

W. C. Banks,

Cotton Press.

No. 95,631.

Patented Oct. 12, 1869.

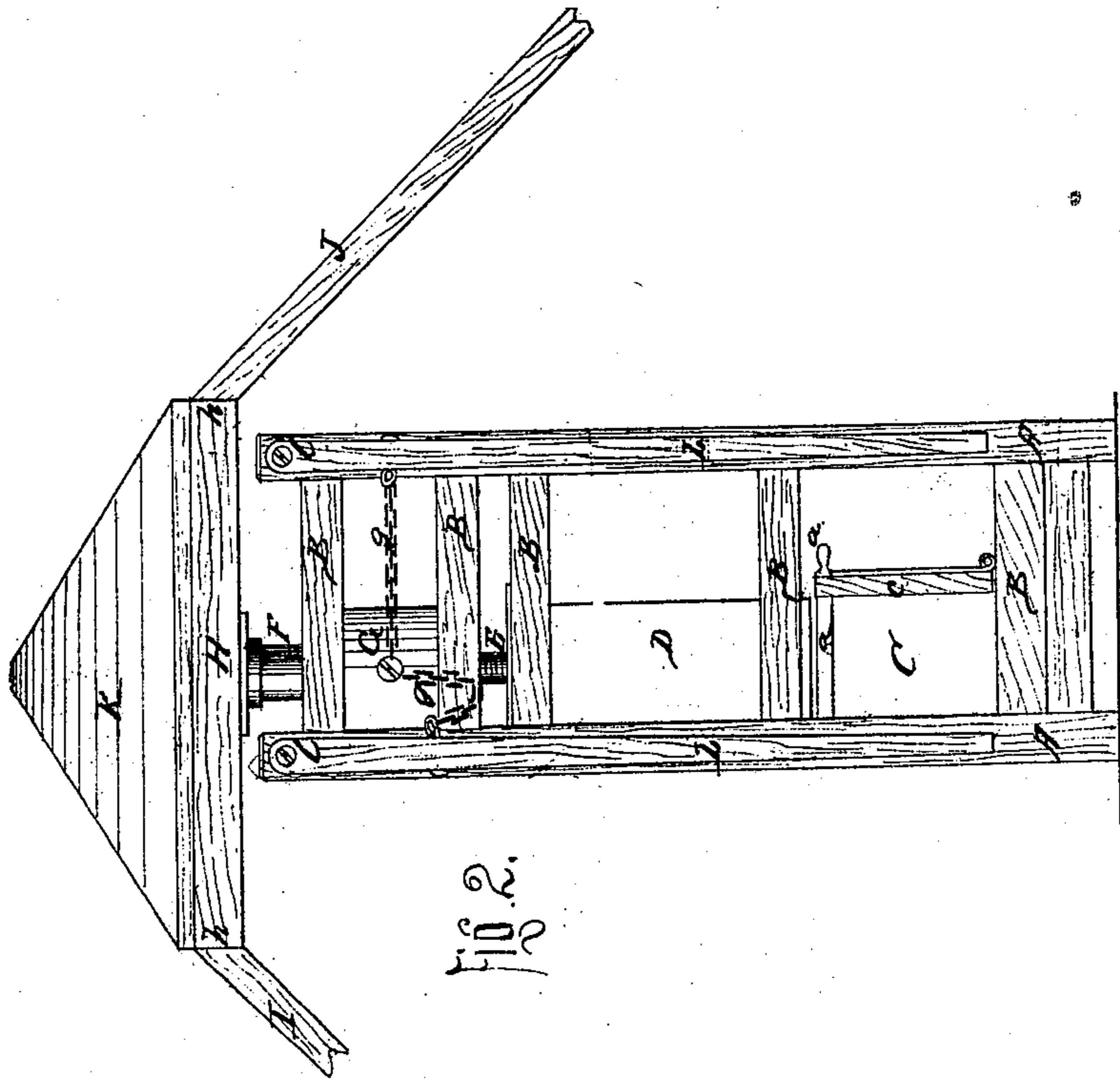


FIG. 2.

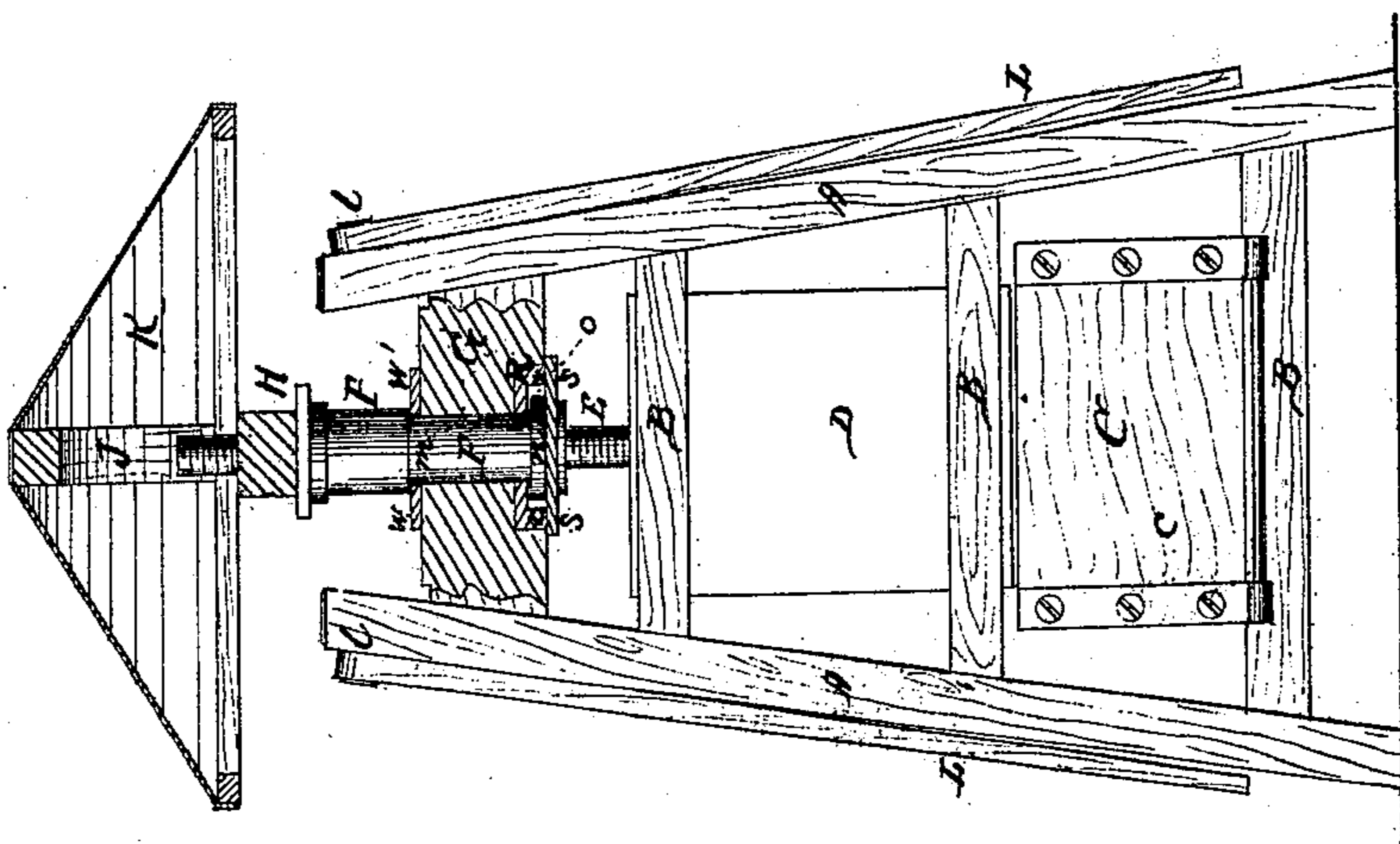


FIG. 1.

Witnesses:

L. A. Pettit  
S. C. K. Quinn

Inventor:

W. C. Banks  
by *Almon H. C.*  
Attorney.

# United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM C. BANKS, OF COMO DEPOT, MISSISSIPPI.

Letters Patent No. 95,631, dated October 12, 1869.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HAY AND COTTON-PRESSES.

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, WILLIAM C. BANKS, of Como Depot, in the county of Panola, and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and improved Cotton and Hay-Press; 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 a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view, showing a portion in section.

Figure 2 is a side view.

This invention relates to that form of press patented by W. C. Banks, June 18, 1867, No. 65,865, the essential principle of which is, that the block that supports the screw is capable of being moved aside when the platen is raised, so as to leave the top of the press-box unobstructed.

This invention relates to an improved arrangement for operating the movable supporting-block referred to.

In the drawings—

A represents the four corner-posts of the frame;

B B, the cross-beams uniting said posts;

C, the press-box, in which the bale is formed;

c c, the hinged sides of the press-box, held together by rods a a, made thin and flat, and provided with a head at each end, the flat thin blade sinking into an open slot in the edge of the doors c c, and the heads coming against their outer faces, so as to prevent them from opening.

D, the conducting-tube above the press-box, through which the platen passes, up and down;

E, a screw-rod, rigidly fixed to the platen, so as not to be capable of turning;

F, a rotating screw-nut, surrounding a portion of the screw-rod, and, by its rotations, moving the rod up or down;

G, the supporting-beam, hereinbefore referred to, which sustains the screw-nut F, and furnishes it a bearing;

H, a beam, attached to the screw-nut, for the purpose of affording means to turn it in its bearings;

I J, two inclined sweeps, connected together at their upper ends, directly over the screw-rods, where a hole is provided, to allow it to rise through them, and attached to the outer ends of beam H, at h h;

K, the awning or canopy, supported on a frame attached to sweeps I J and beam H; and

L L L L, four levers, pivoted to the posts A A, at l l, and connected to the ends of beam G by means of chains g g, by which the beam G can be slid from one

side to the other, so as to bring the platen to any desired position.

When not in use, the levers hang vertically, as shown, being entirely out of the way, and not encumbering the instrument, either in appearance, or in fact.

The construction of the screw-nut F and its bearings is as follows:

A groove, m, is cut around the nut, at the point that is to come at the upper edge of the supporting-beam, and a flange or collar, n, is formed near the lower end of the nut, its under side coming in the same plane with the under surface of the beam.

A gain, o, is cut in the under side of the beam, around the hole occupied by the nut and screw-rod.

Into this gain, a metallic plate, R, is inserted, having ridges r r at its ends, slightly thicker than the flange n.

The plate R is slipped down over the screw-nut till it rests on the collar, and is then raised, by means of the nut, until it reaches its position in the gain, as seen in fig. 1.

The end of the nut below the collar now projects down a short distance, and another plate, S, is slipped over it, and brought up against the ridges r r, where it is fastened by screw-bolts, so that the collar or flange is confined between the two plates R S, free to turn, but incapable of rising or falling.

This secures the nut in place, and enables it to operate the screw-rod after the latter has been inserted, in the manner and for the purposes above indicated.

In order, however, to hold the nut still more firmly, and to afford myself the means of adjusting its bearings as it wears away, I employ two other plates on the upper surface of the beam G, designated, respectively, w w', each being fastened with screws, and the two capable of being adjusted toward or from each other, at pleasure, by moving the screws.

The adjacent edges of these two plates are cut away, so as to fit to the sides of the nut within the groove m, their object being to project into that groove, and form a bearing-edge, which shall thus support the nut.

It is evident that they, or either of them, can be taken off or fastened in place at any time after the nut is in position—an arrangement obviously much more convenient in practical operation than an entire ring.

The difference between the construction and operation of this simple device and that of the more complicated apparatus heretofore employed, is well illustrated by comparing the upper bearing, composed of

the two small half plates *w w*, with the lower bearing, composed of the two large plates *R S*, the collar between them, and the gain *o*, in which they operate, itself one of the simplest bearings heretofore made for a similar purpose.

The advantage in point of simplicity, cheapness, lightness, and adjustability, is, obviously, with the upper bearing.

Having thus described my invention,

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

The arrangement of the four levers *L L L L*, two at each end of the beam *G*, pivoted, at their upper end, to the frame of the press, and connected, by chains *g g*, or equivalent device, to the ends of said beam, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

WM. C. BANKS.

Witnesses:

A. R. HOWE,  
H. C. CARY.