No. 736,981. PATENTED AUG. 25, 1903.

F. KOHSER.

POTATO PLANTER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1902.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 2.

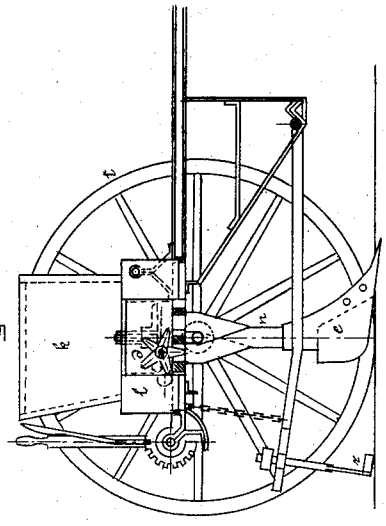


Fig. 1.

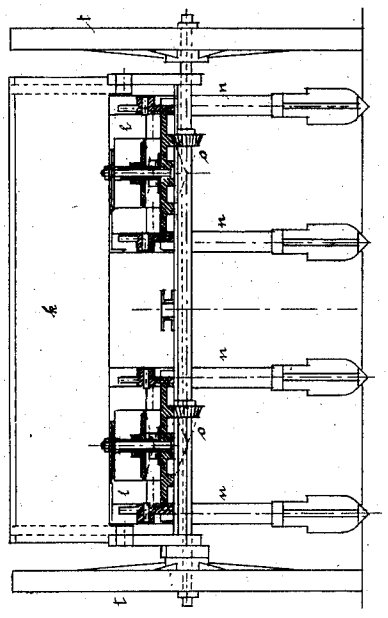
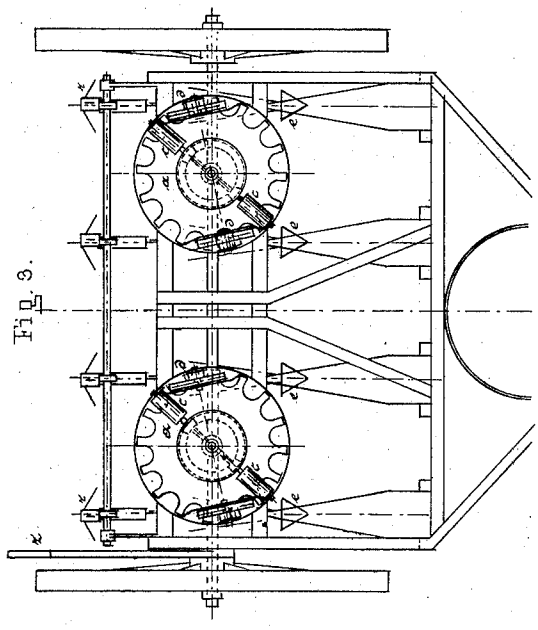


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

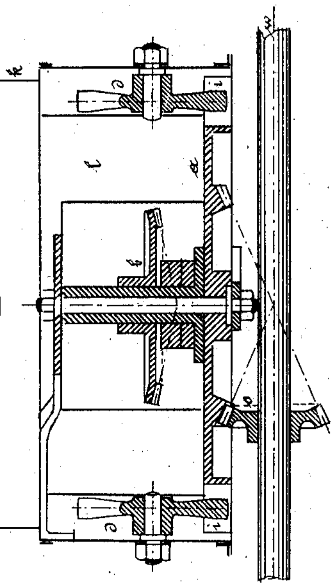


Fig. 7.

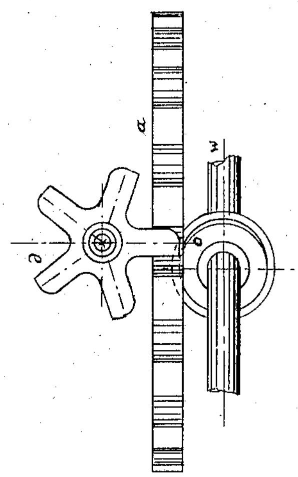


Fig. 4.

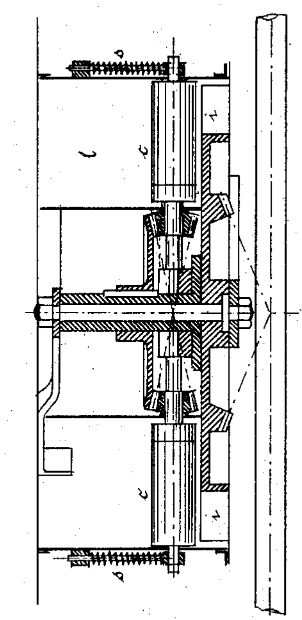
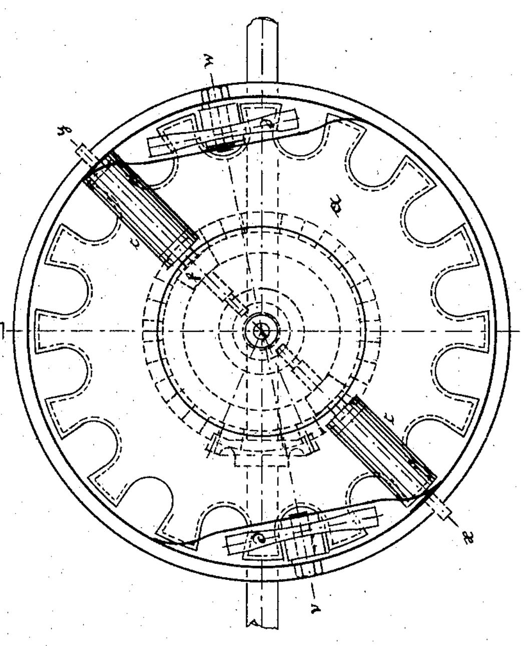


Fig. 6



Witnesses

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 736,981. Patented August 25, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANZ KOHSER, OF GREIFENHAGEN, GERMANY.

POTATO-PLANTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 736,981, dated August 25, 1903.

Application filed May 15, 1902. Serial No. 107,448. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANZ KOHSER, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and a resident of Greifenhagen, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Potato-Planters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to potato-planters, and has for its object to provide a machine of this character for dropping potato-pieces at regular intervals and to prevent a clogging or choking of the machinery.

The invention will now be fully described, and the features of novelty pointed out in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional elevation of a potato-planter embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 is a partial plan. Figs. 4 and 5 are sectional elevations on lines *x y* and *v w* of Fig. 6, respectively. Fig. 6 is a plan of the distributer-disk and adjacent parts, drawn upon an enlarged scale; and Fig. 7 is a detail face view of the ejector, with the distributer-disk and the mechanism for driving said disk, the other parts being omitted for the sake of clearness.

The machine shown in the drawings is adapted to plant potatoes in four rows or furrows; but I do not restrict myself to this number.

Small shares or furrow-openers *e* are employed to throw up the soil, and immediately in the rear of such furrow-openers the potato-pieces are dropped through seed-channels *n*. Still farther in the rear are located furrow-covers *r* for covering the potato-pieces with earth. The upper ends of the channel *n* are located adjacent to the periphery of horizontal distributer-disks *a*, provided with openings or notches *i*, which are adapted to register successively with the upper ends of the channels *n*. Immediately above said disks are casings or chambers *l*, each adapted to receive its supply of potato-pieces from a hopper *k*. The disks *a* are rotated about vertical axes by providing them with bevel-teeth on their bottom surface, such teeth meshing with bevel-pinions *o* upon the shaft or axle *w*, driven by the supporting-wheels *t*. For instance, a controlling-lever *z* may be provided for connecting the shaft *w* with the supporting-wheels or disconnecting it therefrom. When the shaft is in motion, the distributer-disks *a* will rotate and the potato-pieces will drop through the openings *i* from the upper side of the disks *a* to the lower side thereof into the channels *n*, the dropping of the potato-pieces occurring at regular intervals.

In order to prevent a clogging of the passages *i*, there is provided in connection with each channel *n* an ejector *d*, mounted to rotate upon a horizontal axis stationary in relation to the casing *l*. These ejectors are rotated simply by contact with the distributer-disks *a* and are for this purpose made star-shaped, so that ejectors and distributer-disks will mesh after the fashion of gear-wheels, as shown best in Fig. 7. These ejectors will force any potato-pieces that may become jammed in the passages *i* downward into the channels *n*.

In order to thoroughly agitate and distribute the potato-pieces, I provide stirrers or rollers *c*, disposed above the distributer-disks *a* in a radial direction with reference thereto and preferably supported by springs *s*, secured to the casing *l*. These rollers are disposed in advance of the ejectors *d* and are rotated so as to have a tendency to throw the potato-pieces upward by any suitable means, as by bevel-gearing connected with disks *a* and suitably inclosed. (See Fig. 4.)

It will be observed that the ejectors *d* move in planes which intersect the plane of rotation of the distributer-disk *a*.

Various modifications may be made without departing from the nature of my invention.

I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a distributing mechanism, the combination, with a rotatable distributer having passages leading from one of its faces to the opposite face, of a stirrer yieldingly mounted on the feed side of the distributer so as to be movable toward and from the distributer.

2. In a distributing mechanism, the combination, with a rotatable distributer having passages leading from one of its faces to its

opposite face, of a stirrer mounted to turn on the feed side of the distributer about an axis parallel with the adjacent face of the distributer, said stirrer being yieldingly mounted so that it may move toward and from the distributer.

3. In a distributing mechanism, the combination, with a rotatable distributer provided at its periphery with passages leading from one of its faces to its opposite face, gearing located centrally on the feed side of the distributer, a stirring-roller, the shaft of which is provided at its inner end with a pinion engaging said gearing, and a spring-pressed bearing for the outer end of the roller-shaft.

4. In a distributing mechanism, the combination, with a rotatable distributer provided at its periphery with passages leading from one of its faces to its opposite face, of a stirring-roller arranged to turn on the feed side of the distributer about an axis parallel with the adjacent face of the distributer, said roller extending lengthwise of its shaft from a point in line with the path of the distributer-passages, to a point nearer the center of the distributer than said passage.

5. In a distributing mechanism, the combination, with a rotary distributer, of a yieldingly-mounted stirrer located on the feed side of the distributer and arranged to rotate about an axis parallel to the plane in which the distributer rotates.

6. In a distributing mechanism, the combination, with a rotary distributer having through-passages, an ejector mounted to turn about an axis at an angle to that of the distributer, and arranged to project into said passages when they reach a predetermined point, and a stirrer located on the feed side of the distributer at a point in advance of said ejector.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANZ KOHSER.

Witnesses:
RICHARD HANNEMANN,
H. GLOMB.