

J. S. CUTTER.

PROCESS FOR PREPARING VEGETABLE FIBER FOR UPHOLSTER-
ING.

No. 171,357.

Patented Dec. 21, 1875.

Fig. 1.

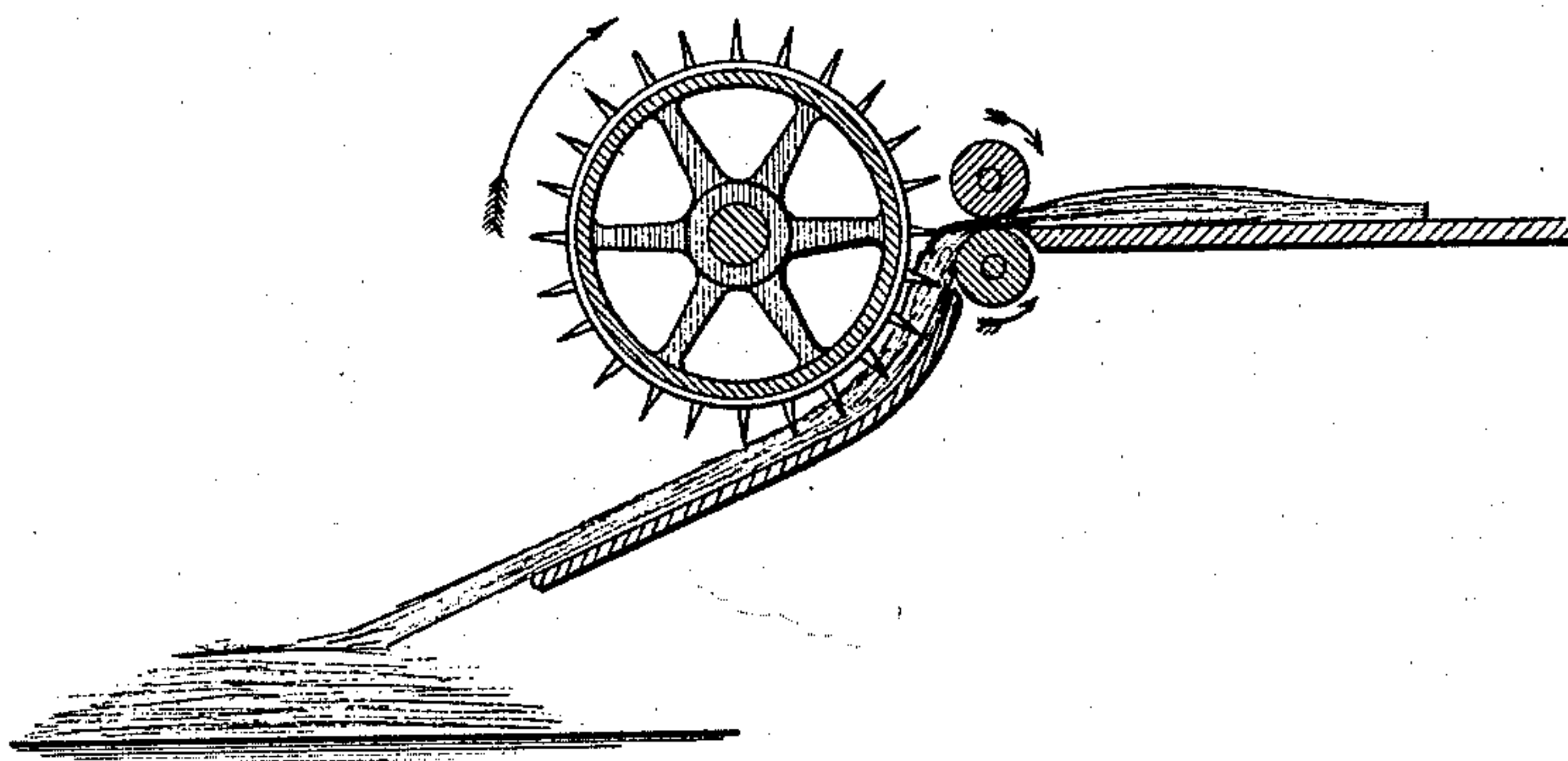
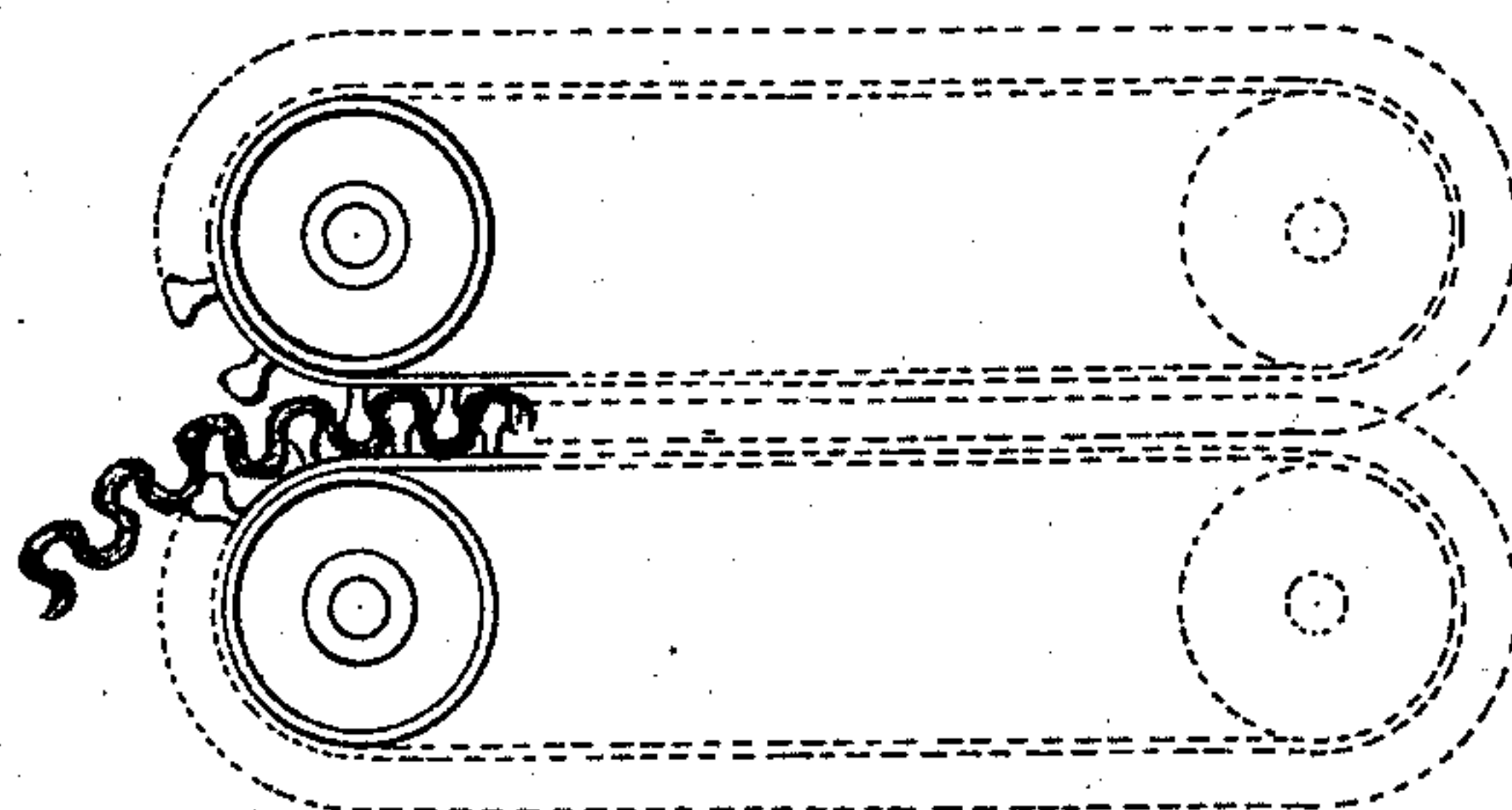


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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JAMES S. CUTTER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO JOSEPH M. DAVIS, OF PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN PROCESSES FOR PREPARING VEGETABLE FIBER FOR UPHOLSTERING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,357**, dated December 21, 1875; application filed September 2, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES S. CUTTER, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an improved process of preparing palmetto or other vegetable fiber for the purpose of making or filling mattresses, and for other upholstering and packing purposes, of which the following is a specification:

My improvement in the process of preparing palmetto or other vegetable fiber for the purpose of making or filling mattresses, and for other upholstering and packing purposes, is as follows:

I prefer to dampen the palmetto or other vegetable fiber, to soften the natural gluten which is contained therein, and also to make it pliable, though this is not indispensable. I then pass it through a stripping or picking machine, which separates or reduces the width of the fiber to a proper fineness. I then pass it through heated or cold fluted rollers which serves to set the gluten in a rigid form, by which the fiber is crimped and curled, and the crimp and curl is caused to be retained, and the fiber rendered elastic and flexible, and of great value for upholstering and other purposes.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents an elevation of the apparatus employed for stripping the palmetto or other leaf, and Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the means for forming the crimp or curl in the fiber.

I am aware that fiber has been curled heretofore for the purpose of stuffing mattresses;

but this has been by the old process known and used for curling hair for the same purpose, namely, by stripping or picking, twisting, steaming, baking, untwisting, and picking or opening the rope. By this latter process the machines used generally break the fiber and reduce the curl to such an extent that it is rendered practically unfit for the purpose for which it is intended. Nor by this old process is it possible to obtain the crimp or curl, the elasticity or flexibility of which is produced by the means which I employ.

In my invention the twisting, steaming, baking, untwisting, and picking or opening the rope, heretofore necessarily involving the use of extra machinery and manual labor, are avoided, and by the simple use of heated or cold fluted rollers, as above described, the crimp or curl absolutely required for elasticity and flexibility is obtained.

I claim—

As my improvement in the preparation of palmetto or other vegetable fiber, for the purposes set forth, the process herein described, consisting of the dampening of the fiber, the passage of it in this condition through a stripping or picking machine, and, finally, its passage through heated or cold fluted rollers, substantially in the manner and for the purpose specified.

JAMES S. CUTTER.

Witnesses:

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