D. H. WOOLDRIDGE.

Cotton-Presses.

No. 139,845. Patented June 10, 1873.

Fig. 1.

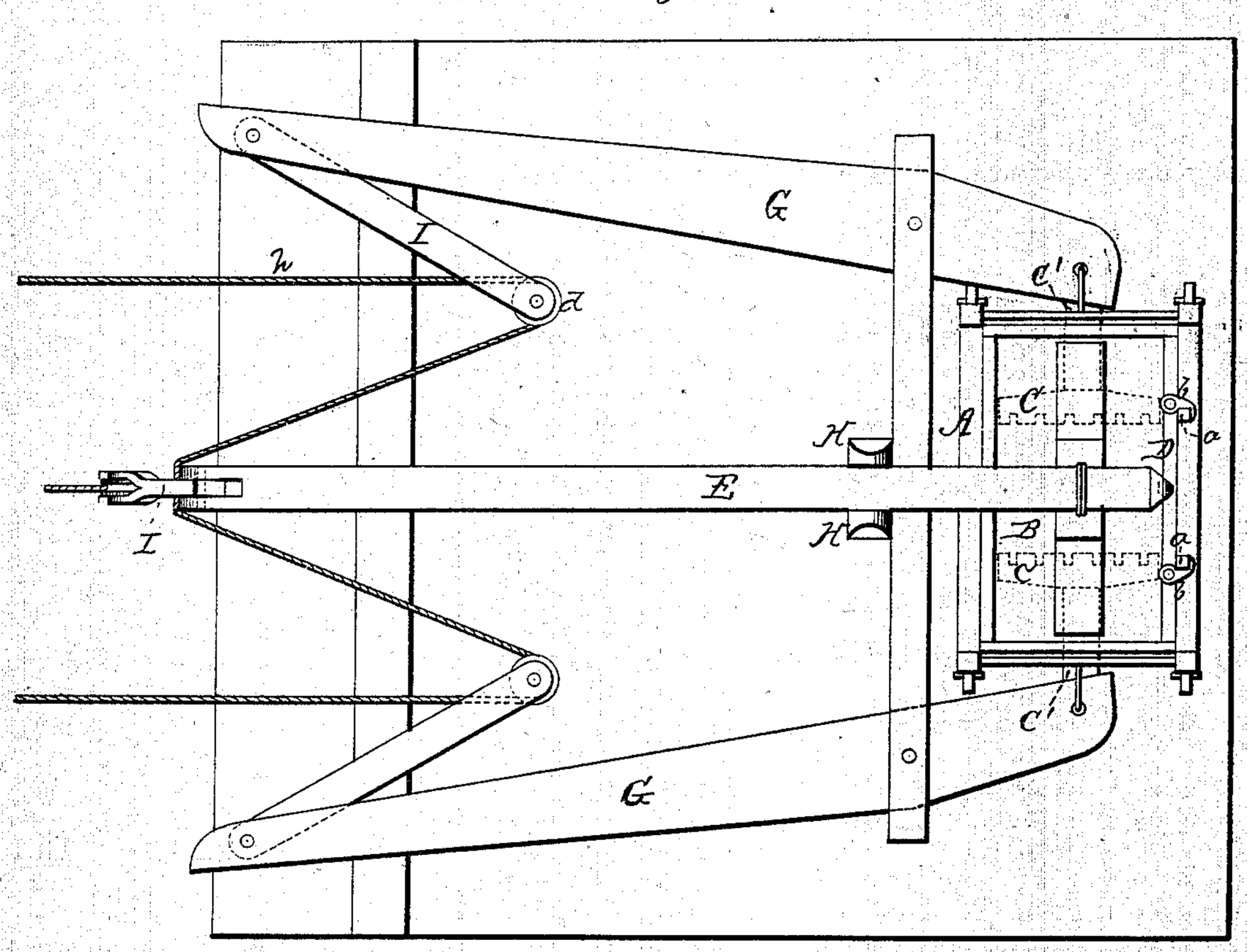
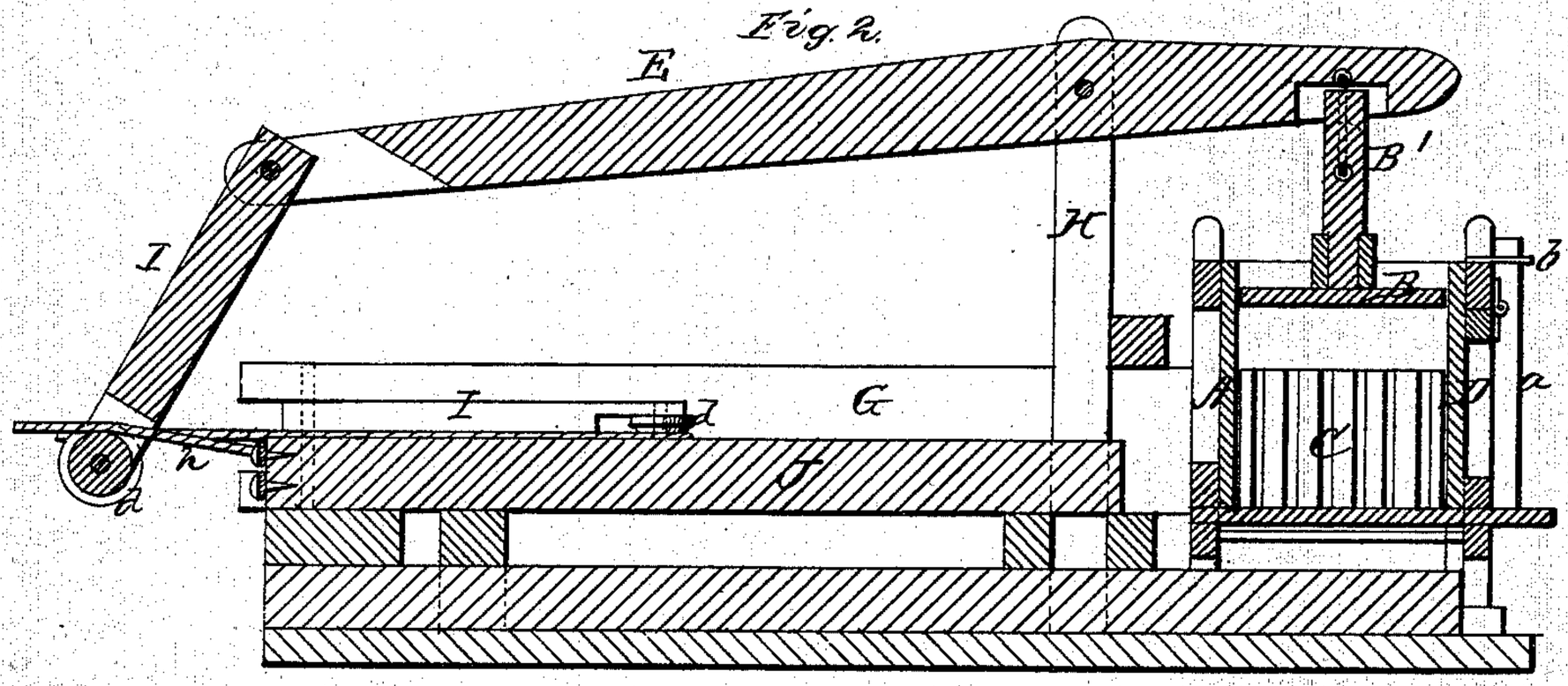


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID H. WOOLDRIDGE, OF HUMBOLDT, TENNESSEE.

IMPROVEMENT IN COTTON-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **139,845**, dated June 10, 1873; application filed March 3, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID H. WOOLDRIDGE, of Humboldt, in the county of Gibson and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cotton-Presses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a cotton-press, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view and Fig. 2, a vertical section of my cotton-press.

A represents the bale-box, which is provided with three followers B and C C; the follower B coming down from the top, and the followers C C moving inward—one from each end. The front side of the bale-box forms a door, D, hinged at its upper edge and opening outward to remove the bale after it is packed. This door is held close while pressing by means of upright bars *a* and hooks *b*, as shown in the drawing. The top follower B has a rod or stem, B′, which is placed with its upper end in a recess on the under side at the front end of a lever, E, and connected with the same by any suitable flexible connection so that it can move back and forth in said recess. The lever E is pivoted between suitable standards H H, and in its rear end is pivoted an arm, I, having at its lower end a grooved roller or wheel, *d*, to move on a horizontal beam, J, which forms a guide for the same. Each follower C is provided with a rod or stem, C′, the outer end of which is placed in a recess on and flexibly connected with a pivoted lever, G, moving horizontally; and at the rear end of each lever G is a pivoted arm, I, with roller or wheel *d* to move on the side of the guide-beam J. When the bale-box A is to be filled with loose cotton all the arms I I are thrown forward on the guide-beam J, so that the end followers C C will be flush with the ends of the box, and the top follower B is lifted out of the box. After the cotton is placed in the box the top follower B is returned in its place and forced down by simply pulling, by horse or other power, on a rope, *h*, passing around the roller of the arm connected with the lever E, so as to throw said arm toward the rear, the roller moving on the top of the beam J. When the follower B has been brought down sufficiently far the end followers C C are forced inward in precisely the same manner, the arms of their levers being also moved toward the rear by ropes passing around their rollers, and said rollers moving upon the sides of the beam J.

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

The bale-box A, provided with followers B and C C and door D, in combination with the levers E and G G, with their arms I and rollers *d*, and the guide-beam J, all constructed and arranged, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DAVID HINES WOOLDRIDGE.

Witnesses:

P. F. CLAY,

A. J. CLAY.