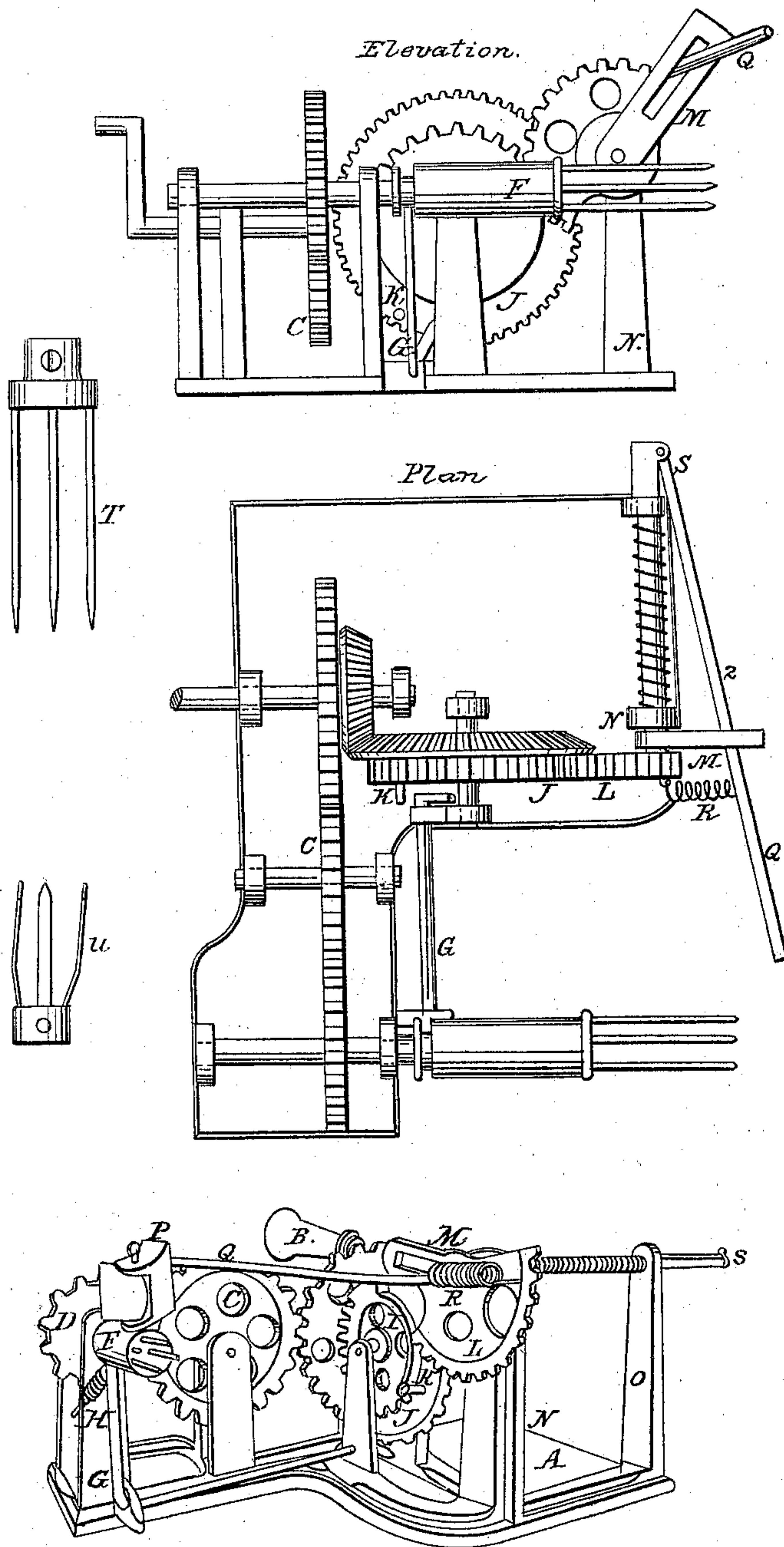


J. D. SEAGRAVE.

Apple Parer.

No. 10,785.

Patented April 18, 1854.





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. SEAGRAVE, OF MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

## MACHINE FOR PARING APPLES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 10,785, dated April 18, 1854.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN D. SEAGRAVE, of Milford, in the county of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful improvement on a machine for the paring of apples, potatoes, turnips, quinces, pears, peaches, and other fruit; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, which is made a part of this specification.

The part marked A is a wooden stand upon which the working part of the machinery is placed.

B is a cog wheel with a handle thereto attached for the turning of the same; the teeth of which are connected with the teeth of an intermediate cog wheel C which in its turn connects with D a smaller cog wheel from the center of which projects the fork E upon which the fruit is placed for paring.

F is a sheath capable of being pressed forward, as hereinafter described, so as to cover the fork.

In a groove in the outside of the sheath rests a wire G which is fastened to an elastic spiral spring H attached to an upright in the stand at the place marked on the drawing. When this spiral spring is at rest the sheath F is drawn back so that the fork E remains uncovered and ready for the fruit to be placed upon it. I is another cog wheel the teeth in the circumference of which are connected with cogs at the center of the first or handle wheel B, by bevel gearing. The wheel I is solid and placed at right angles to the wheel B so that the teeth in the circumference of I connect with those at the center of B. In the wheel I upon the other side thereof opposite to the teeth which connect with B are cog teeth arranged in a semicircle J and in this semicircle of cogs is placed a projecting pin K long enough to strike and turn the wire G when it is reached in the revolution of the wheel J.

With the semicircle of cogs J is connected L a half gear with cog teeth. A projecting arm M forms a part of this half gear and in M there is a slit for the play of the knife handle as hereinafter described. This half gear L is fastened to a wire axis which rotates through holes in N and O two uprights in the wooden stand.

A spiral wire is coiled around the part of

this wire axis between N and O so as to keep the half gear when not turned by the action of the cog wheels close to the cog wheel at the semicircle of cogs J.

The knife P is placed at the end of another wire Q which plays through the slit in M the arm attached to the half gear L. This wire Q is fastened to the axis wire by a hinge at its extremity S.

When the machine is at rest and ready to begin paring the knife rests by the side of the fork as in the drawing, another spiral spring R fastening it to the half gear and keeping it in place.

When the machine is at rest and ready to begin paring the knife rests by the side of the fork as in the drawing the spiral springs keeping it in place.

The fruit being fixed upon the fork, the knife is kept by the compression of the spiral R exactly on the circumference of the fruit, the hinge and slit through the arm of the half gear, serving to adjust it to the size of the fruit.

The turning of the handle of B causes the fork to revolve by means of the action of the cog wheels C and D while at the same time the gearing at the center of the handle wheel turns the solid cog wheel I and that by the gearing on the opposite side moves the half gear L and the knife passing through the slit in the arm of the half gear is thus made to turn around the surface of the fruit.

When all the teeth of the half gear have passed through the semicircle of cog teeth in the solid wheel I the knife has gone over the entire surface of the fruit to be pared. The fruit being pared—the half gear is thrown off the semicircle of cog teeth and the compression of the spiral around the axis will turn the half gear back to the place of beginning. While at the same instant the pin K strikes the wire G which is itself kept in place by the upright through which the fork passes by the small spiral R. By the pressure of K upon the wire G, the other end of G which is in the groove of the sheath the sheath is pressed forward over the fork so as to throw off the fruit and then the pin K detaches itself by the further turning of the wheels and the recoil of the spiral R draws back the sheath uncovering the fork and leaving the machine ready to pare another article.

There is a set screw attached to the spiral



R by which when it is unscrewed the spiral is so drawn back that the sheath will not throw off the fruit at the end of paring. The fork can also be unscrewed and different sizes and shapes of forks adjusted to the same machine by means of a set screw—as shown by the detached forks T and U.

I do not claim in general the device of combining with a paring machine, in which the paring knife moves automatically over the apple, a sliding piece moved automatically in regular alternation with the movements of the knife, in such manner as to push the apple from the fork, at the completion of the paring, because such device has been used before, in the apple-parer of

Charles P. Carter, patented Oct. 16th. 1849; but

What I do claim is—

The specific mechanical arrangement which I have invented for said device, viz: the sheath F, made to slide upon the spindle or axis of the fork, and operated by the wire lever G, which is impelled at the proper moment by the pin K, on the wheel J, substantially as herein set forth.

Witnessed March 14, 1853.

JOHN D. SEAGRAVE.

Witnesses:

JAMES E. ESTABROOK,  
WM. T. HARLOWE.