into the respective brake chambers and is acted upon by the reciprocating breaking knives, by which it is effectually broken, the broken hemp dropping through the chutes onto the table, as above described. Owing to the form of the breaking members and the power applied to the knives, a large amount of hemp may be readily and conveniently broken within a minimum amount of time.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:—

A hemp breaking machine comprising a frame, sets of breaking chambers arranged on opposite sides of the longitudinal center of the frame, said chambers being provided with inlets at the front thereof and inclined discharge chutes leading from the rear portion of the bottoms thereof, said chamber bottoms being provided with stationary breaking devices located adjacent to said discharge chutes and having inclined surfaces leading thereto from the inlets, a receiving platform supported by the frame on a line

between and below the sets of discharge
chutes, crank shafts extending longitudi-
nally above the respective sets of chambers,
reciprocating knives operating in the cham-
5 bers for coaction with said stationary break-
ing devices, a drive shaft arranged trans-
versely at one end of the frame, intermesh-
ing beveled gears upon the crank shafts and
drive shaft, and rods connecting said knives
with the cranks of the crank shaft. 1
In testimony whereof I affix my signature
in presence of two witnesses.

MILLARD CATROW.

Witnesses:

LORETTA BALLOU,
A. J. BEATY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."