Battoms & Bullock,

Cotton Press.

No 21,317. Patented Aug. 31, 1858.

Fig: 1.

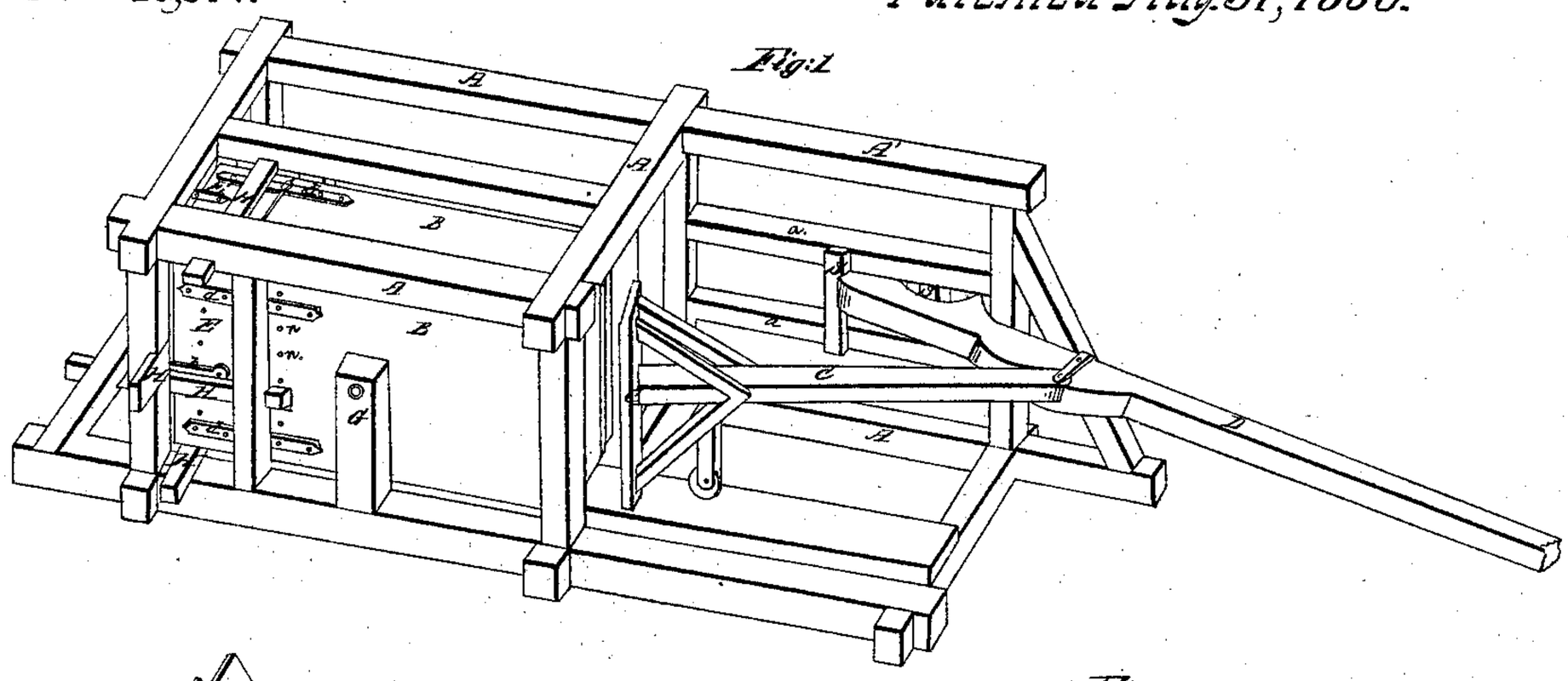


Fig: 3.

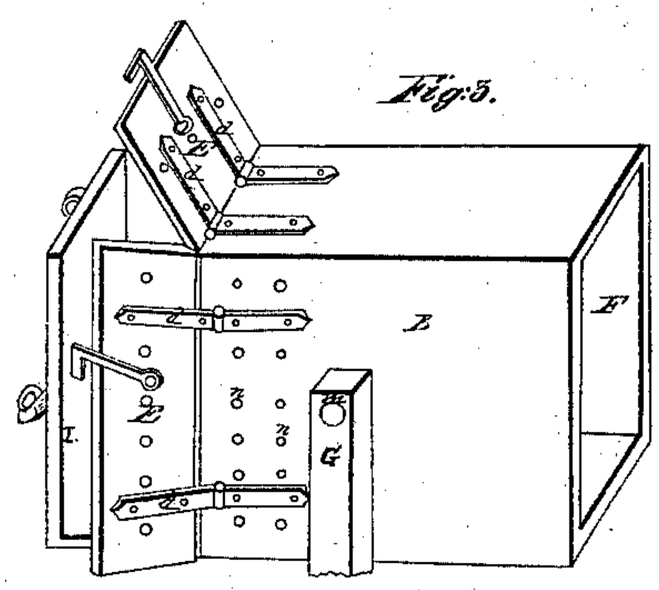


Fig: 2.

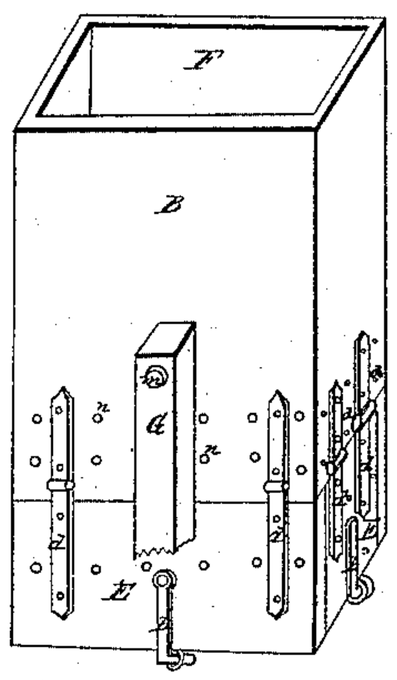


Fig: 4.

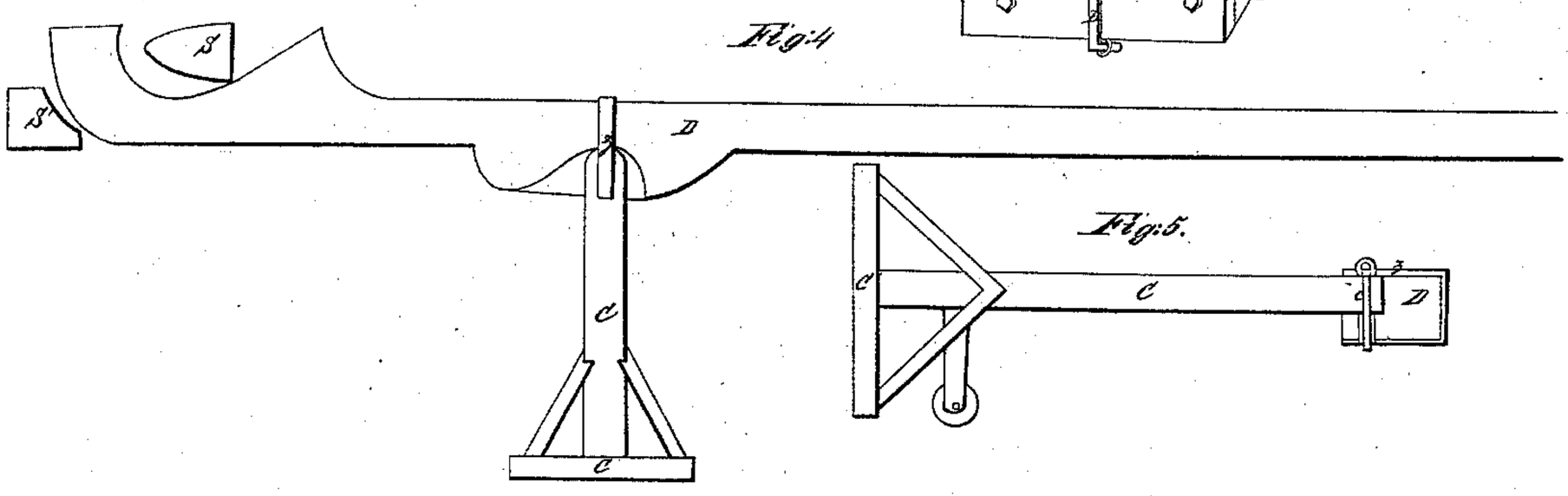
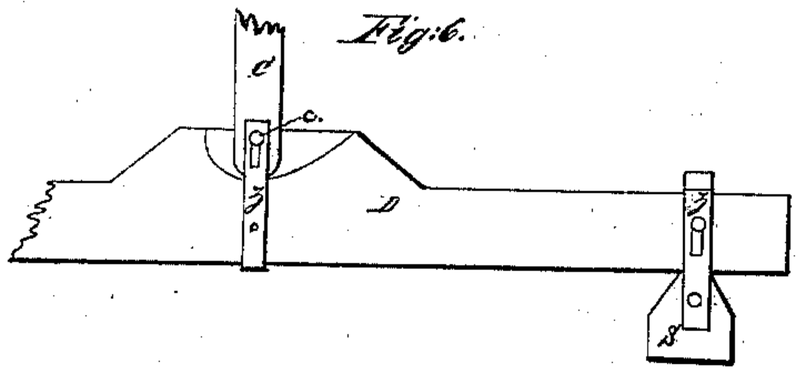


Fig: 5.

Fig: 6.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. BOTTOMS AND JAMES A. BULLOCK, OF THOMAS COUNTY, GA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COTTON-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **21,317**, dated August 31, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, THOMAS J. BOTTOMS and JAMES A. BULLOCK, of Thomas county, in the State of Georgia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Cotton and Hay Presses, which we desire to secure by Letters Patent; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings through the letters marked thereon.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the whole press. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the box, within which the material to be pressed is put, the box being shown as in a position to be charged. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the box with its position changed, its doors being opened, as shown in this figure after pressure has been given to the material and it is ready to be discharged. Fig. 4 is a top view of the follower and lever. Fig. 5 is a vertical section through the follower and lever. Fig. 6 is a horizontal section showing the connection of the lever with the follower through its staff.

To enable others to make and use our invention, we will describe its construction and operation.

In Fig. 1, A A A′ A′ is a strongly-built frame, which, if desirable, may be a portion of or embodied in the construction of a gin-house, barn, or any other building, that portion of it marked A′ A′ being adapted to sustain such a force as is likely to result from the reaction of great pressure. *a a* are supports for the fulcrum S and the stop-bar S′ of the lever D. These last are also shown in Fig. 4. The lever D is attached to the staff C of the follower C′ by means of the pin *c*, which passes through the end of the staff C, and through the bridle-plate Z. This is also shown in section in Fig. 5. The box B, Figs. 1, 2, and 3, is of a form and dimensions to receive the material to be pressed, and the follower C′, which enters at the end F and plays within it, fitting closely. To prevent the follower C′ from dragging while performing its office, a friction roller or rollers, X, Figs. 1 and 5, are secured to the staff C in such a manner as to lift and support the follower clear of the bottom of the box, thus allowing it to run easily in and out. The box B is furnished at the end opposite F with a door on each of its two sides, and on the top, sides, and top, having reference to its position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. These doors, marked E E, are connected by hinges *d d* to the sides and top of the box, and when closed form continuations thereof, and rest against the edges of the end plate, I, Fig. 3, and are secured thereto by the hooks *l l*. The end plate, I, of the box is unchangeably secured to the bottom of the box. The box B is so arranged that its position may be changed from a horizontal to a vertical position for the purpose of charging it. To this end the box is furnished on each of its sides with journals *m*, Figs. 1, 2, 3, which have their bearings in the standards G. An additional security against the effects of pressure is given to the doors E E and back plate, I, by means of the brace-bars H H, as shown in Fig. 1. Through the sides and top of the box B, and also through the doors, are perforations *n n*, which are for the purpose of allowing the air to escape, which might otherwise be confined in the box and greatly retard the operation of the press.

The operation of this press is as follows: Supposing a bale to have just been discharged from the box B through the doors E E, which should be wide enough to permit its passage. The doors are then closed and secured by the hooks *l l* and the brace-bars H H. The lever D, then swinging upon and against its fulcrum S, is moved from a position at right angles with the staff of the follower (in which position it has been kept by the stop-bar S′, Figs. 1, 4) in such a manner that the follower is drawn entirely out of the box at the end F, the friction-rollers X allowing it to run easily. The box B is now caused to make a quarter-revolution upon its journals *m*, so that it assumes the position shown in Fig. 2, the end F being at the top and the doors E at the bottom of the box. In this position it is charged with a sufficient quantity of material, after which it is brought back to the former situation, a horizontal one, and the lever D is brought to bear upon the follower through its staff, forcing said follower into the box until the staff C and the lever D are at right angles with each other and the maximum pressure has been given. The brace-bars H are now removed, the hooks *l l* cast loose, the doors E E thrown open, the bale discharged, and the operation completed.

We find by our arrangement that we gain great speed in packing over other presses by hand-power.

Having thus described our invention, we do not claim the parts designated in themselves as new, separately considered; but

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

The combination of the follower-staff *c*, bridle Z, lever D, follower *c'*, and the revolving perforated box B, operating as described, and for the purposes set forth.

THOMAS J. BOTTOMS.
JAMES A. BULLOCK.

Witnesses:
T. G. CLAYTON,
O. L. LAWSON.