



W. J. LYNCH.

SUPPORTERS FOR COTTON-PICKERS.

No. 173,100.

Patented Feb. 1, 1876.

*Fig. 2.*



*Attest:*  
*W. D. Birch*  
*Parker & Co. Sweet. Jr.*

*Inventor:*  
*William J. Lynch*  
*per J. W. Pike atty.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM J. LYNCH, OF OLD TOWN, ARKANSAS, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS  
HIS RIGHT TO WILLA V. JOHNSON, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SUPPORTERS FOR COTTON-PICKERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,100**, dated February 1, 1876; application filed  
December 27, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. LYNCH, of Old Town, in the county of Phillips and State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supporters for Cotton-Pickers; 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 which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a novel supporting apparatus, designed to be worn by cotton-pickers while at work; and it consists of two wooden staffs, having peculiarly-constructed foot-rests pivoted at the bottom, and sliding connections near the center of the same, adapted to act in connection with a waist-belt and shoulder-straps worn by the operator, all as will be hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. 2 shows a practical illustration of my invention.

A represents a stout leather belt, which is provided with straps E, arranged to fit over the shoulders of the wearer. B represents two strong wooden staffs, which pass behind the shoulder-blades, near the bottoms of which are pivoted metallic foot-rests C. These foot-rests are made of any suitable metal, adapted in shape to fit the foot, and, extending upward, terminate in a band working transversely upon the staff to follow the motions of the feet in an easy manner. D represents hollow cylinders, arranged to slide up and down upon the staffs B, in accordance with the motions of the body of the operator while picking cotton, and provided with openings on the inner side, as represented in the drawing. J represents an eye upon the back of the cylinder, through which passes a ring, H, fitting loosely over the said cylinder D, said ring being provided with an upwardly-projecting arm or shoulder, G, to which is connected the belt

A by a coiled spring, F, as shown in the drawing. At the base of the arm or shoulder G, upon the ring H, is a wedge-shaped lug, *i*, the object of which is to hold the said cylinder D at any point desired upon the staff B, suitably to the different motions of the body of the cotton-picker. The spring F is attached to the belt A by means of a metallic band adapted to slide upon said belt.

I do not, however, confine myself to the spring F, as an elastic rubber band or other equivalent may be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described the details of construction of my invention, I will now proceed to describe its operation. The belt A is adjusted around the waist of the cotton-picker, the bands E passing over the shoulders, and the feet fitted into the foot-rests C, the bottoms of the staffs resting upon the ground, so as to bring the bottoms of the feet on a level with its surface. As the wearer passes from one stalk of cotton to another in the different stooping positions taken while picking, he is supported at any point by throwing the knees outward against the staffs, which action presses the lug *i* into the staff, and holds the operator in a comfortable and easy position, and when he rises to a higher position the action throws the lug *i* off from the staff to admit of the sliding cylinder moving higher to the position desired.

The advantages of my invention will be readily seen, inasmuch as it combines in its construction and operation a high degree of simplicity and durability with a ready adaptation to the purposes intended.

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

1. The hereinbefore-described support for cotton-pickers, consisting of the staffs B, having pivoted foot-rests C, sliding cylinders D, rings H, passing through eyes J, and provided with projecting arms or shoulders G, and wedge-shaped lug *i*, in combination with the spring F and belt A, the several parts being

constructed, arranged, and combined to operate substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The staffs B, provided with the pivoted movable foot-rest C, sliding cylinders D, and rings H, substantially as shown and described.

3. The belt A, provided with the shoulder-straps E, in combination with the springs F and staffs B, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM J. LYNCH.

Witnesses:

JOHN W. MURPHY,  
EUCLID L. JOHNSON.