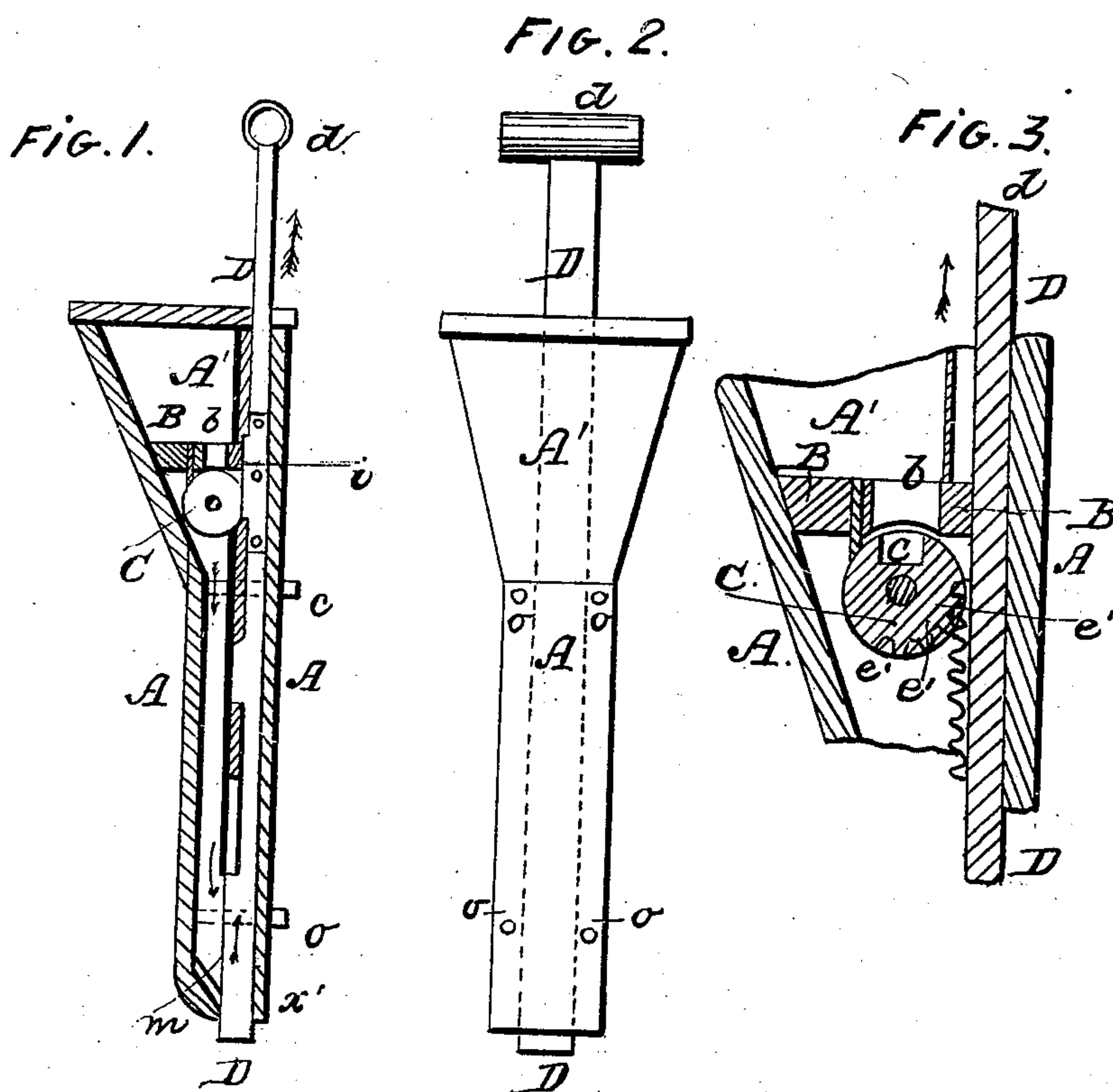


J. ELBERTSON.

Corn Planter.

No. 77,807.

Patented May 12, 1868.



WITNESSES

S. C. Kenon
C. A. Pettit

INVENTOR

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JOHN ELBERTSON, OF KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI.

Letters Patent No. 77,807, dated May 12, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORN-PLANTER.

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, JOHN ELBERTSON, of Kirksville, in the county of Adair, and State of Missouri, have invented a new and improved Corn-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 annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical cross-section,

Figure 2 a side elevation, and

Figure 3 a detached view, in vertical section.

In this invention the corn is planted by an instrument which can be carried in one hand and used in the manner of a cane. The device is intended to facilitate the work of planting or dropping the seed, and to obviate the necessity of stooping for that purpose.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the instrument, being a tube three or four feet in length, and surmounted with a small hopper, A'. The latter is provided with a bottom, B, having a small hole, *b*, by means of which the corn in the hopper escapes and drops through the tube to its lower end.

C is a roller directly under the aperture *b*, and provided with a recess, *c*, operating in connection with said aperture, to receive the kernels of corn from the hopper above, and convey them in the proper quantity and at the proper time to the tube below.

D is a vertical slide, which extends from the lower extremity of the tube A to a point several inches above the hopper, terminating in a handle, *d*, by which the whole instrument is held and carried when in operation. The inner side of the slide is provided with a rack, *e*, operating in connection with a segment-gear, *e'*, on the side or end of the roller C, as seen in fig. 3. The roller being in the position shown in fig. 3, when the instrument is lifted by the handle *d*, the slide D rises, and the rack *e* turns the roller until the recess *c* discharges whatever corn may have lodged in it. A suitable stop, *f*, prevents the slide D from working up or down too far.

The rack *e* being attached to the slide D, so that its teeth project inward from one of its edges, the other edge of the slide has a plate, *i*, attached to it, and projecting inward like the rack, except that its front edge is straight. This plate is so arranged on the slide that, when the latter is in the position shown in fig. 1, the plate comes against a part of the roller C that is cut away so as to form a straight edge, and when thus in contact with the roller, prevents the latter from rotating; but when the slide is forced down or up, so far that the plate *i* is thrown out of connection with the flat side of the roller, the latter is free to revolve. This holds the roller in place when the instrument is not in use, and at that part of its operation when it is not desirable that the roller should move, and at the same time leaves it free to turn whenever it is necessary for it to do so, and the rack *e*, operating in connection with the plate *i*, rotates the roller precisely at the time when the plate leaves it free to move.

At the lower end of the tube A is a curved and inclined spring, *m*, which, when the slide D is drawn up, extends across the cavity of the tube, and prevents the corn that is dropped by the roller C from escaping from the tube. The corn thus intercepted, and held by the spring, lodges at the point *x x'*, fig. 1, the slide D being drawn up out of the way, and its lower end being immediately over the corn thus held by the spring. Now when the operator places the lower end of the instrument in a hill or furrow prepared to receive the seed, and presses down upon the handle *d*, the lower end of the slide comes down on the corn, and pressing the spring *m* back, forces the seed out of the tube A into the hill or furrow. At the same time, while the slide is doing this, the rack *e* brings the roller back into the position shown in fig. 3, so that the recess *c* can receive the seed for another hill.

The moment that the corn has thus been forced out of the tube, and the roller set for another charge, the operator steps forward, lifts the instrument as he would his cane, and sets it down where he wants another hill of corn. In lifting it he raises the slide, rotates the roller, and closes the spring *m* against the point *x'*, delivering another charge of corn from the hopper to the lower end of the tube, and holding it in the latter position

ready to be thrust into the hill when the instrument is set down again, as before described. It will be evident, from this brief description, that the operation of this instrument is exceedingly simple and convenient, and that it will enable a laborer to accomplish much more than when planting by hand without it.

The instrument is so constructed that it can be readily taken apart. By removing the pins *o o*, and taking off the hopper *A'*, the whole apparatus will come to pieces readily, and if out of order in any way can at once be put into working operation again.

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

1. The combination of the rack *e*, gear *e'*, plate *i*, and roller *C* having one flat edge, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In combination with the parts above referred to, I claim the slide *D* and tube *A*, when all said parts are constructed and arranged so as to operate together in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

To the above specification of my invention, I have signed my hand, this 25th day of February, 1868.

JOHN ELBERTSON.

Witnesses:

S. C. KEMON,

CHAS. A. PETTIT.