J. W. Millet,

Making Baskets.

No. 47,602. Patented May 2, 1865.

Fig. 2

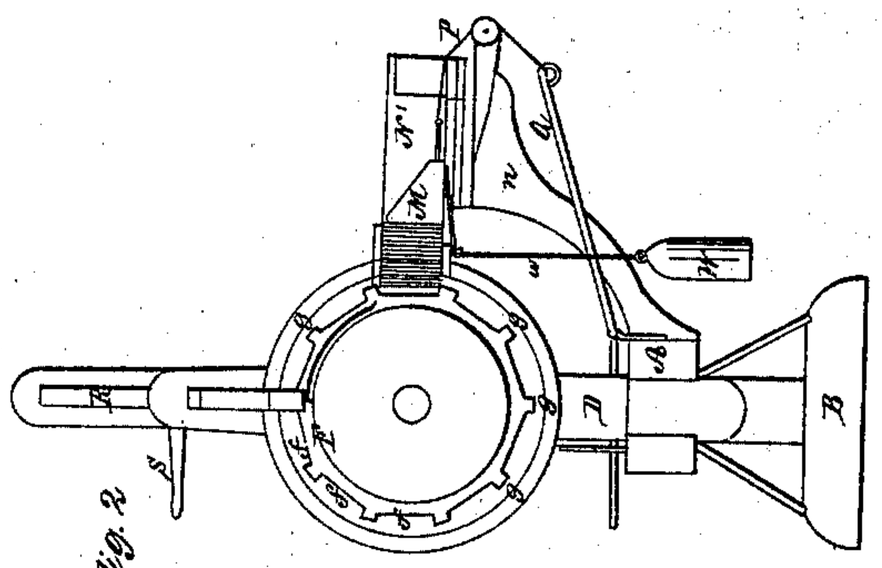


Fig. 3

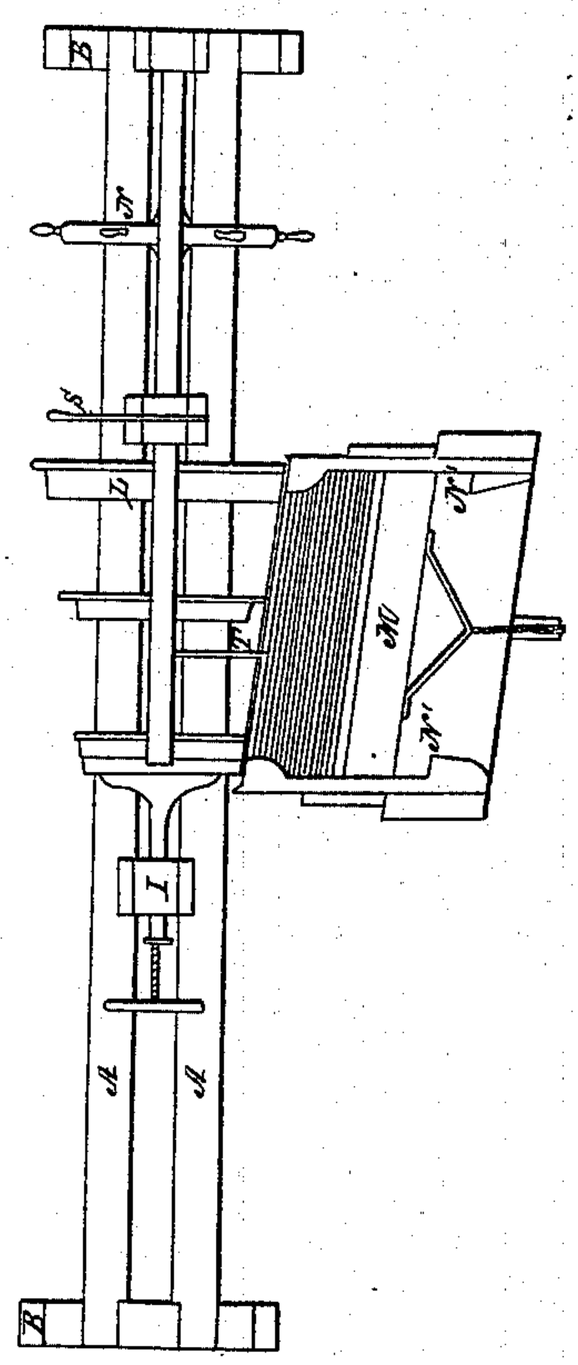
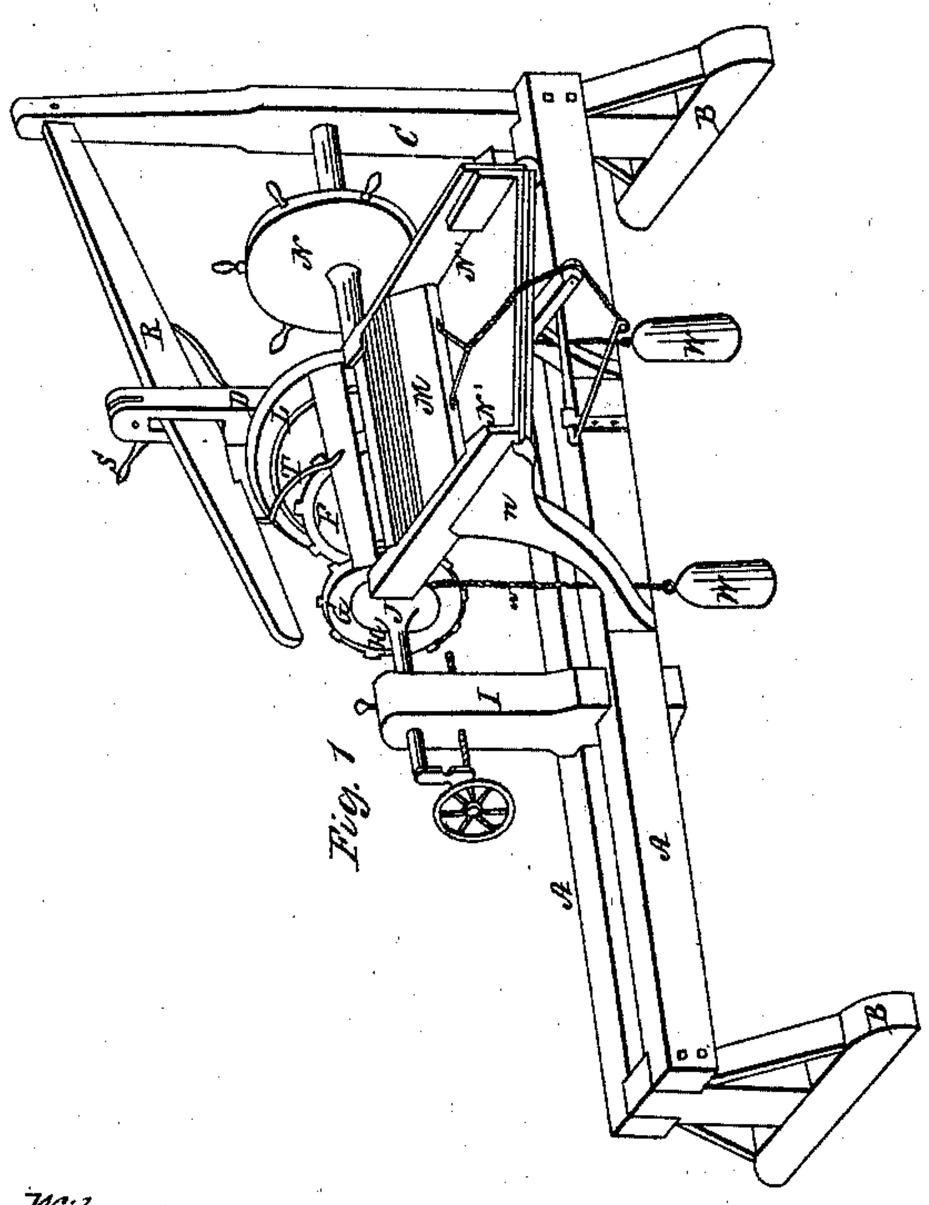


Fig. 1



Witnesses;
Benjamin R Jenkins
Cyrus Sumner

Inventor;
John W. Millet

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. MILLET, OF BATCHELLERVILLE, ASSIGNOR TO BENJAMIN R. JENKINS AND CYRUS SUMNER, OF EDINBURG, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINERY FOR FORMING BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **47,602**, dated May 2, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. MILLET, of Batchellerville, Saratoga county, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Machine for Manufacturing Peach or other Fruit Baskets, which, for peculiarity of construction, novelty, and the perfect manner with which it works, possesses advantages, the nature of which will in the following specification be clearly set forth.

The nature of my invention is as follows:

To two ordinary beams or ways, similar to a lathe, and supported by feet, two upright posts are secured, one situated at one end and the other toward the center. They are equally provided with a journal or bearing, in which an arbor or shaft revolves, and which projects beyond the upright post near the center far enough to receive a conical drum (the size and taper of the basket to be manufactured) provided with a series of channels or grooves on its circumference, corresponding with the number of staves required to make a basket, and having projections between, which keep said staves the proper distance apart. The shaft or arbor projects beyond the conical drum, and has a face-plate or chuck which receives the bottom of the basket. A sliding tail-block with a center plate, operated by a screw and wheel, presses the bottom against pins in the face-plate or chuck, and holds it securely while the basket is being made. A flanged plate is secured to the arbor or shaft, between the conical drum and upright, the size of mouth or opening of basket.

A hand-wheel is secured to the shaft or arbor, between the upright posts, by means of which it revolves. To the top of the outside post a movable lever is bolted, which plays freely through an elongated slot in the inner post, having a spring under said lever to force it up and a cam above to force it down. Near the lower end of said lever, and about the center of conical drum, a spring-guide is secured, which keeps the staves in their proper position while the drum revolves. A movable cradle or rest is supported on strong wooden frames or brackets, and slides horizontally in grooves cut in the same. To and from the conical drum a follower slides in said cradle or rest, and is drawn forward and pressed against the staves placed in front of it by means of weights suspended by cords attached to said follower. It is drawn out by means of a cord attached to the back of said follower, which passes over a guide-pulley and connects onto a rod hinged to the ways. By moving said rod the follower is drawn out until it strikes against catches in the sides of the movable cradle or rest, which then slides back from the conical drum far enough to remove the basket when made.

The operation of the machine is as follows: The rod being raised at one end, the other end is depressed, the follower is drawn back, and a number of staves placed in front of it. The bottom piece of the basket is placed on the chuck and, the sliding tail-block pressed against it. The movable lever is pressed down, and the guide-spring secured to it leads the staves into the notches in the conical drum as it is revolved by means of hand-wheel, said follower being drawn forward by means of weights suspended in front of the same, the hoop being laid in the conical drum. The staves are nailed on in succession as it revolves until the basket is finished, the tail-rest is moved back, the cradle or rest drawn out far enough from the conical drum to remove the basket, when the operation can be repeated.

I have tested my invention and find it well adapted to the purpose designed.

Having thus set forth its nature, and to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe it and certify that the accompanying drawings are a full and correct representation of the same, like letters corresponding with like parts.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the machine. Fig. 2 is an end view with section of conical drum and cradle or rest. Fig. 3 is a plan of the same.

A A represent the beams or ways, secured to the feet B B′; C, the end upright; D, the other upright post; E, the arbor or shaft, which turns on a journal or bearing in each upright post; F, the conical drum, provided with channels or grooves *f f f f* around its circumference, and with projecting hubs between, (marked *g g g g*;) G, the face-plate or chuck, against which the bottom of the basket is pressed by means of tail-rest I and center plate, J, with the screw or hand-wheel K.

L is the flange-plate, on which the mouth or opening of the basket is formed; M, the follower, which slides in the movable rest N, supported on brackets or frames *n n*, and sliding in and out on grooves in the same.

W W′ are weights, secured by cords *n n*, attached to the follower M, which is drawn out by means of the cord P, attached to the back and connected to a rod, Q, hinged to the ways A.

By means of the rod Q at one end the cord is depressed and the follower N′ drawn out. The staves are then put in. The weights W W draw them up against the conical drum F. The movable lever R is then lowered by the cam S, and the guide-spring T, attached thereto, keeps the staves in position while the drum revolves.

I claim—

1. The conical drum F, provided with the channels or grooves *f f f f* and alternate projections *g g g g*, in combination with the chuck G and flange-plate L, substantially as shown.

2. The follower M in the movable rest, pressed against the movable drum by means of weights, in the manner described.

3. The vibrating lever R and the guide-spring T, substantially and for the purpose specified.

JOHN W. MILLET.

Witnesses:

E. D. ELLITHORP,

CYRUS SUMNER.