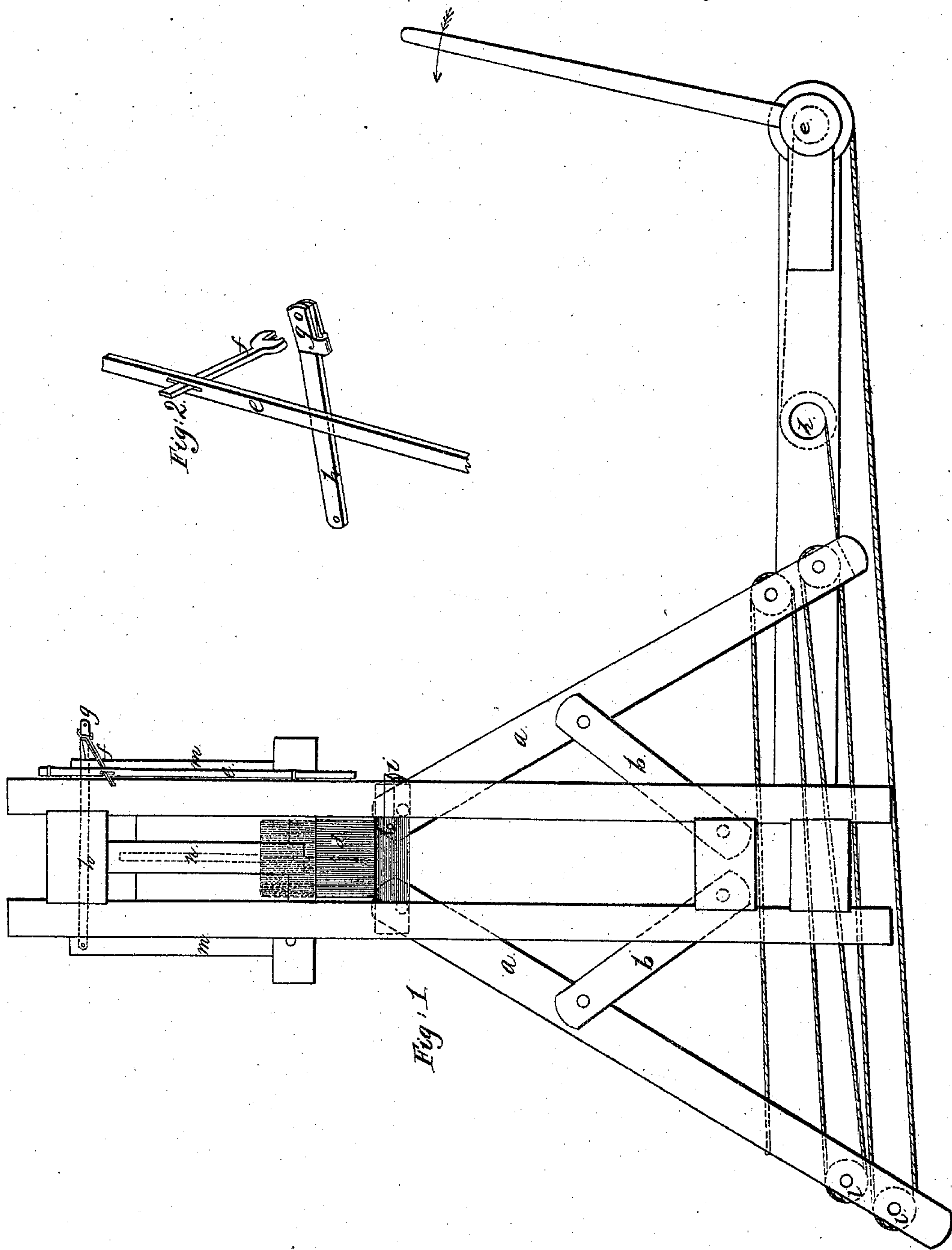


G. W. Penniston,

Cotton Press,

No 17,053,

Patented Apr. 14, 1857.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. PENNISTON, OF NORTH VERNON, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SELF-RELEASING DOORS OF COTTON-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 17,053, dated April 14, 1857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. PENNISTON, of North Vernon, Jennings county, Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Self-Detaching Doors of Cotton-Presses; and I hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to produce a press which will afford the greatest facility for the combined purposes of pressing cotton and compressing cotton-bales.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top view of my machine. Fig. 2 is a perspective view (on a larger scale) of the self-acting latch and its accessories.

a a are a series of levers (two on each side) attached at one end to the plunger *d*, jointed in the center to the short arms *b*, (which are three in number on each side,) and forming therewith a duplex toggle-joint, which is operated in either direction by the advancing or retraction of the plunger *d* by means of the reversible differential capstan *c*, the differential pulley *k*, and the pulleys *l l l l*.

i is an arm attached to the plunger *d*, which, when the plunger arrives at the end of its stroke, impelling forward the rod *e*, withdraws the key *f* from confining the button *g*, at which time the pressure from within, operating against the button *g*, causes the latch *h* to fly back and the side doors, *m m*, to open auto-

matically, for the cording of the bale, after which a slight reverse motion of the capstan *c* retracts the plunger and liberates the bale.

The dotted lines *n* represent a groove in the bottom of the press-box, in which fits a corresponding tongue on the bottom of the plunger, thus directing the plunger in a straight forward direction and protecting the doors from any side pressure therefrom.

My improvements will enable the operator of the press to make any number of bales of a given size, and uniform, so that they may be stowed within certain dimensions. By varying the length of the bar *e* the doors may be released whenever the plunger arrives at the desired point to make the bale the size required.

I do not claim the duplex toggle-joint nor the mode of operating it described; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The traversing bar *e*, in connection with the arm *i* of the plunger, for the purpose of retracting the key *f* to release the doors when the plunger arrives at the proper point to make the bale being pressed the size required.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

G. W. PENNISTON.

Attest:

J. B. WISE,

JOHN S. HOLLINGSHEAD.