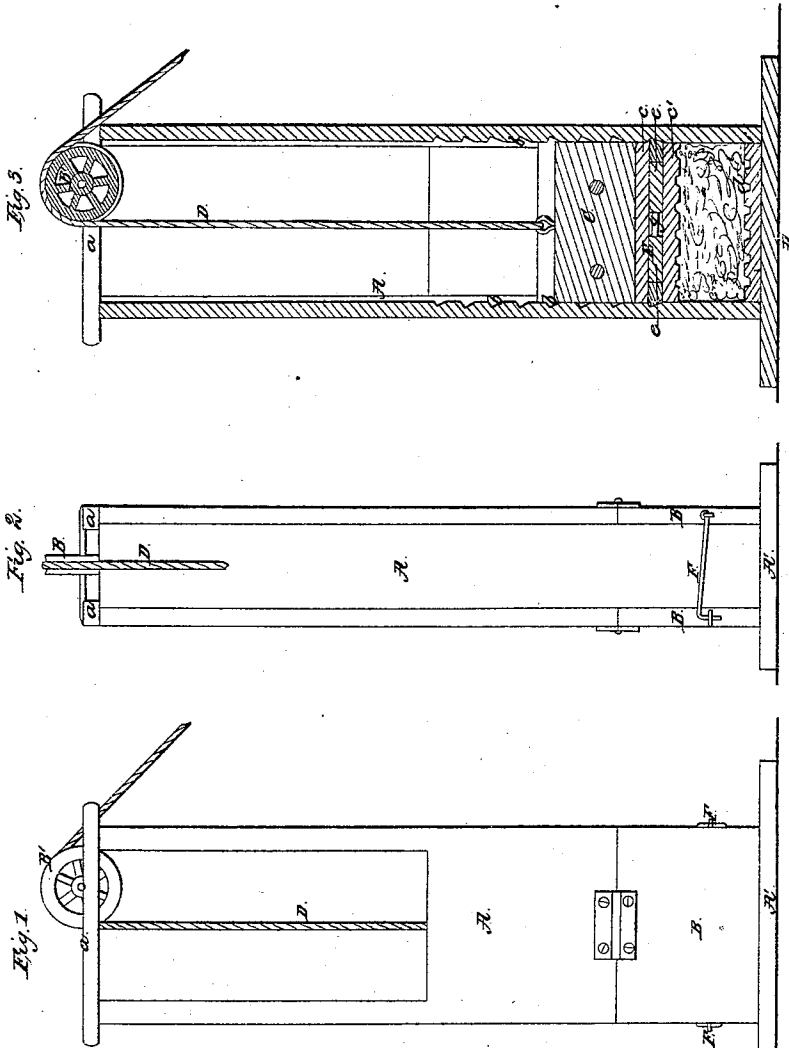
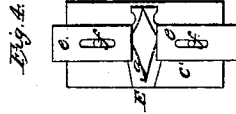


C. Colahan,

Cotton Press.

N^o 61517.

Patented Jan. 29, 1867.



Witnesses:
W. H. Burridge
Frank Alden

Inventor:
Chas Colahan

United States Patent Office.

CHARLES COLAHAN, OF ALTON, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND JOHN FERTIG.

Letters Patent No. 61,517, dated January 29, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN BALING COTTON.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, C. COLAHAN, of Alton, in the county of Madison, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Baling Cotton for market; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the press.

Figure 2 is a side view.

Figure 3 is a vertical section.

Figure 4 is a detached section, that will be referred to in the description.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several views.

In the drawing A represents the case or frame of the press, which consists of the side pieces and platform A', the lower part of the press being closed in with boards and the doors B. Across the top of the press are two strips, *a*, in which the shaft of the pulley B' rests. The side pieces are rabbeted so as to allow the weight C to move up and down without slipping out of the case. Below this rabbeting are cut the notches *b*, which will be referred to hereafter. To the weight C is secured the rope or chain D that passes up over the pulley B'. E is the follower, which is shown detached in fig. 4. This follower consists of the two pieces *c c'*, the lower piece, *c'*, being corrugated or notched, as shown, to admit the cords that are to tie the cotton when pressed, there being corresponding cords in the piece *d*, which is secured to the platform A'. Between the two pieces *c c'* of the follower are placed the two blocks *e e*, fig. 4, which is a top view with the piece *c* removed. In the centre of the blocks *e* is a slot which admits the end of the pins *f*, fig. 4. This slot is to allow them to move back and forth, a spring, *g*, being placed between them. This will be referred to hereafter.

Having described the construction, the operation of the press is as follows: The doors B are closed and held in this way by means of the hooks F, one at each side of the frame. The cotton is then placed in the press, as much as may be desired, and the follower placed on the cotton. Then the weight C is allowed to drop on to the follower, which packs the cotton down close upon the bottom of the press. As it is pressed down the blocks *e* of the follower, by means of the spring *f*, are forced into the notches *b* in the side of the frame referred to above, so that when the weight is drawn up to be let down again the cotton will not spring up but be held firmly in place by the blocks of the follower catching in the notches *b*. In this way the weight can be raised and then let fall on the follower until the cotton is pressed firmly and closely together, every time the weight strikes the follower, pressing it down, and the blocks catch in notches lower down. When it is pressed sufficiently the doors B are opened and the cotton tied with the cords referred to, and removed at pleasure.

What I claim as my improvement, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The weight C and follower E, in combination with the spring *g*, blocks *e*, and notches *b*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The arrangement of the casing or frame A, doors B, pulley B', rope D, and weight C, in combination with the notches *b*, follower E, provided with blocks *e* and spring *g*, operating conjointly, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHAS. COLAHAN.

Witnesses:

W. H. BURRIDGE,
FRANK ALDEN.