

T. H. Wible.

Corn-Planter.

N^o 76282

Patented Mar. 31, 1868.

Fig. 3.

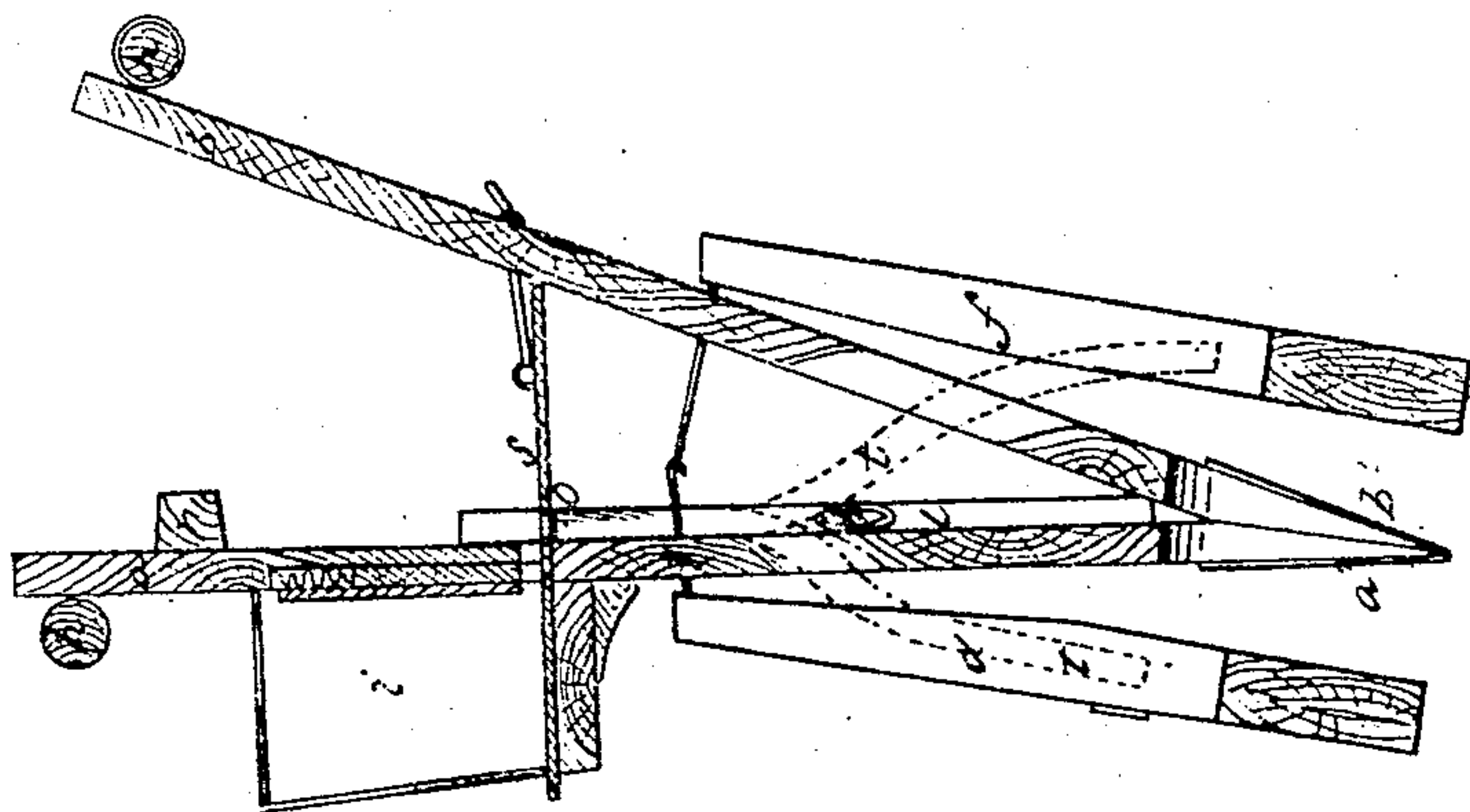


Fig. 2.

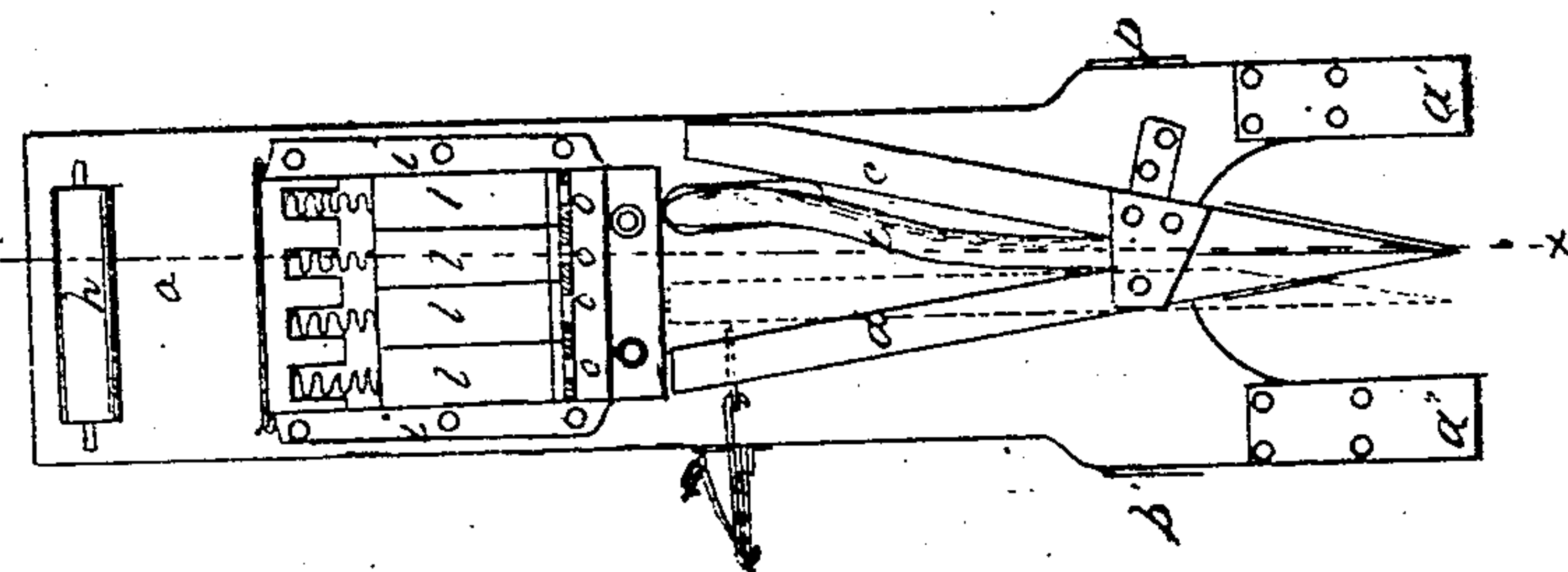


Fig. 4.

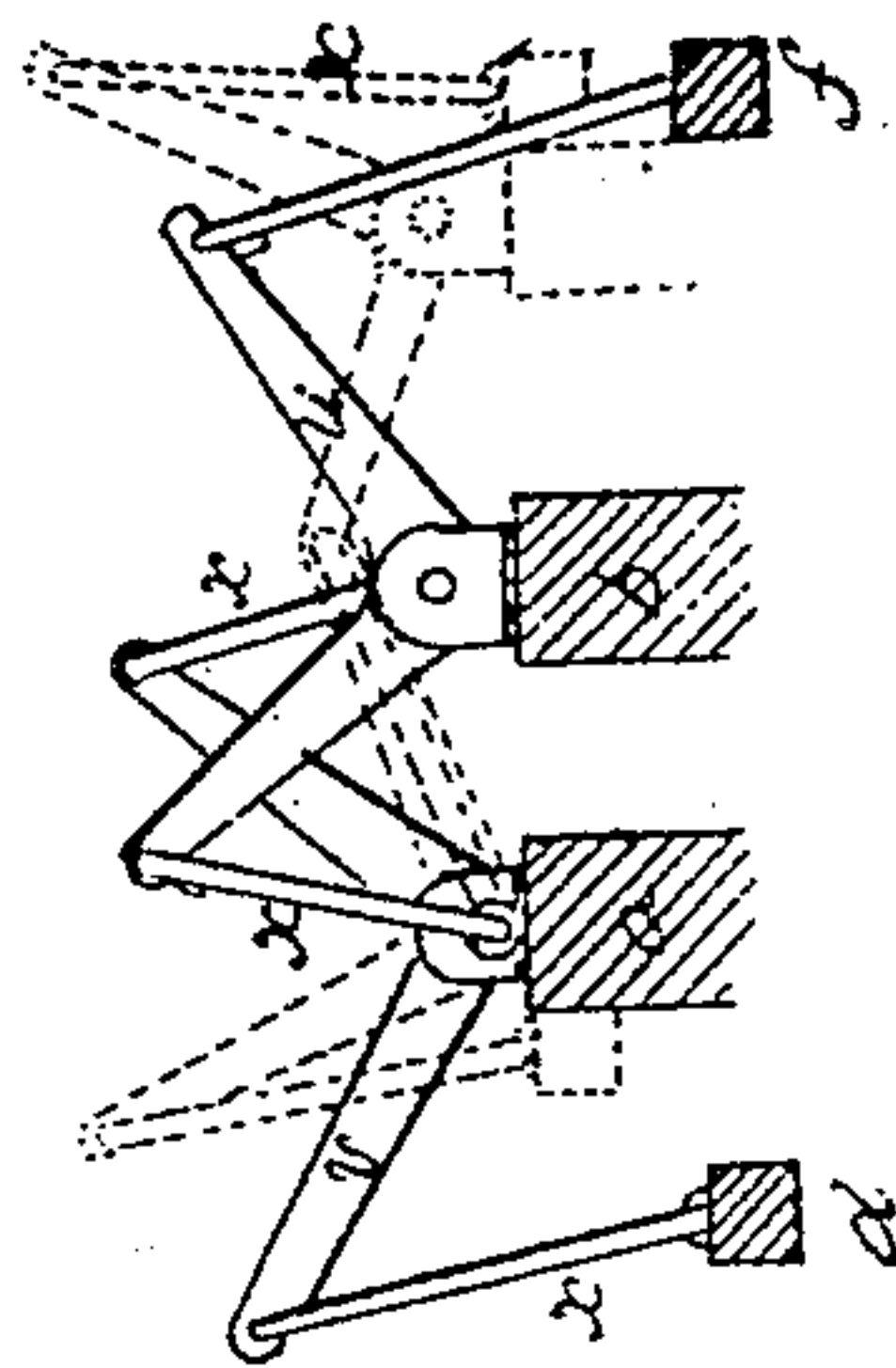
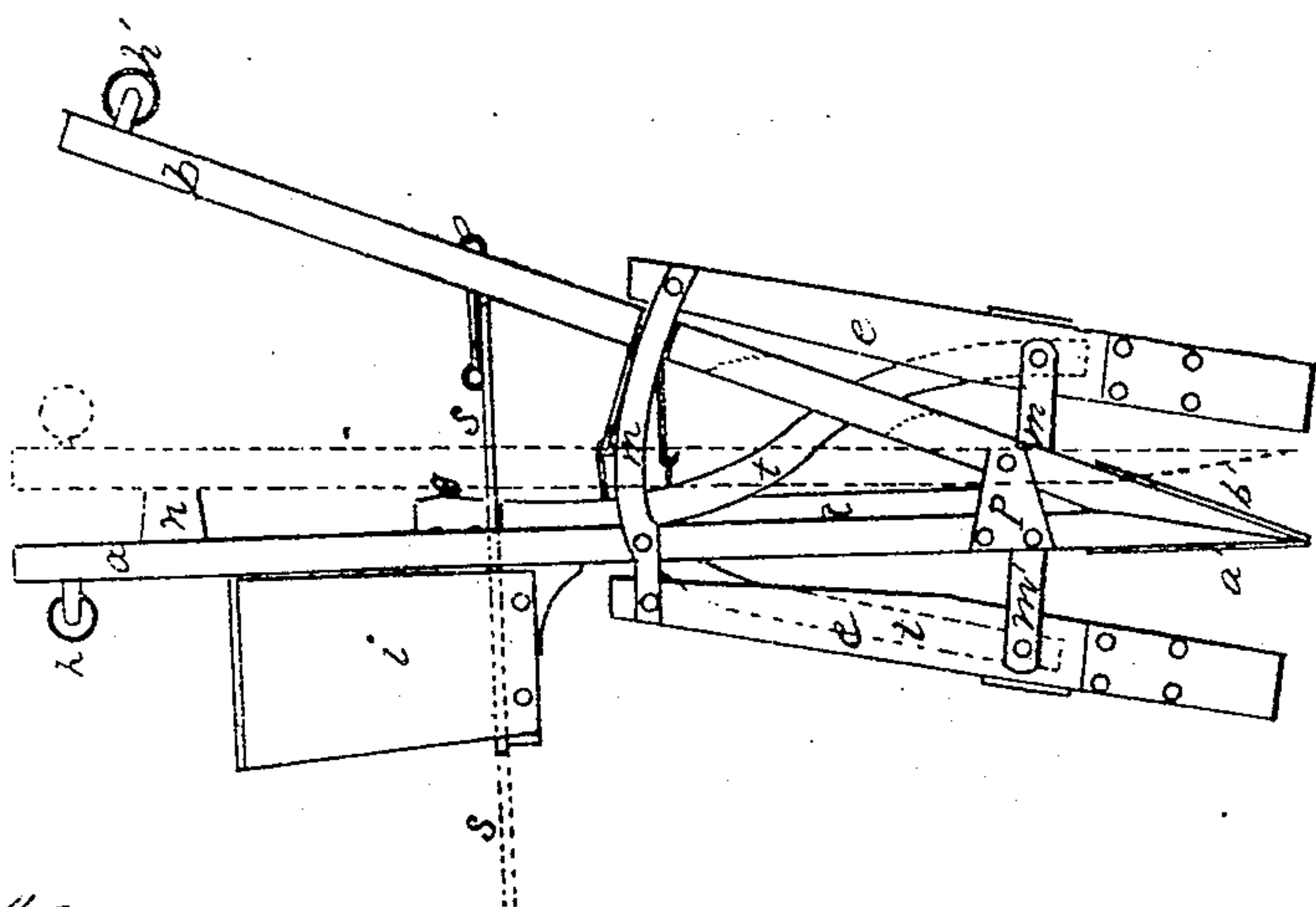


Fig. 1.



Witnesses
R. N. Morris
S. S. Marry.

Inventor
Thomas H. Wible

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS H. WIBLE, OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 76,282, dated March 31, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORN-PLANTER.

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

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. WIBLE, of the city of Quincy, in the county of Adams, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful machine for dropping and planting corn, which I call "The Gem Corn-Dropper and Planter;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view,

Figure 2 a side view,

Figure 3 a vertical section of fig. 2, in the line $x x$, and

Figure 4 a top view of the rods and levers used to communicate motion to the several parts.

The machine is a "hand-planter," constructed, arranged, and operated as hereinafter described, for the purpose of depositing grains of corn or other seed in separate holes, at fixed distances, in each hill, with ease and certainty.

a and b are bifurcated jaws, connected near their lower extremities by means of plates $p p'$, in which the jaw b is pivoted. The points $a^1 a^2$ and $b^1 b^2$, which enter the ground, are plated with metal on their outsides, and are bevelled on their interior surfaces, so as to fit together when closed. They also have concavities to direct the course of the seed.

Two other pairs of jaws, $c d$ and $e f$, are placed, one on each side of $a b$, and at right angles thereto, in such a manner that their points, when closed, shall be in the same plane, and their relative positions those of the angles of a square. The jaws c and e are fixed, parallel to each other, to the edge of a , by means of the cross-bars $m m'$. The jaws a , c , and e , and their appurtenances, may be considered relatively to b , d , and f , as the stationary parts of the machine, and the latter as the movable parts.

Handles $h h'$ are attached to the upper ends of a and b in any convenient manner, but when arranged as shown in the drawings, conform to the natural position of the hands, and enable them to operate the machine without undue strain upon the wrists.

A seed-box or reservoir, i , is fixed to the jaw a , having a dropping-slide, s , of the full width of its bottom, passing freely through horizontal slots. This slide, in the present instance, has four conveying-holes, o , of a size suitable to carry one grain of corn or other seed, and is attached by a hook or hinged fastening to the jaw b . When b is separated from a to its fullest extent, the slide s is drawn out of the box i , bringing the holes immediately over the upper end of the four tubes t , which lead respectively to the lower portions of the jaws $a b$, $c d$, and $e f$. The back of the box i is removed in fig. 2, for the purpose of showing four cut-off slides, l , let into the thickness of the jaw a , and held down by light spiral springs. The function of these slides is to prevent the passage of more than one grain in each hole, but if by accident two grains should get wedged into one hole, or the corn should get edgeways, or be of extra size, they yield and let it pass, thus preventing jamming or injury to the machine.

A guard, g , is secured above the holes o , to prevent waste, should any grains pass accidentally beyond the holes. A stop-block, n , is fixed on the inside of a , to prevent the tops of a and b from approaching too closely. The slide s can be substituted by others with sets of holes suitable for different kinds of grain. The movement of the jaw b from or towards the stationary jaw a gives motion to a system of crank-levers, u and v , and rods x , shown in fig. 4 in both positions, which cause the movable jaws d and f to assume, respectively, in relation to the stationary jaws, c and e , the same relative position that b assumes towards a , and at the same time. I thus, by means of the movement given by the hand of the operator to the jaw b , cause the four pairs of points to open or close simultaneously.

Among the important advantages realized in this machine is, the planting of each grain of seed in a separate hole, at a certain fixed distance from the others in the same hill, thereby preventing the most advanced stalks from crowding and impeding the development of those in the same hill which may germinate later than the others.

In operation, the planter is grasped in both hands by the handles h . a and b are separated, a grain of seed drops into each tube, and passes down to the lower portion of the jaws, which, being closed, prevent them from passing through. It is then thrust vertically into the ground to a proper depth, the hands are brought

together, opening the jaws, widening the bottom of the holes made by the points, and dropping the seed therein. The hands are drawn apart after the points leave the ground, causing four other grains to pass down. The man advances, and the operation is repeated for the next hill. The walls of the holes being vertical, or nearly so, when the points are lifted out, they will naturally fall in and cover the seed.

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

A hand-planter, constructed and arranged substantially in the manner described, so as to deposit four grains of corn or other seed in one hill, each in a separate hole, and at fixed distances from each other, by one positive motion, as herein specified.

THOMAS H. WIBLE.

Witnesses:

I. N. MORRIS,

MARY A. MORRIS.