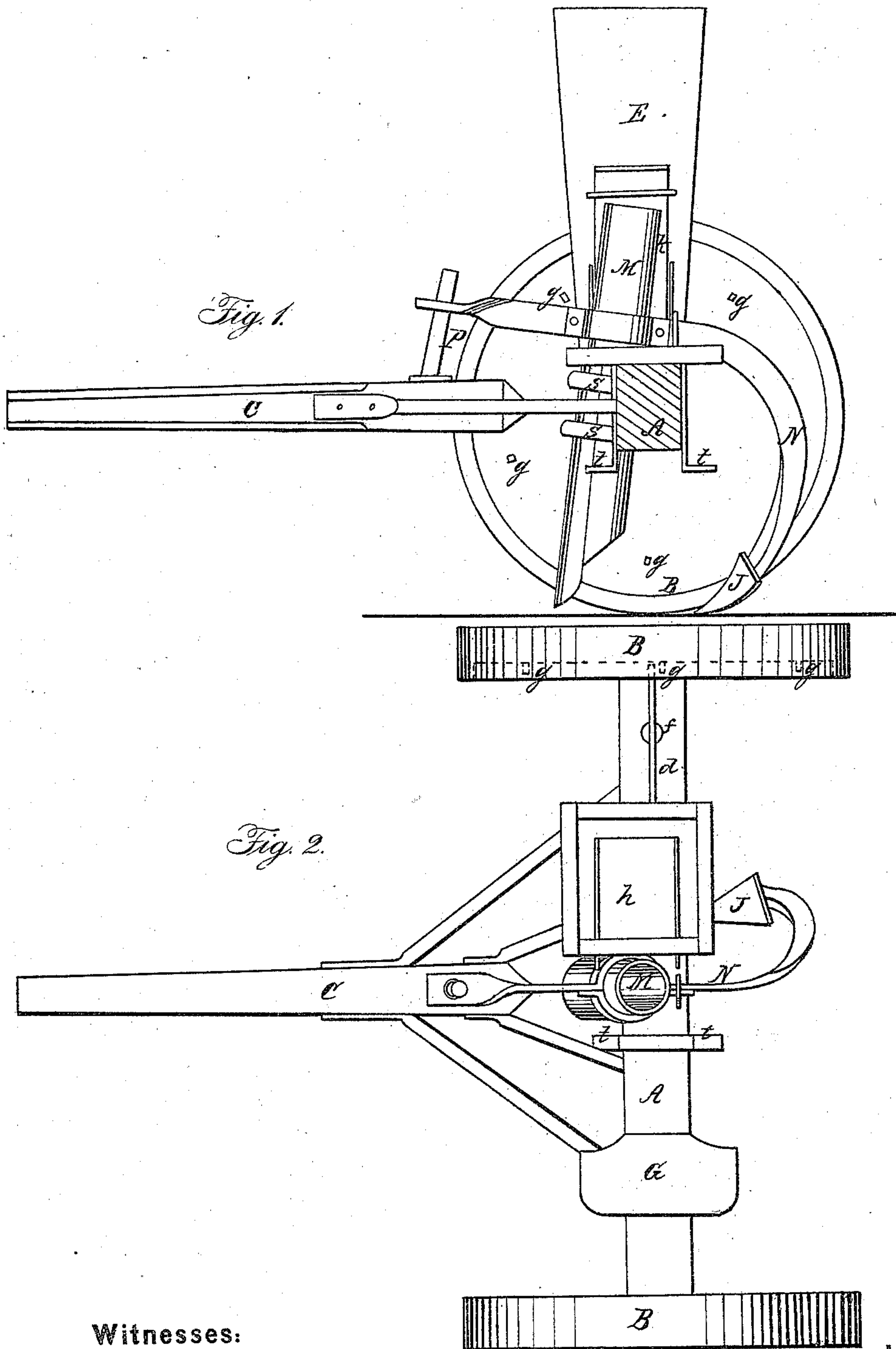


J. CROCO.

Potato-Planter.

No 58,385.

Patented Oct. 2, 1866.



Witnesses:

John P. Jacobs
Wm Alexander

Inventor:

J. Croco
per J. H. Alexander Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN CROCO, OF HOLMESVILLE, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN POTATO-DRILLS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 58,385, dated October 2, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN CROCO, of Holmesville, Holmes county, in the State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Potato-Drills; and I hereby declare that the following is a true, full, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 in the drawings annexed represents a side elevation of my machine with one wheel removed. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same.

The body of my drill consists of the axle A, the wheels B, and the tongue C. Near one end of the axle A, and on its upper surface, is placed the hopper-shaped box E, which is designed to receive the seed-potatoes. The hopper E is secured to the axle A by means of one or more metal plates, which are screwed to the side of the hopper and also to the axle-tree. In the side of hopper E nearest to the wheel an opening is made to receive the spring *d*, which is edgewise into two uprights, *f*—one being inside of the hopper, and the other between the hopper and the wheel B. The outer end of spring *d* extends nearly to the wheel B, and as the wheel revolves catches against the metal knobs *g*, which are arranged at stated distances on the face of wheel B. On the side opposite to the spring *d* a lateral opening is made in hopper E, into which is inserted the spout *h*, the spout being sufficiently inclined to allow of a free discharge of the potatoes from the hopper E.

In order to regulate the discharge of the seed a metal slide, *k*, is used, by the action of which the spout *h* can be opened or closed at pleasure.

Midway of the axle A is placed the cylindrical spout M, which is supported near its center by the iron bands *s*, the ends of the

bands being driven securely into the axle A.

N represents an iron bar, the rear end of which curves downward and serves as a shank or standard for the shovel J. The horizontal portion of bar N extends in the direction of the tongue, and midway of its length has another bar riveted to it, the two bars being bent so as to form a circle and receive the spout M. The end of bar N which extends over the tongue is perforated to receive the bolt P, by which it is kept firmly in position.

When it is desired to raise the shovel J out of the ground the bar N can be operated by the hands of the driver, and elevated to the required height.

G represents the operator's seat, and is arranged so that he must sit facing the tube M and the hopper E, with his feet bearing on the two rests *t*. Being thus seated, he can with one hand regulate the slide *k*, and with the other receive the seed as it falls from the spout *h*, and drop it at the signal made by the spring *d* as it passes over each successive knob *g*. By this mode of operation the process of planting potatoes is greatly facilitated and the seed always dropped at the same distance apart.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The hopper E, the spout M, the bar N, the spring *d*, and knobs *g*, the whole constructed and arranged as and for the purpose herein specified.

In testimony that I acknowledge the foregoing as my own I hereby affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN CROCO.

Witnesses:

JAMES TAYLOR,
JAS. B. TAYLOR.