

J. W. Barber,

Tobacco Press.

N^o 55,759.

Patented June 19, 1866.

Fig. 1.

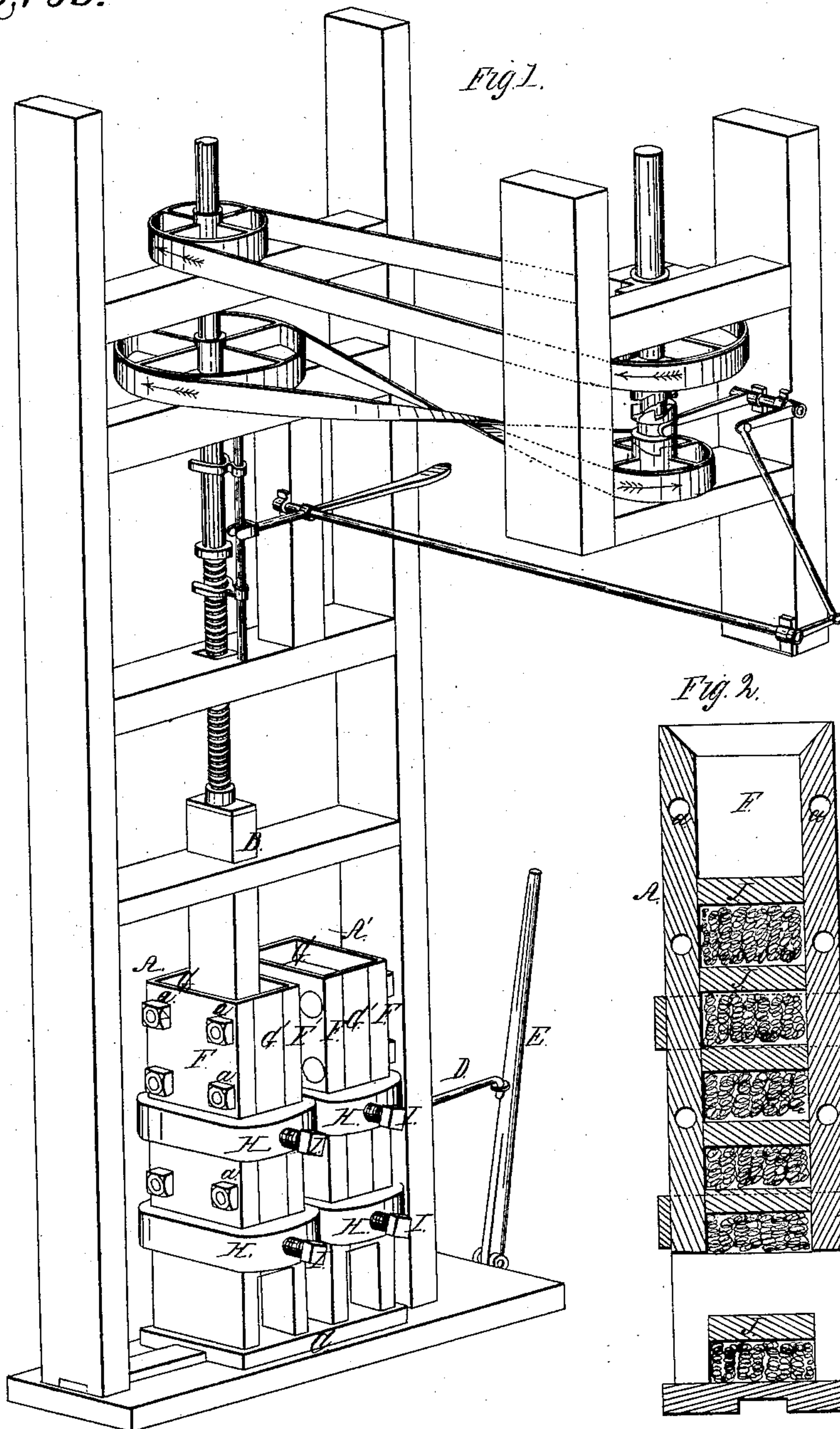
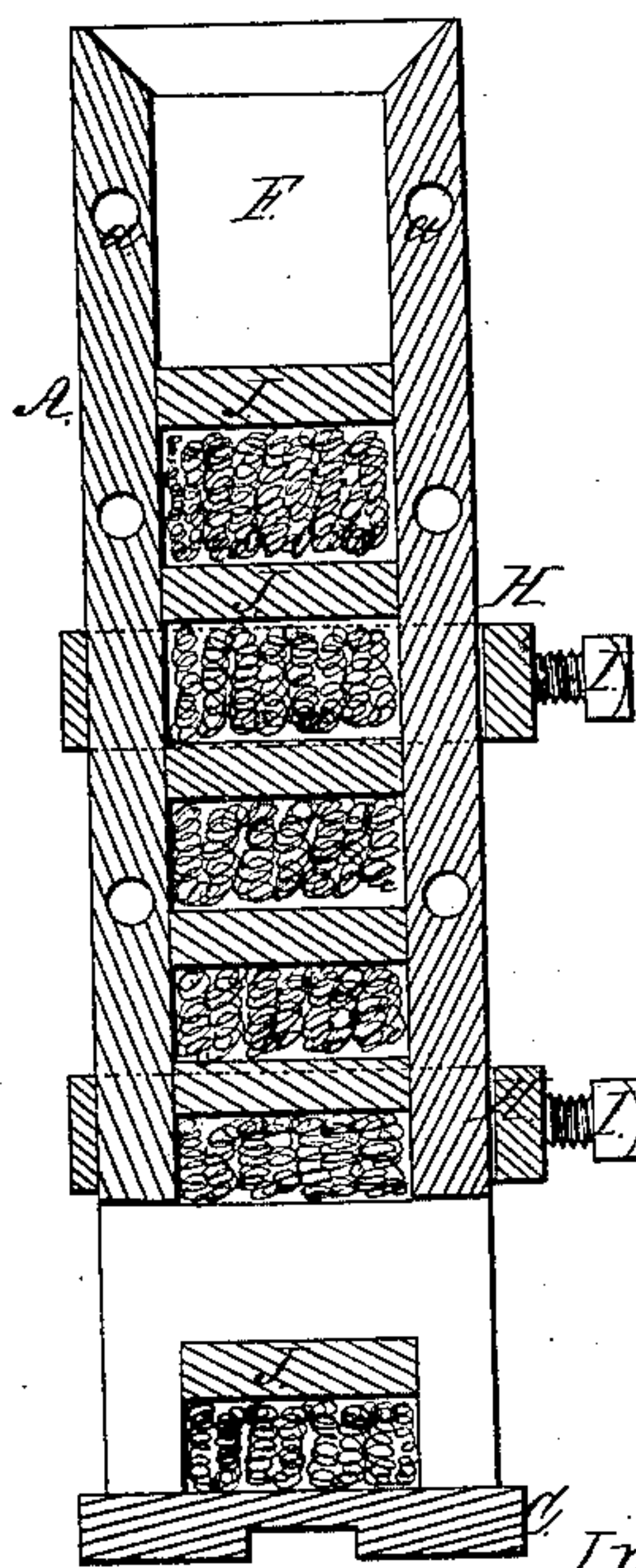


Fig. 2.



*Witnesses;
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. BARBER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
ELISHA P. STOUT, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOBACCO-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,759, dated June 19, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. BARBER, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Mode of Pressing Tobacco; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention relates to a device for baling or pressing tobacco into blocks or slabs of size and shape adapted for convenient carriage in the pocket or otherwise; and it consists in the provision, in connection with a suitable reciprocating packing-plunger, of a bottomless box, trunk, or cylinder, whose transverse section corresponds with the required shape of the blocks of tobacco, the plunger fitting snugly to and being reciprocated within only a small part of the length of the box, the box receiving a charge of tobacco and a follower to separate the blocks at each stroke of the plunger, the tobacco, in passing through the portion of the box not traversed by the plunger, being retarded by the friction against its sides, so as, while slowly descending, to form a gradually-yielding bottom or abutment, to co-operate with the pressing action of the plunger, the lowest stratum of the resisting mass escaping at the open bottom of the box in the form and condition of a completely pressed block at each stroke of the plunger.

My invention further consists of certain devices whereby the pressure upon the blocks of tobacco may be regulated at will.

My invention further relates to a provision whereby two cylinders can be operated by the same plunger, one being charged while the other is pressing.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tobacco-packing press embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an axial section of a packing-box.

A A' are the packing trunks or boxes. B is a vertically-reciprocating plunger. The boxes A A' are attached to a common sliding frame, C, which is connected by rod D to a lever, E. By the action of the lever E either of the boxes can be moved immediately under and be operated upon by the plunger B, one being charged with tobacco while the other is being pressed. The use of two cylinders obviates the necessity of stopping the plunger at the top of its stroke for the purpose of charging.

The sides F F' and G G' of the pressing-boxes may be of wood or other suitable material, and are connected by bolts *a*, the bolt-holes in the sides G' being slotted (see Fig. 2) to allow of said sides being expanded or contracted by means of bands H and set-screws I, so as to regulate the pressure on the tobacco. The sides G G' are made shorter than the sides F F', in order to leave an opening for the removal of the pressed tobacco. J are followers, of wood or other suitable material, one of which is placed in the trunk with each charge of tobacco to separate the packages.

In the pressing action of the plunger B about one-third only of the depth of the trunk is traversed by the plunger, the friction of the tobacco against the sides of the trunk in its passage through the remaining portion being sufficient to cause it to be tightly compressed into the required thickness and density before escaping at the open bottom, and at the same time to constitute a gradually-yielding abutment to co-operate with the contrary action of the plunger above. At each stroke of the plunger B the trunk is charged with tobacco and a follower, and a compressed block and follower are discharged at the other end.

To commence operation with a new machine, the trunks are filled about as seen in Fig. 2, by hand-pressure or otherwise, a temporary bottom being applied to cause the blocks to receive the required form and pressure before the plunger B is brought into operation.

In Fig. 1 devices are illustrated for operating the plunger which are reserved for a distinct application for Letters Patent.

I claim herein as new and of my invention—

1. In the described combination with a reciprocating plunger, the bottomless pressing box or trunk, substantially as set forth.

2. In combination with the elements of the clause next preceding, the bands H and set-screws I, or their equivalents.

3. The arrangement of two or more shiftable pressing-trunks, adapted to be brought alternately or successively in connection with a single plunger.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

JAMES W. BARBER.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,
JAMES H. LAYMAN.