R. Stalling,

Cotton Press.

No. 113,700. Patented Apr. 11. 1871.

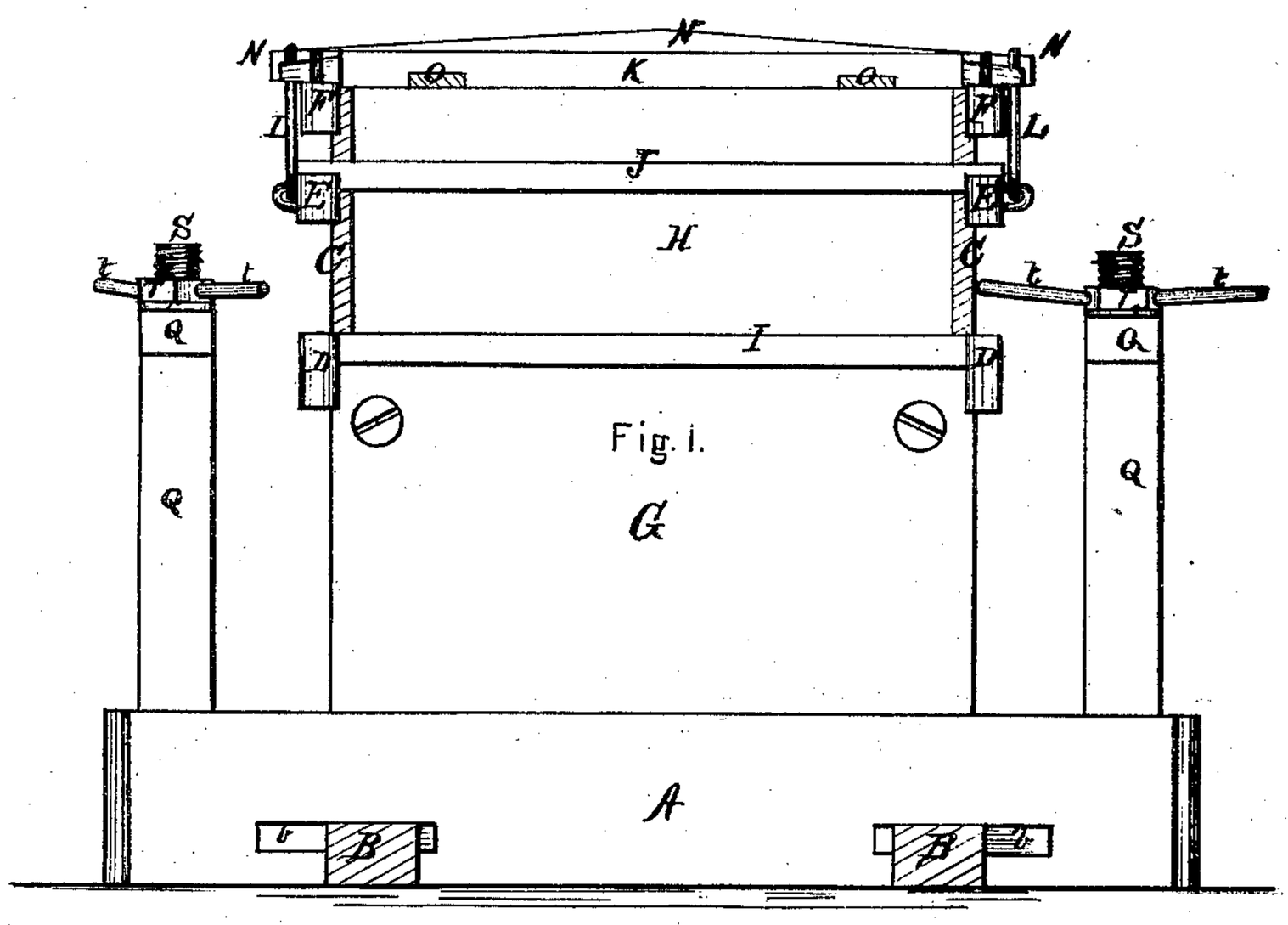

Fig. 1.

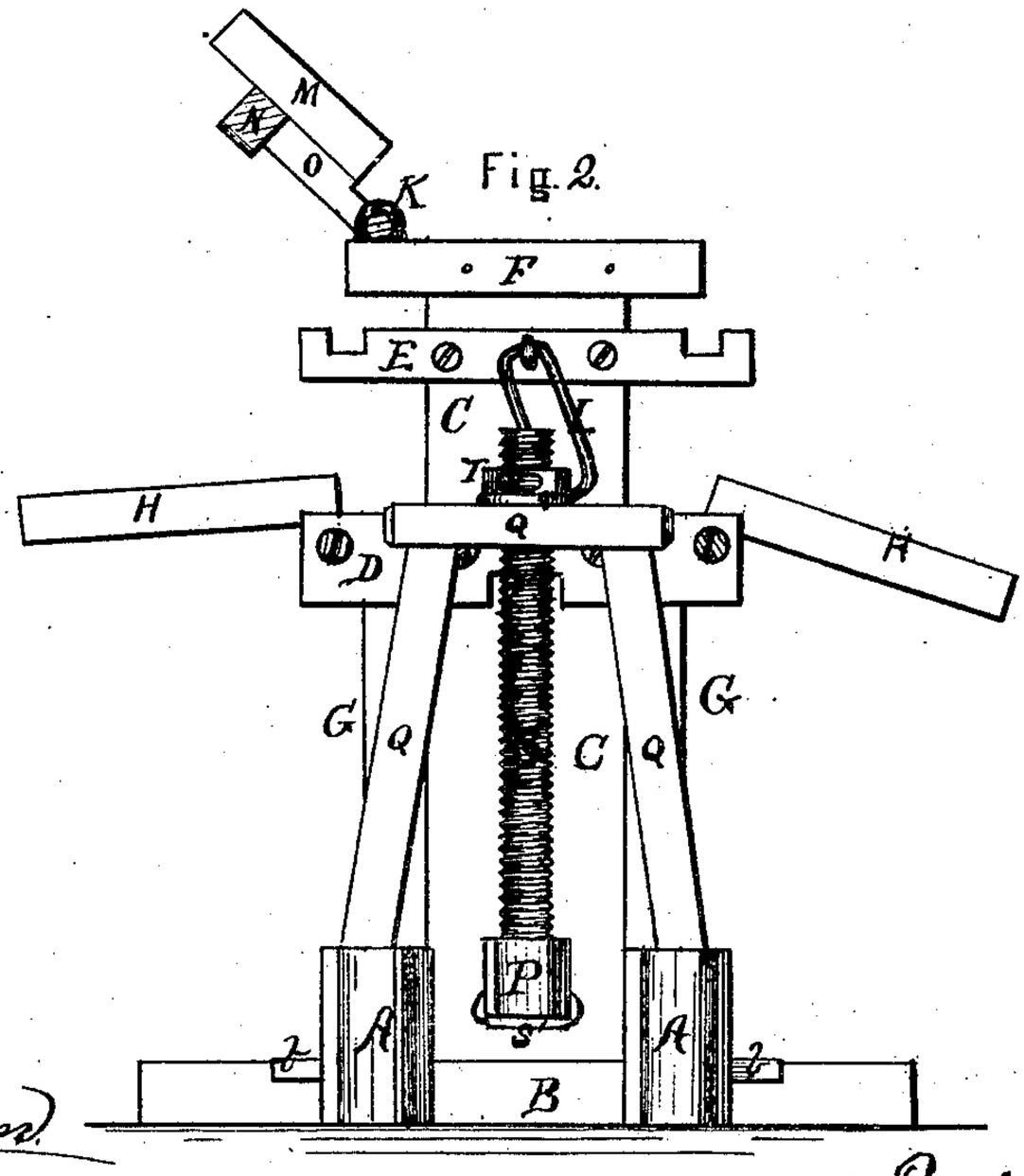

Fig. 2.

Witnesses.
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REUBEN STALLINGS, OF LOUISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA.

Letters Patent No. 113,700, dated April 11, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN COTTON AND HAY-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, REUBEN STALLINGS, of Louisburg, in the county of Franklin and State of North Carolina, have invented an Improved Cotton and Hay-Press; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and

Figure 2 an end elevation.

Similar letters of reference in the accompanying drawing indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to provide for public use a cotton and hay-press which, as a whole, shall combine the qualities of strength, power, simplicity, convenience of operation, and economy of construction to a greater degree than those heretofore in general use. To this end,

The invention consists in the construction hereinafter set forth, and particularly in the combination of three elements, viz: A press-box, in which the bale is formed at the upper end; a pair of suspended screws, which lifts or draws the platen in contradistinction to screws supported at their lower end, and pushing it up; and a peculiar construction of cover, to facilitate the introduction of the lint or hay and the removal of the bale, said cover being adapted solely to presses which form the bale at the top, and, therefore, having a necessary combination with both the box and the lifting screws as aforesaid.

In the drawing—

A A are two stout parallel longitudinal base-timbers, and

B B two similar transverse base-timbers let into the under side of the timbers A A, the ends of all the timbers projecting, as shown in figs. 1 and 2.

Said timbers may be clamped together by means of wedges *b b*, or otherwise fastened if preferred.

The ends of the press-box are formed of upright planks C C, slotted to permit the platen-arms to move up and down, and attached to the inner side of the cross-timbers B B by means of dovetailed tenons and gains.

The sides of the press-box are formed of fixed planks G and doors H, the planks being dovetailed to the timbers A A, and extending up as far as the platen rises, and the doors being opposite the bale, and each supported at its lower edge by a roller, I I, which permits them to be opened outward, as shown in fig. 2.

To the end planks C are fastened three parallel cross-beams D E F, the lower one to support the rollers I I; the middle one to support the link L, which fastens down the cover, and the bars J J, which confine the doors during the formation of the bale; the upper one to support the roller K, to which the cover M is attached by means of a frame, N O O; and all three serving to strengthen the press-box, keep the planks C from splitting, and prevent the doors from warping or getting awry.

The frame N O O consists of a stout bar, N, the ends of which project to receive the links L L, while the bale is being pressed, said bar being connected to the roller K by means of arms O O.

The cross-beam F may project from the side of the box to any extent desired, the arms O O being elongated accordingly, so that when the cover is turned back not only will the box be uncovered, but the cover will be held away from its open end, at any desired distance, entirely out of the way.

The platen is supported upon a timber, P, the ends of which project through the slotted wall C to receive the lifting-screws *s s*. Said screws pass through the beam and terminate in a plate, *s'*, upon which it rests, the ends of the plate being turned up against the sides of the beam, as shown in fig. 2, to hold the latter firmly and prevent it from rocking and splitting when the resistance to the platen is not uniform.

Q is a stout frame, consisting of two inclined standards and a horizontal cap-piece, for the purpose of supporting the lifting-screws.

A washer or friction-plate, *r*, is placed around the screws on the upper side of the cap-timber, and a screw-nut, T, of wrought metal, formed with projecting arms or handles *t t*, and resting on the washer, serves to raise and lower the screws, and the platen with them.

The advantages of this construction are, first, that it enables me to avail myself of the tensile strength of the metallic screws; and secondly, that as the screws themselves do not turn there is no liability to twist and break them.

Having thus described my invention,

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

The combination and arrangement, in the press herein described, of the suspended screws S S, nuts T T, supporting-frame Q, press-box C G H, cover K M N O O, and platen P, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

REUBEN STALLINGS.

Witnesses:

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