

(No Model.)

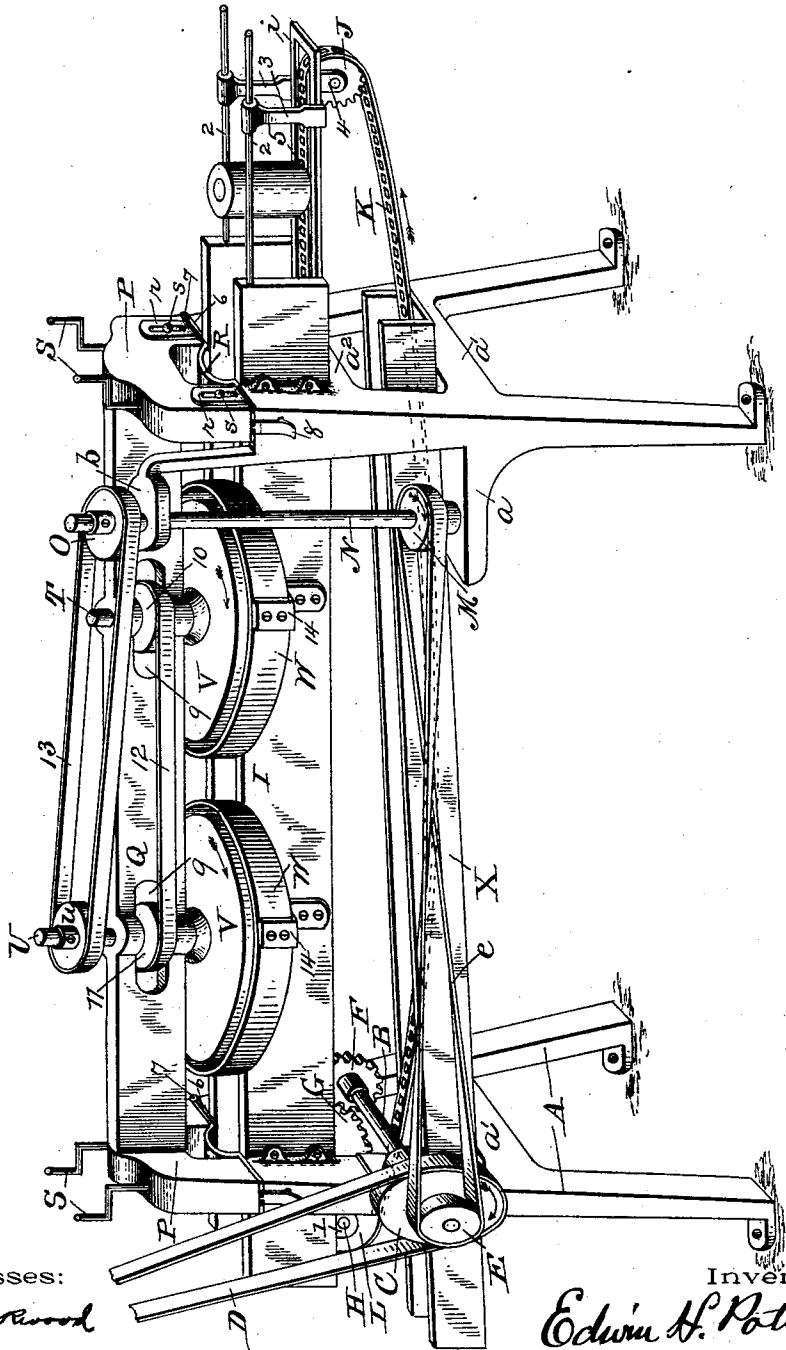
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

E. H. POTTER.
CAN WIPING MACHINE.

No. 540,597.

Patented June 4, 1895.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses:

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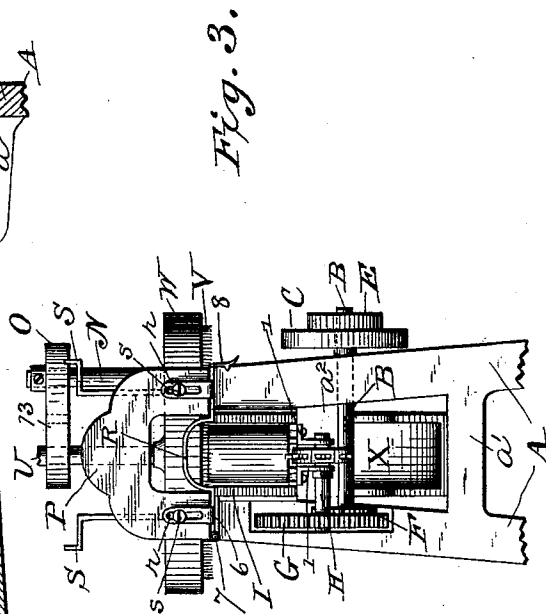
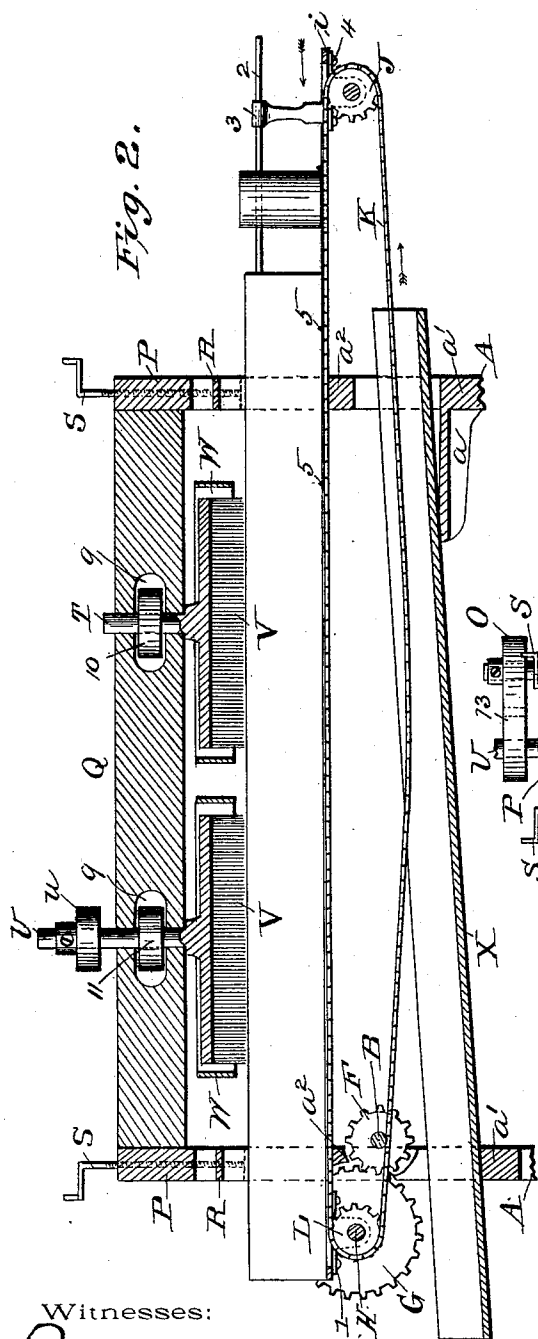
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

E. H. POTTER.
CAN WIPING MACHINE.

No. 540,597.

Patented June 4, 1895.



Witnesses:

73
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN H. POTTER, OF MOUND CITY, MISSOURI.

CAN-WIPING MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 540,597, dated June 4, 1895.

Application filed November 27, 1894. Serial No. 530,104. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN H. POTTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mound City, in the county of Holt and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Wiping Machines, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 My invention relates to an apparatus designed for wiping the tops of cans after they have been filled and preparatory to capping; my principal object being to provide a machine of this class in which the cans may be
15 placed in a canway above a traveling carrier and moved by the latter beneath brushes adapted to revolve in a horizontal plane, said brushes being made vertically adjustable to suit cans of different heights and also to com-
20 pensate for wear.

Another object of the invention is to provide means whereby the brushes may be swung up out of the horizontal plane in order to permit them to be readily and easily
25 cleaned.

The invention will first be described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and then pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective
30 view of my improved can-wiping machine. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal vertical sectional view of the same, certain parts being shown in elevation. Fig. 3 is a rear end view of the machine, part of the frame being broken
35 off.

A is the frame of the machine, provided at its front end with a rearwardly-projecting shelf a , and at each end with two cross-bars a' and a'' .

40 B is the power-shaft, journaled in bearings secured to the frame. On one end of this shaft is secured a large pulley C, over which passes a belt D leading from any suitable source of power; and on the same shaft, near
45 pulley C, is fixed a smaller pulley E. On the opposite end of shaft B is secured a gear-wheel F, which meshes with a larger gear-wheel G, mounted on a short shaft H, journaled in the frame and in bearings I secured
50 to the under side of the canway, hereinafter described.

I is the canway, mounted on the cross-bars

a'' of the frame A. It consists simply of two side pieces of the proper height, to which is secured a bottom piece i , slotted longitudi- 55 nally, as shown in the drawings, this bottom piece extending some distance in front of the side pieces. From the front end of the side pieces extend rods 2, which pass through arms 3 secured to the bottom piece, thus 60 leaving this portion of the canway open, as clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 2, the distance between these rods and also the distance between the side pieces being slightly greater than the diameter of the ordinary fruit or 65 vegetable can.

Journaled in bearings 4, secured to the underside of the front of the canway, is mounted a sprocket-wheel J, over which passes a sprocket carrier-chain K, which passes up 70 into and along the slot in the bottom piece, slightly beneath the upper surface of the bottom piece, and over another sprocket-wheel L fixed on shaft H, this chain being provided at suitable intervals with small spurs 5, for a 75 purpose hereinafter explained.

A cross belt e connects pulley E with another pulley M, fixed on a vertical shaft N, journaled at its lower end in the shelf a and near its upper end in a bracket b rising from 80 frame A, said shaft N also carrying another pulley O, adjustably secured thereon.

For the purpose of adapting the brushes to vertical adjustment, and also to permit them to be turned up out of the horizontal plane 85 in order that they may be conveniently cleaned, I mount them in an auxiliary frame, which consists of two end pieces P and a connecting-bar Q. The auxiliary frame is adjustably connected to the main frame by two 90 yokes R, one at each end. Each yoke has a short leaf 6 hinged to it, as at 7, at one end, said leaf being secured to the frame A, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. From each yoke rises two slotted lugs r , through which loosely 95 pass set-screws s , which take into the end piece P. To each yoke, opposite the hinge, is secured a hook 8, adapted to engage with any suitable catch on the frame A.

S represents screw-rods, two of which pass 100 vertically through each end piece of the auxiliary frame and bear at their lower ends on the yoke R. By loosening the set-screws s and turning the screw-rods S the auxiliary

frame can be adjusted vertically as required, and when these set-screws *s* are again tightened the parts will be held in the proper positions relative to each other.

5 In the connecting-bar *Q* of the auxiliary frame are mounted two shafts *T* and *U*, to the lower end of which are attached brushes *V*, circular in form and greater in diameter than the width of the canway. This connect-
10 ing-bar has two slots *9*, in which work two small pulleys *10* and *11* fixed on the shafts *T* and *U*, respectively, these pulleys being connected by a belt *12*; and on the upper end of shaft *U* is adjustably fixed another small
15 pulley *u*, connected by a belt *13* with pulley *O* on shaft *N*. Each of the brushes *V* is surrounded by a thin metal guard *W*, supported by brackets *14* secured to the canway.

Underneath the canway is a trough *X*, resting on the cross-bars *a'* of the frame *A*, for carrying off the refuse from the wiped cans.

In operation, power being applied to the main shaft *B* in the direction indicated by the arrows, the attendant, standing at the
25 front end of the machine, places the filled cans on the bottom of the canway, when the spurs *5* on the carrier will engage the bottom edge of the cans and carry the cans forward in the canway and under the brushes, when
30 by the revolution of the brushes the tops of the cans will be thoroughly wiped, after which they will pass onward through the canway to any suitable delivery. When it is desired to clean the brushes, the hooks *8* will
35 be disengaged from their catches and the belt *13* thrown from its pulleys, which will permit the auxiliary frame and the attached brushes to be swung over so as to bring the brushes into a vertical position, thus permit-
40 ting them to be readily cleaned. When the auxiliary frame is in its normal position the

brushes can be vertically adjusted by means of the screw-rods in the manner above indicated.

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

1. In a can-wiping machine, the combination, with the main frame, of a canway, a carrier movable longitudinally therein, and an auxiliary frame carrying one or more revoluble brushes, said auxiliary frame being adjustably secured to yokes having hinged connection with the main frame, whereby the auxiliary frame is rendered adjustable and capable of being swung out of operative position, for the purposes stated. 55

2. In a can-wiping machine, the combination, with the main frame, of an auxiliary frame consisting of end pieces and a connecting-bar, two yokes, each having a hinged leaf secured to the main frame, adjustably secured to the end pieces, and brushes revolubly mounted in the connecting-bar, substantially as described. 60 65

3. In a can-wiping machine, the combination, with the main frame, of an auxiliary frame consisting of two end pieces and a connecting-bar, two yokes, each of which has a hinged leaf secured to the main frame and two slotted lugs connected with each end piece of the auxiliary frame by headed pins, screw-rods passing through said end pieces and bearing on the yokes, and brushes revolubly mounted in the auxiliary frame. 70 75

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWIN H. POTTER.

Witnesses:

W. M. HAMSHER,

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