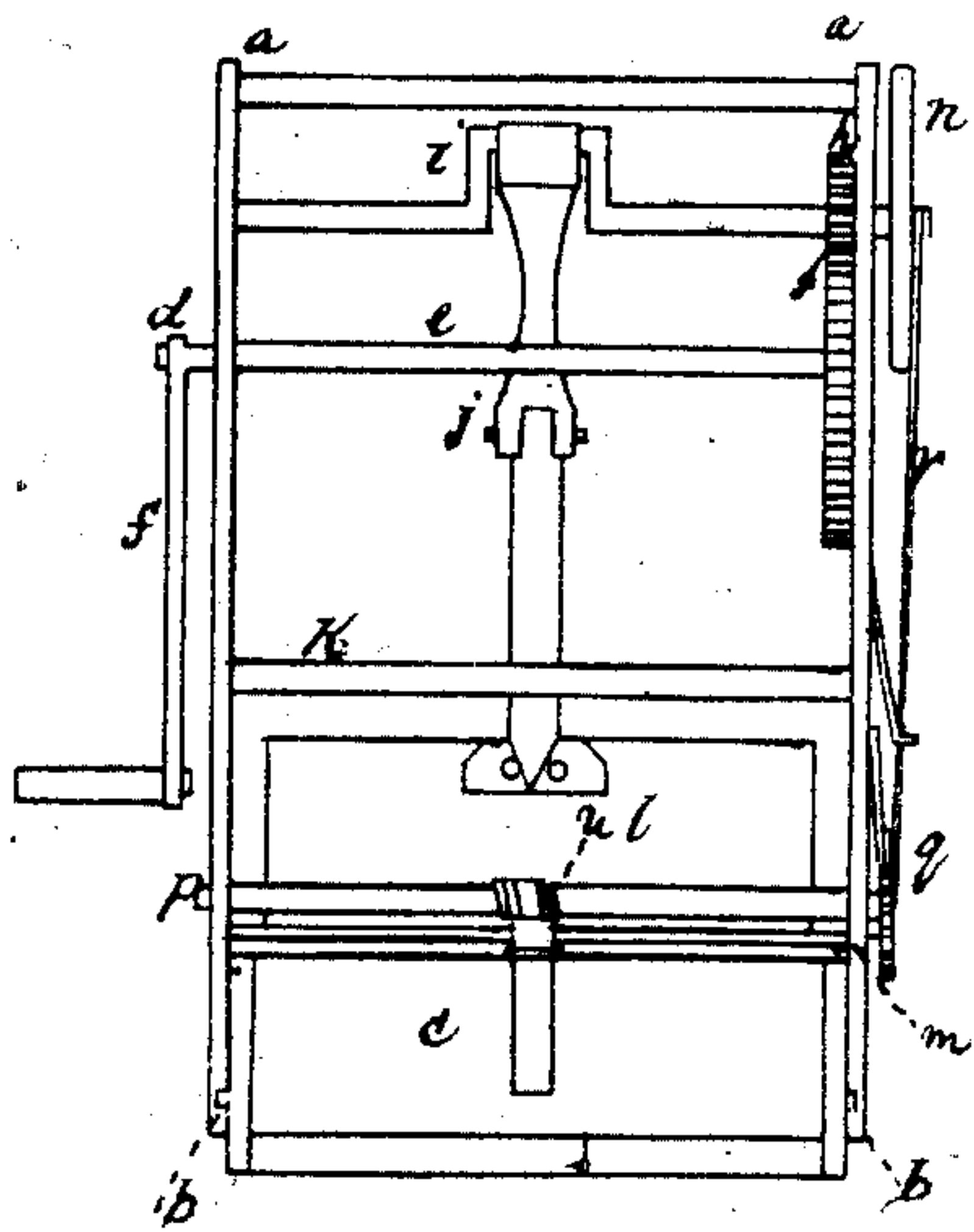


*N. L. Hatch.*  
*Meat-Chopper.*

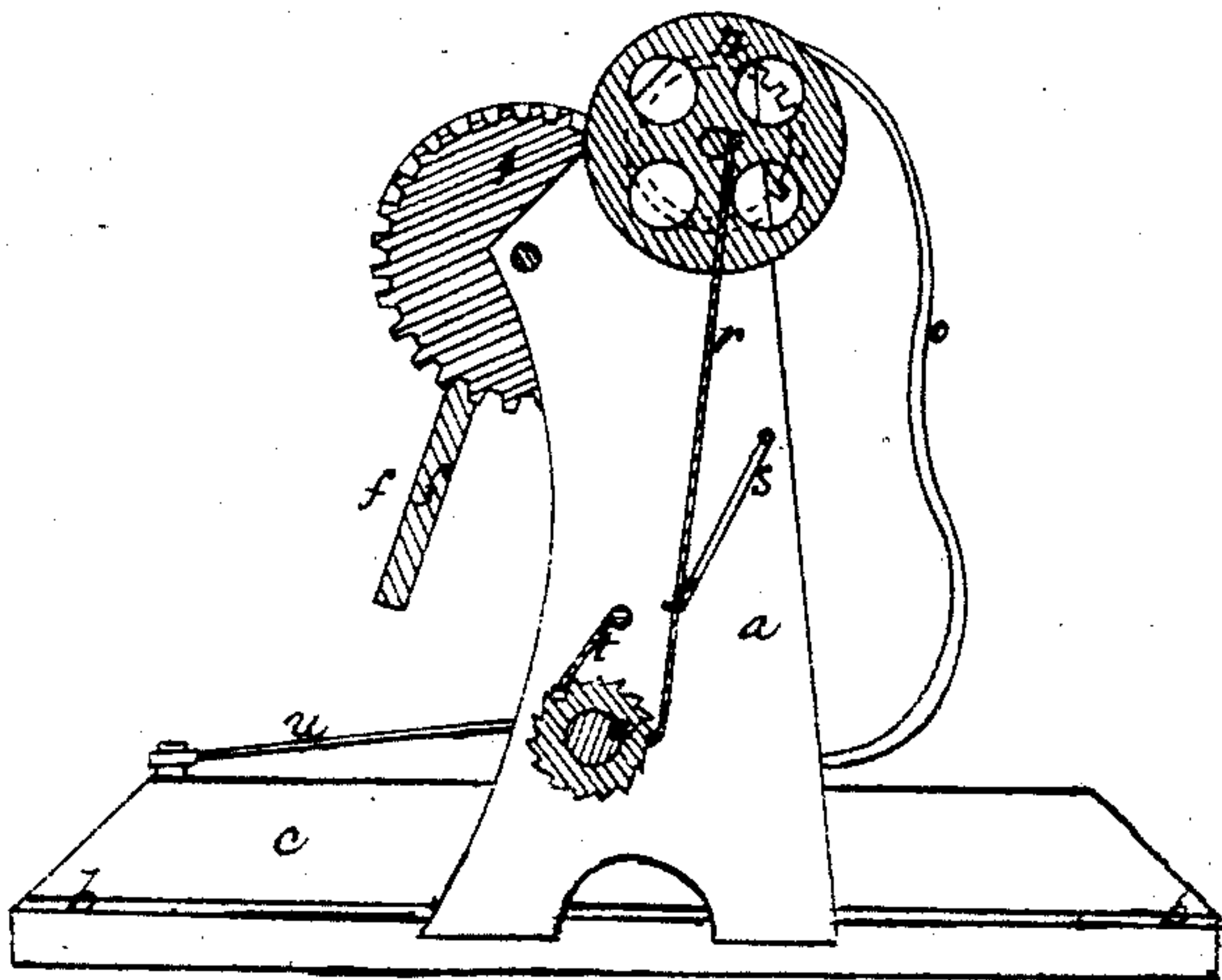
*N<sup>o</sup> 76187*

*Patented Mar. 31, 1868.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witness.*

*Henry C. Houston*  
*Wm. Frank Seavey*

*Inventor*

*N. L. Hatch Per atty W. H. Clifford*

# United States Patent Office.

NEHEMIAH L. HATCH, OF CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF  
AND J. W. GAVETT, OF SAME PLACE.

*Letters Patent No. 76,187, dated March 31, 1868.*

## IMPROVED MEAT-CHOPPER.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, NEHEMIAH L. HATCH, of Cape Elizabeth, in the county of Cumberland, and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improved Meat-Chopper; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows an end elevation.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same.

The object of my invention is to supply a simple and effective device for cutting or chopping meat and other articles of like nature. In hotels and large eating and boarding-houses such a utensil is of great benefit. Those in common use are complicated and costly, and are both liable to become out of repair, and also quite difficult to keep clean while in working condition.

The description of the figures is as follows: At *a*, fig. 1, is shown the frame of the cutter, which moves upon tracks *b*, on the outside of the tray *c*. Through this frame *a*, at *d*, is passed a shaft, *e*, to one end of which is attached a crank, *f*, and to the other a large geared wheel, *g*. This wheel *g* meshes into a smaller gear, *h*, which drives the knife, by means of the crank-shaft *i*, attached to the jointed driving-arm *j*. This arm is passed through the bar *k*, to give increased steadiness, and the knife *l* plays through a slot in a guide-frame, *m*, attached to the main frame *a*, and moving with it, by which means the knife is cleared from all remnants of the meat, &c., which would otherwise cling to the blade, but which, by the operation of this device, fall back into the tray. Steadiness is given to the motion of the machine by a balance-wheel, *n*, attached to the crank-shaft. By means of the handle *o*, on the frame *a*, it can be moved as desired, carrying with it the knife and the gears.

The operation of my invention is as follows: Grasp the handle *o*, and give revolution to the crank *f*, moving with it the gears and knife; at a greater or less degree of speed, as may be desired. Move the frame *a* along the tracks on the tray, by means of the handle, over every portion of the meat, &c., until it is chopped as fine as may be wished. The frame, gears, &c., may be removed entirely from the tray when not in use, if desired.

In order to render the whole operation automatic, I make an attachment to the frame *a*, which I will now describe.

A shaft, *p*, passes through the lower portion of the frame, having at one end a ratchet, *q*. A pawl, *r*, is attached eccentrically to the balance-wheel *n*, and passes through a spring guiding-arm *s*. This moves the ratchet *q* one tooth for every revolution of the balance-wheel, and the ratchet imparts such motion to the shaft *p*. A catch-pawl, *t*, keeps the ratchet in place, and retains it there. To the shaft *p* is attached a cord, *u*, having at one end a ring, *v*, which is placed over a post, *w*, at one end of the tray.

The operation is as follows: When the wheels are revolved, the pawl *r* moves the ratchet, which revolves the shaft, and winds up the cord *u*. This draws the frame, gears, and knife forward longitudinally over the tray, on the rails *b*, without any assistance from the handle. When the frame has thus travelled the length of the tray, and the cord is wound up, the ring *v* is removed from the post by the winding of the cord lifting it therefrom. The frame may be then slipped back to the opposite end of the tray, the cord unwound, and the operation repeated.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The sliding frame *a*, with crank *f*, shaft *e*, gears *g* *h*, crank-shaft *i*, jointed driving-rod *j*, balance-wheel *n*, and handle *o*, in combination with the railed tray, substantially as described.
2. The sliding frame *a*, with the shafts *e* and *i*, crank *f*, gears *h* *g*, knife *l*, and jointed rod *j*, in conjunction with wheel *n*, pawl *r*, spring-rod *s*, pawl *t*, ratchet *q*, shaft *p*, cord *u*, and post, all in combination with the railed tray, as and for the purposes set forth.

NEHEMIAH L. HATCH.

Witnesses:

W. H. CLIFFORD,

WM. FRANK SEAVEY.