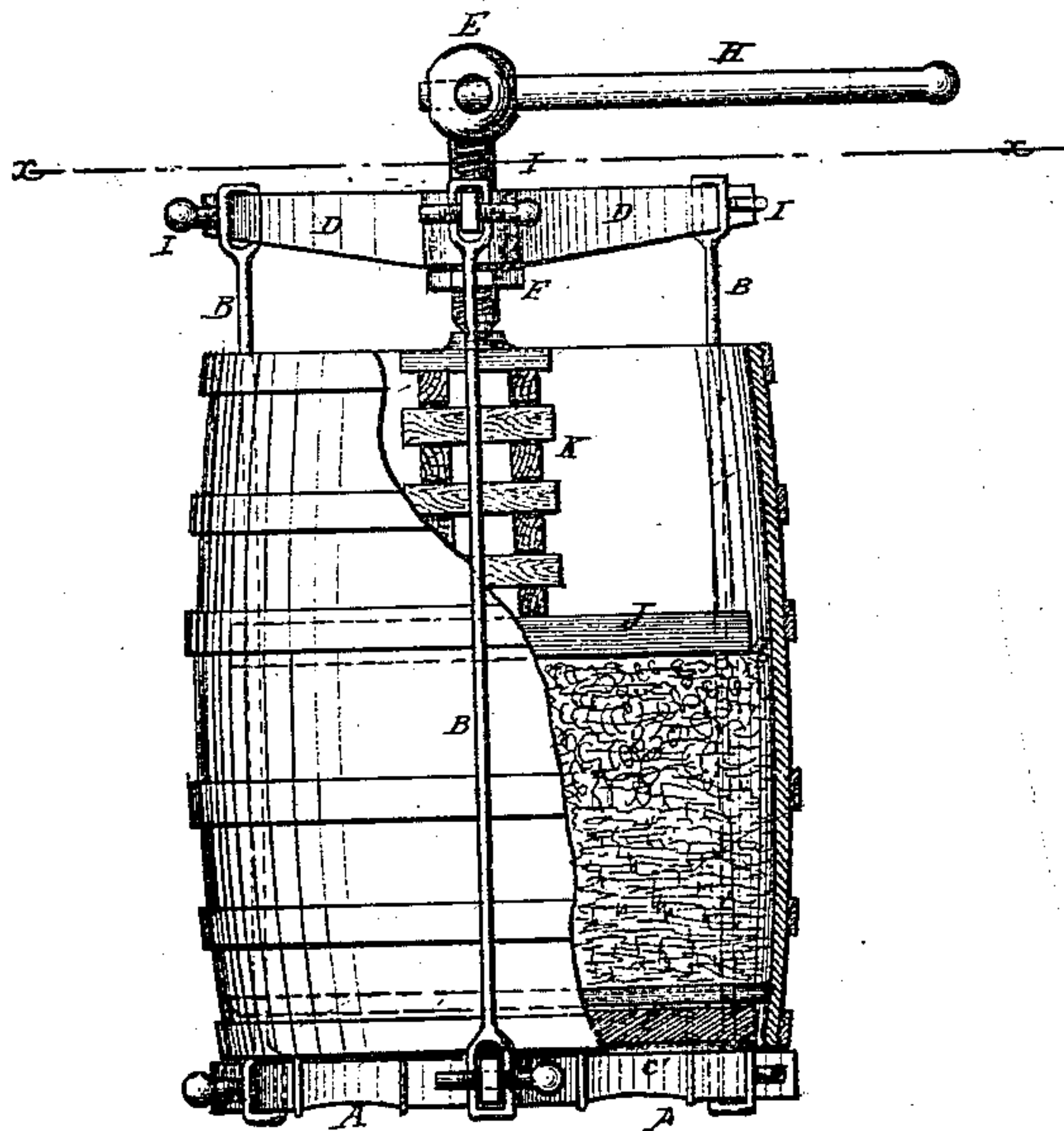


*W. S. Ford,*  
*Tobacco Press.*

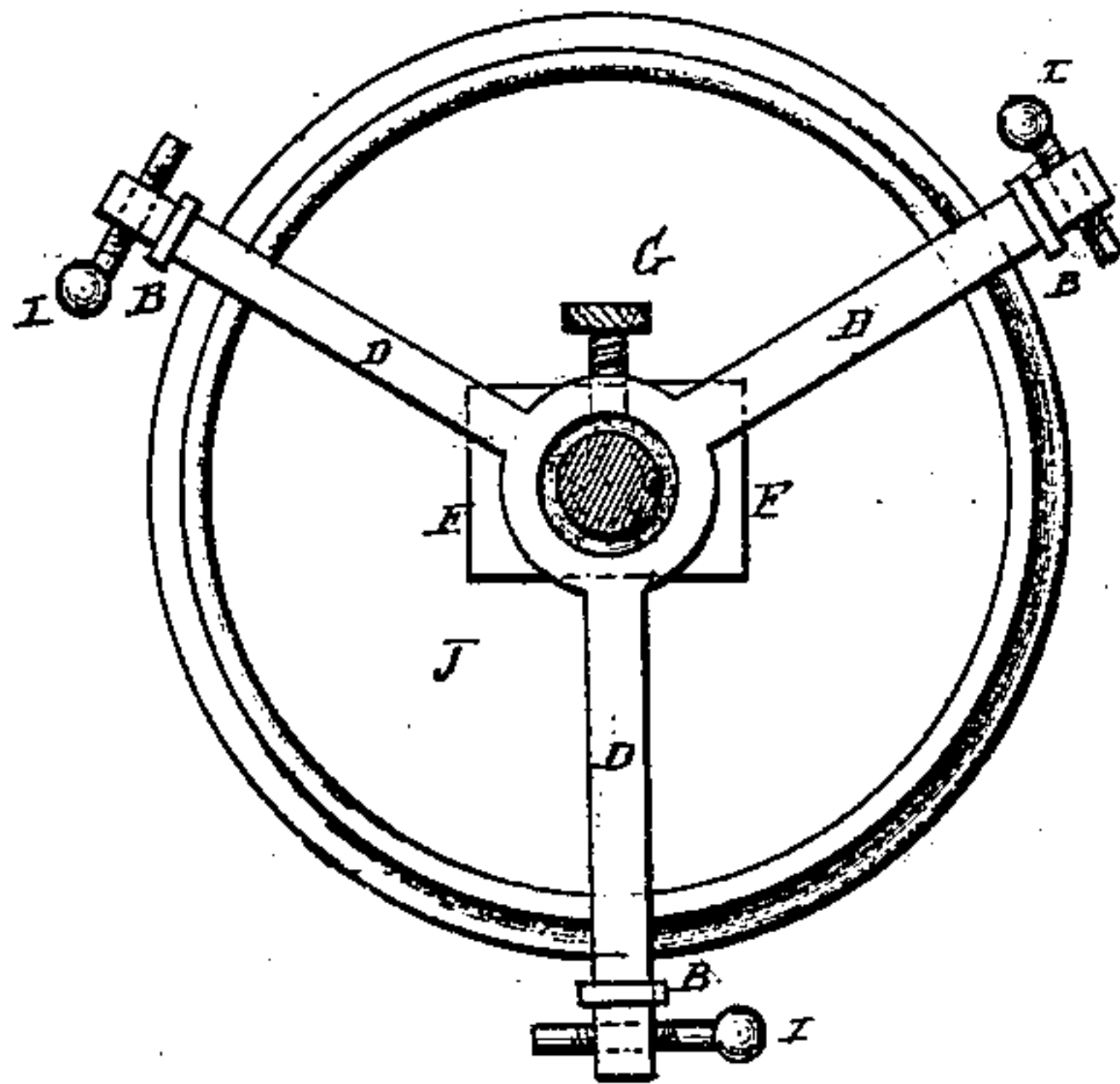
*No. 103,860.*

*Patented June 7, 1870.*

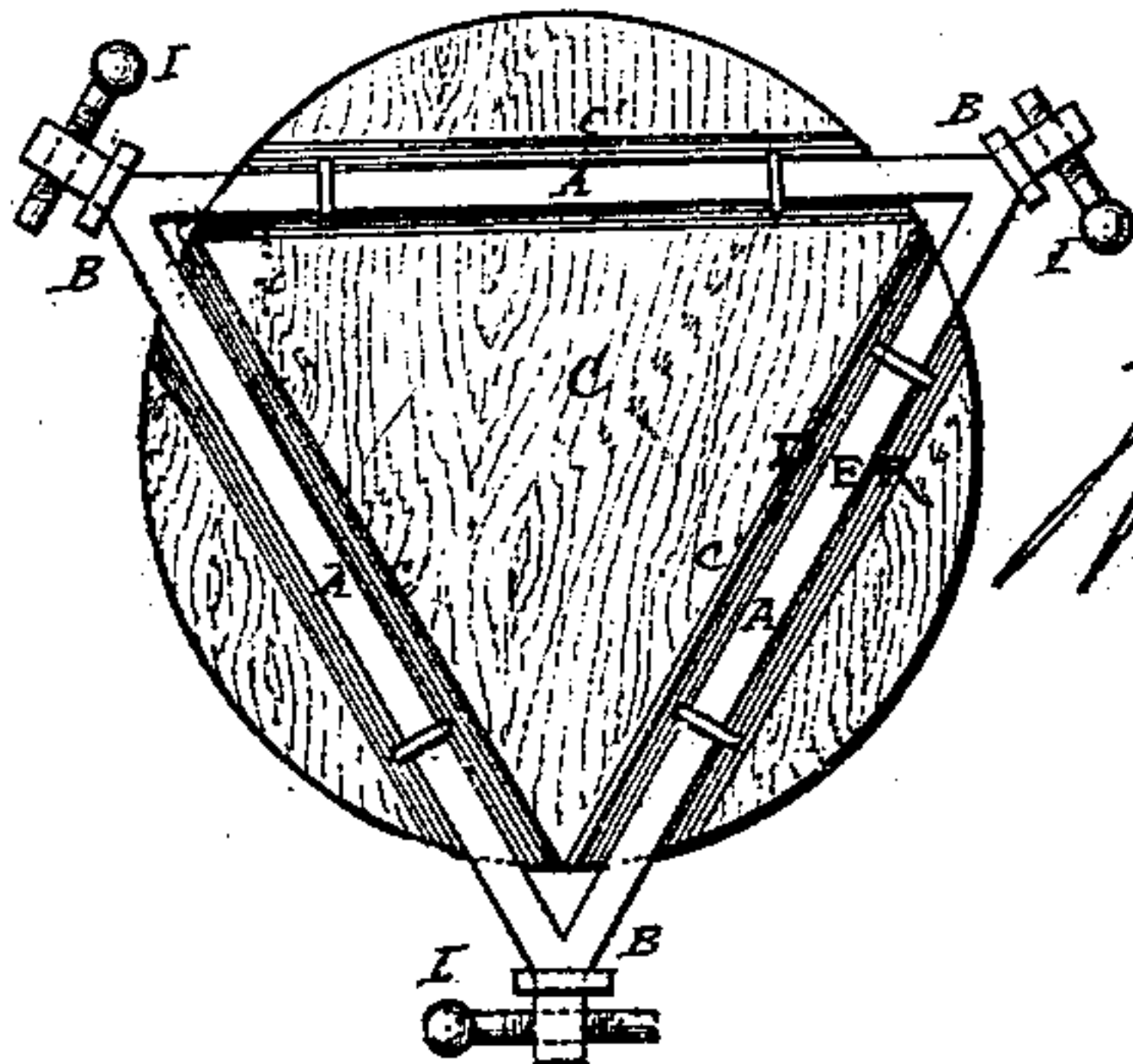
*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*



**Witnesses:**  
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# United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM S. FORD, OF EVANSVILLE, INDIANA,

Letters Patent No. 103,860, dated June 7, 1870.

## IMPROVED PORTABLE TOBACCO-PRESS.

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 S. FORD, of Evansville, county of Vanderburg and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Tobacco-Press; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved press, illustrating its operation, part being broken away to show the construction.

Figure 2 is a top view of the same, partly in section, through the line  $x x$ , fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a bottom view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish a simple, strong, and convenient press designed especially for pressing leaf tobacco into the hogsheads, and which shall be so constructed that the entire strain may be borne by the tobacco being pressed; and

It consists in the construction and combination of the various parts of the press, as hereinafter more fully described.

A is the base frame of the press, which is made triangular in form, or of other convenient shape, with its angles or arms projecting to receive the eyes formed upon the lower ends of the rods B.

To the upper side of the frame A is attached a circular bottom or bearing, C, which should be of such a thickness, or should have bars  $c'$  placed beneath it, upon the frame A, as to raise the said bottom C to such a height that the bottom of the hogshead may rest upon the bottom C, so that the chimes of the hogshead may not touch the frame A. Or the bearing C may be omitted, and the base frame A so formed that the bottom of the hogshead may rest upon said frame, the chimes or ends of the staves being left free.

The rods B extend up along the sides of the hogshead or cask, and have eyes also formed upon their upper ends to receive the ends of the frame D.

The rods B should be only enough longer than the height of the hogshead to allow the tobacco to be conveniently put into said hogshead below the frame D, which may be made with two, three, or more arms, as may be desired.

Through the center of the armed frame D is formed a hole for the passage of the screw E, the screw-threads to receive which may be cut in the surface of the said hole, or in a nut, F, inserted in said hole, and kept in place by a set-screw, G, as shown in fig. 2.

The nut F is inserted from the lower side of said frame D, and has a strong flange formed upon its lower end, which rests against the lower side of the said frame D, and thus receives the strain.

This latter construction I prefer, as it enables the armed frame D to be easily and cheaply made of cast metal, while the nut proper in which the screw-thread is cut is made of a tougher metal.

The screw E is made with a large head having holes formed through it to receive the lever H by means of which it is run up and down.

The screw E is required to be made comparatively short, so that, when run up, the lever H may not be out of the reach of a man standing upon the ground.

The rods B are secured in place upon the ends of the frames A and D by pins or screws I passing through the ends of the said frames, as shown in figs. 1, 2, and 3.

In using the press one man enters the hogshead and packs the tobacco, while another, standing upon the ground, hands it to him. When the hogshead has been filled in this way the follower J is placed upon the top of the tobacco, and the screw E is run down.

The screw is then run back quickly, and blocks K are placed beneath it upon the follower J, and so on until the tobacco in the hogshead has been sufficiently compressed. The screw is then run up, the blocks and follower removed, and the hogshead again packed with tobacco, which tobacco is compressed in the manner hereinbefore described, about three packings being required to fill the hogshead.

By this construction the press receives all the strain, there being no vertical, and very little lateral pressure upon the staves of the hogshead.

By this construction a light, strong, and convenient press is produced, which may be easily taken apart and packed in small compass for storage or transportation, and which will enable the tobacco to be readily packed upon the spot where it is cured.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. An improved portable tobacco-press formed by the combination of the base frame A, rods B having eyes formed in each end, top frame D, nut F, screw E, and follower J, with each other, substantially as herein shown and described and for the purpose set forth.

2. The circular raised bottom or bearing C, in combination with base A, rods B, frame D, screw E, nut F, and follower J, all arranged substantially as shown and described, whereby the pressure is applied directly to the top of the tobacco with a direct counter-pressure upon its bottom, the staves of the cask being entirely free from strain, as set forth.

WM. S. FORD.

Witnesses:

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