

J. M. KEATING.

Peanut Cleaner.

No. 100,639.

Patented March 8, 1870.

Fig. 1.

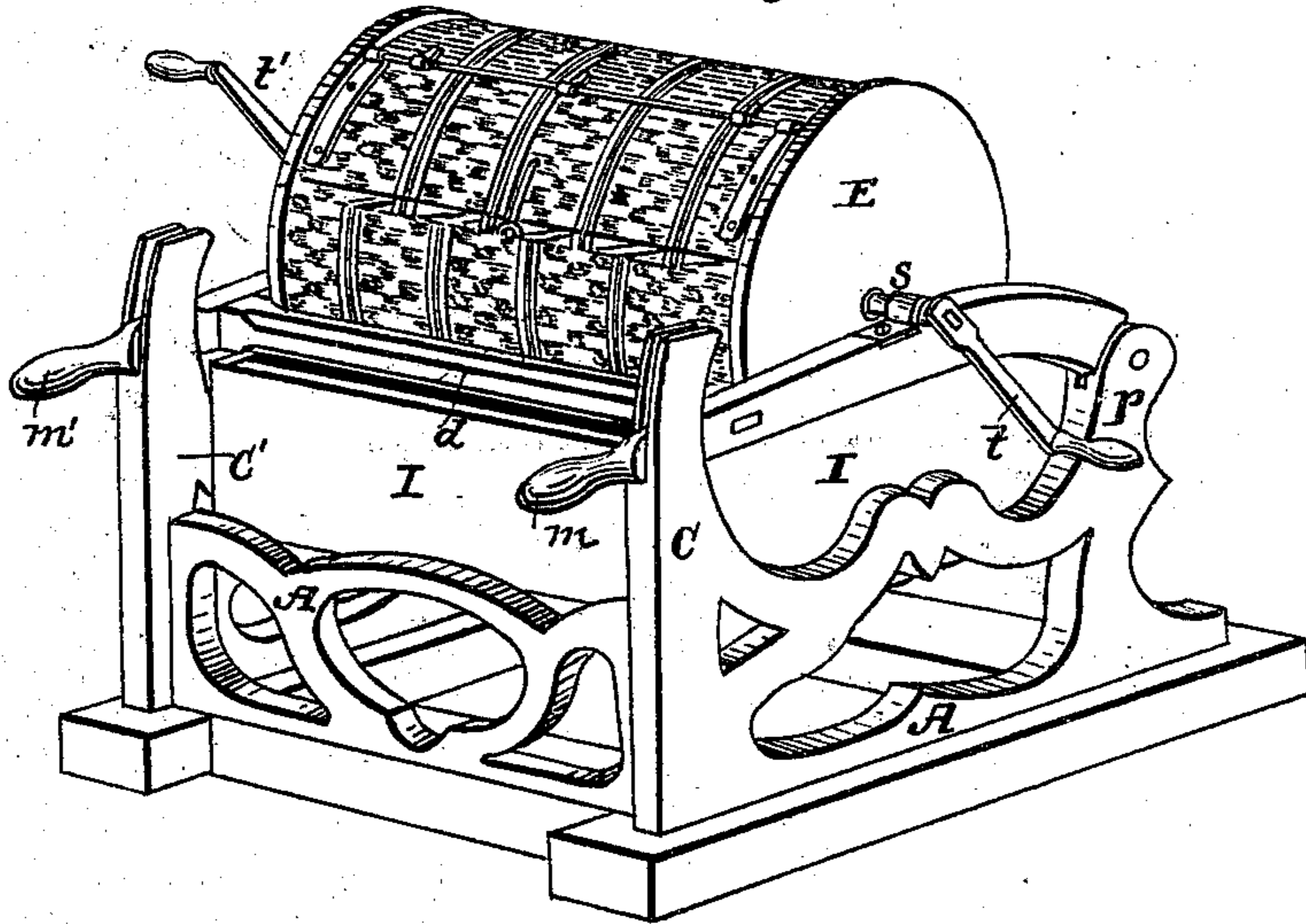


Fig. 2.

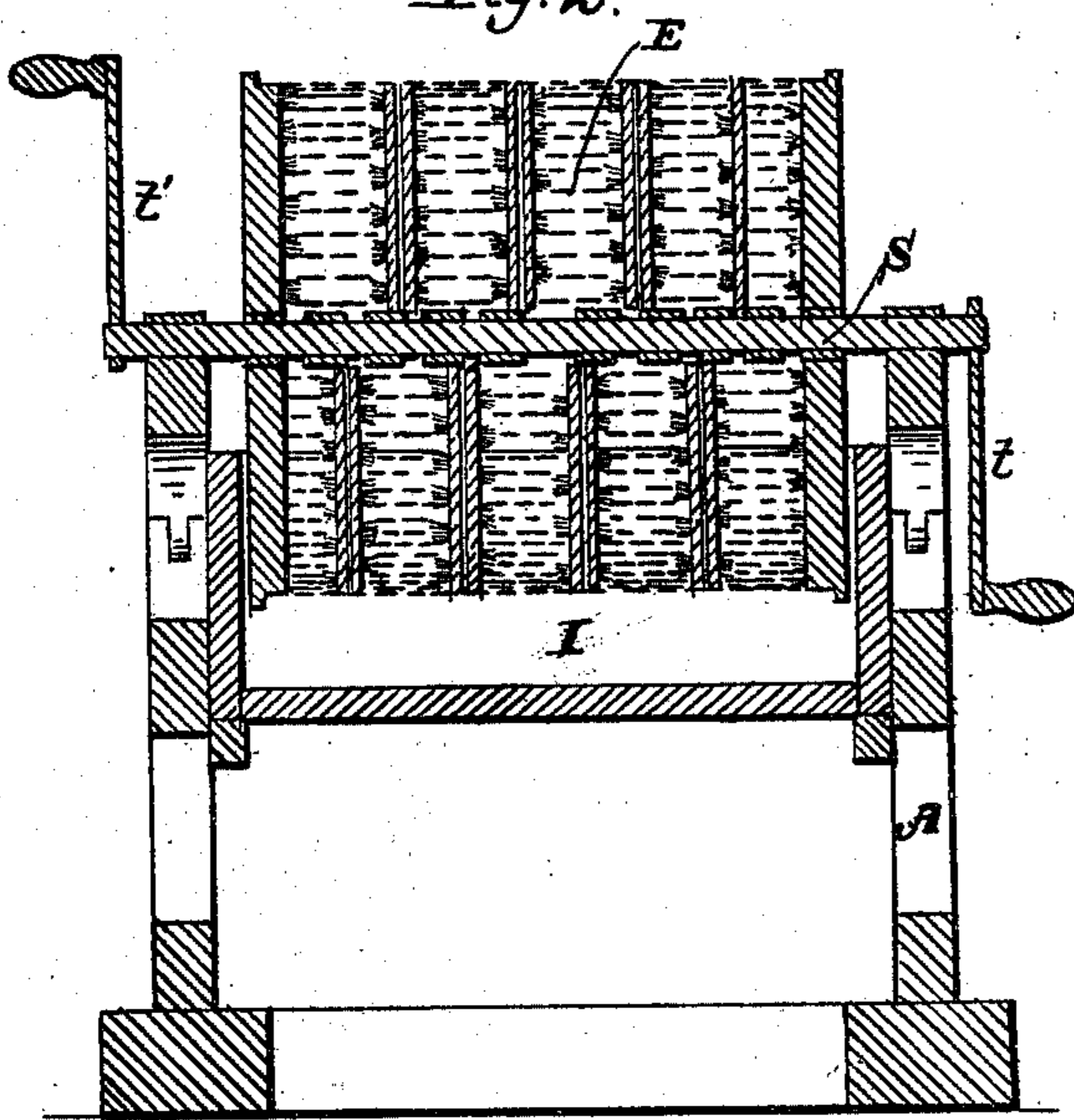
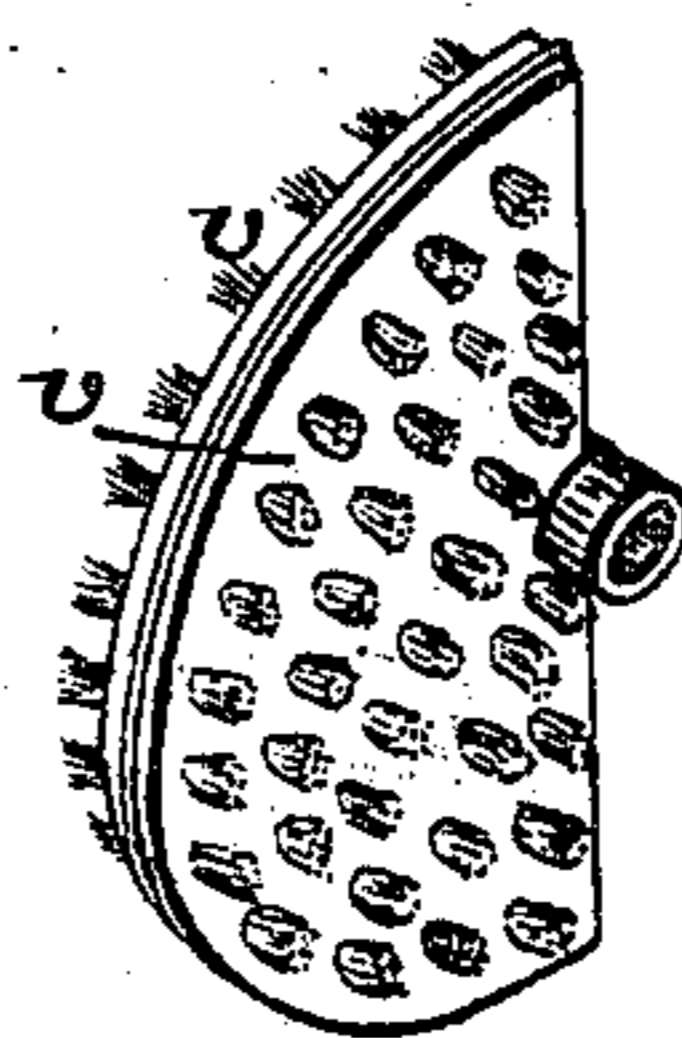


Fig. 3.



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Letters Patent No. 100,639, dated March 8, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN PEANUT-CLEANING AND POLISHING-MACHINES.

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

Be it known that I, JOHN M. KEATING, of the city of Norfolk, county of Norfolk, State of Virginia, have invented an Improvement in Machines for Cleaning and Polishing Peanuts, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to make, construct, and use the same.

Figure 1 is a general view of my machine.

Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view.

Figure 3 is one of the brushes used in the machine.

A frame-work, A, fig. 1, of wood or metal, is constructed, having uprights at each corner, as *p c p' c'*.

From *p* and *p'* to *c* and *c'* are two bars, hinged at *p p'*, and playing in slots at *c c'*, with the ends projecting a sufficient length to serve as handles, *m m'*. These bars are strengthened by a cross-bar, *d*.

Resting on these is the shaft *s*, fig. 1, of a cylinder, E, constructed of wire netting and wooden or metallic ends. Within this cylinder, fastened on the shaft, are radial plates alternating with each other, as at *r*, fig. 2. These plates may be either riveted to the shaft, or made movable thereon by means of slot and screw.

To each side of these plates, and the inner faces of the cylinder-heads, are attached brushes of like form, made of grass, bristles, whalebone, fine reed, or other substance, as shown in *r*, figs. 2, 3. These brushes may be put on in sections, so as to prevent the necessity of removing the whole surface when a portion only is worn.

Instead, however, of using the metallic plates, brushes, made in the semicircular form, may be placed back to back and attached to the shaft *s*, fig. 2, in the same manner as the plates.

The cylinder E, fig. 1, is moved by the cranks *t t'*, figs. 1, 2.

Beneath this cylinder E, and resting on the frame-work A, fig. 1, is a tub, I, made either in a square, or semi-cylindrical, or other shape, and intended to hold

water, in which the cylinder E revolves, to wash the nuts when they are exceedingly incrustated with dirt, though generally the brushes alone are amply sufficient to cleanse and polish the nuts.

The machine is worked as follows, viz:

The cylinder E, fig. 1, is partly filled with nuts put in at the opening K, fig. 1, a hinged section of the wire netting. The cylinder then being rotated at a moderate speed by means of the cranks *t t'*, fig. 1, causes the nuts by their own weight to pass between the brushes *r*, fig. 2, during which process they are thoroughly cleaned, and (if they are freshly-picked nuts) polished finely, both of which conditions greatly enhance their market value, and thus make a large saving to the producer. After being satisfactorily cleaned, the nuts are emptied from the cylinder by tipping it back by means of the handles *m m'*, fig. 1, over some convenient receptacle, as bags, or upon the floor.

This machine, though invented and designed particularly to supply a long-felt want in the peanut trade, may also be used as a grain-cleaner.

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

1. The revolving cylinder E, constructed of wire-gauze or its equivalent, with solid heads, and having radial plates upon its axis, the plates having brushes thereon, and alternating with each other, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of the cylinder E and its hinged frame, composed of lever-bars *m m'* and cross-bar *d*, when these parts are constructed as and for the purpose herein set forth.

3. The revolving wire-gauze cylinder E, constructed as described, having heads provided with brushes over their entire faces, and operating in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

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