

R. L. LEE.  
Cotton-Chopper.

No. 218,387.

Patented Aug 12, 1879.

Fig. 1.

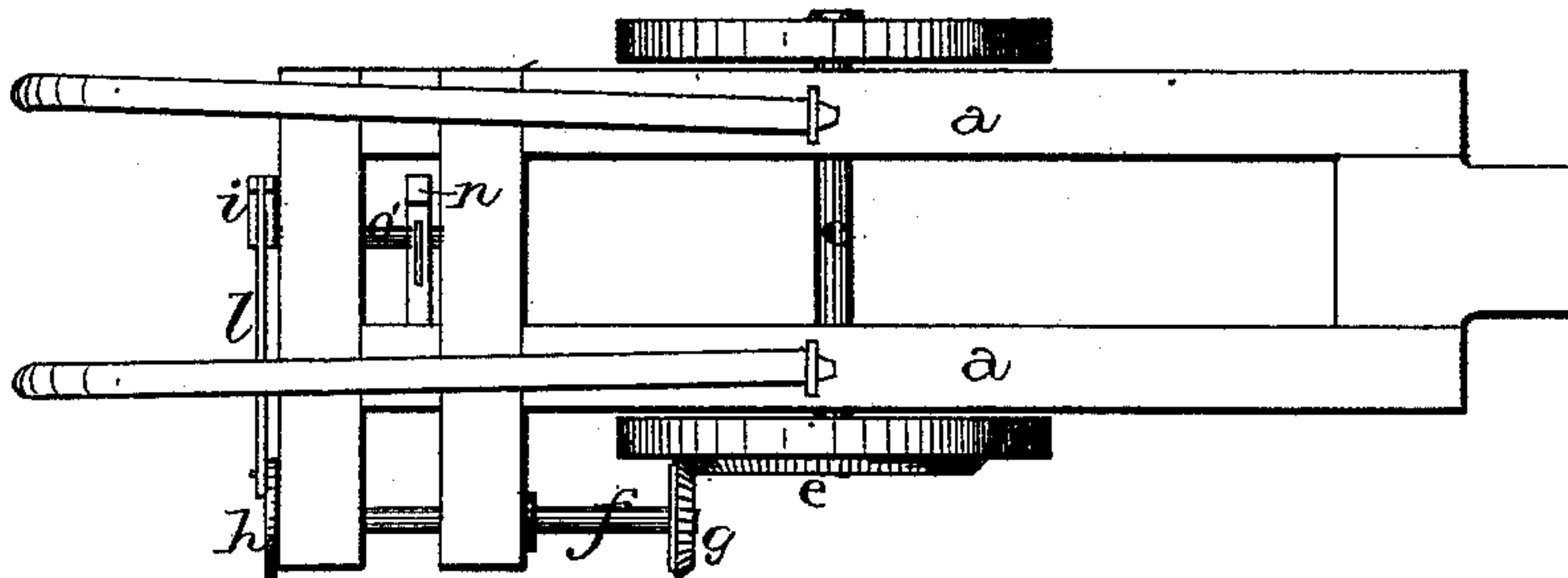


Fig. 2.

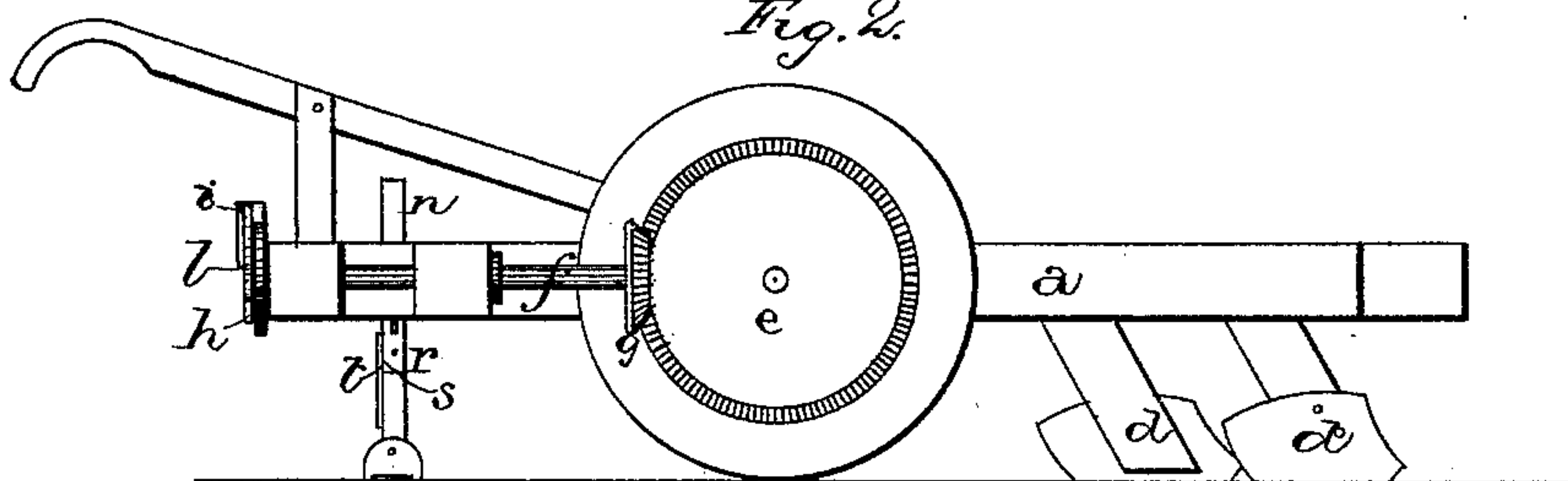


Fig. 3.

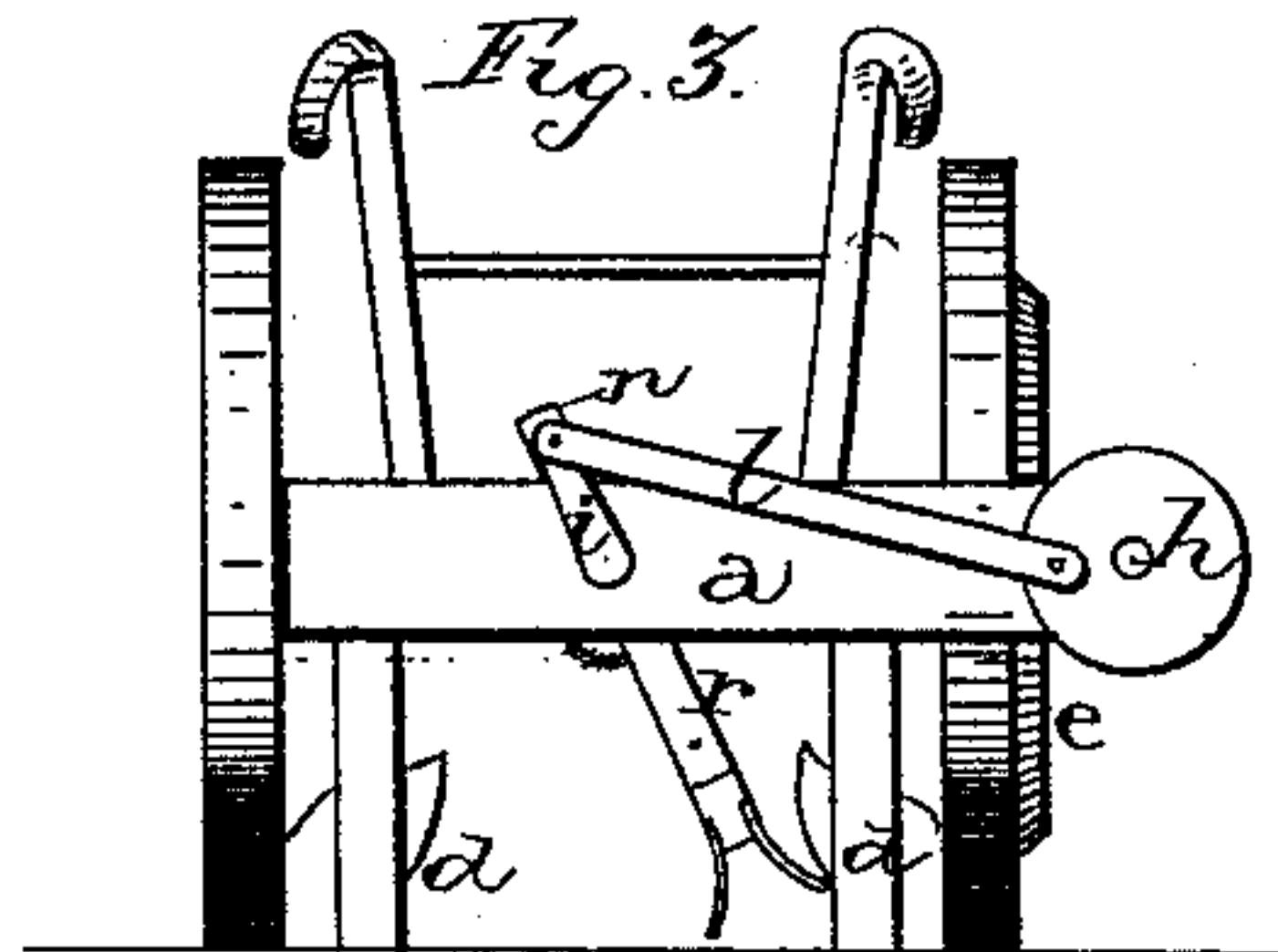
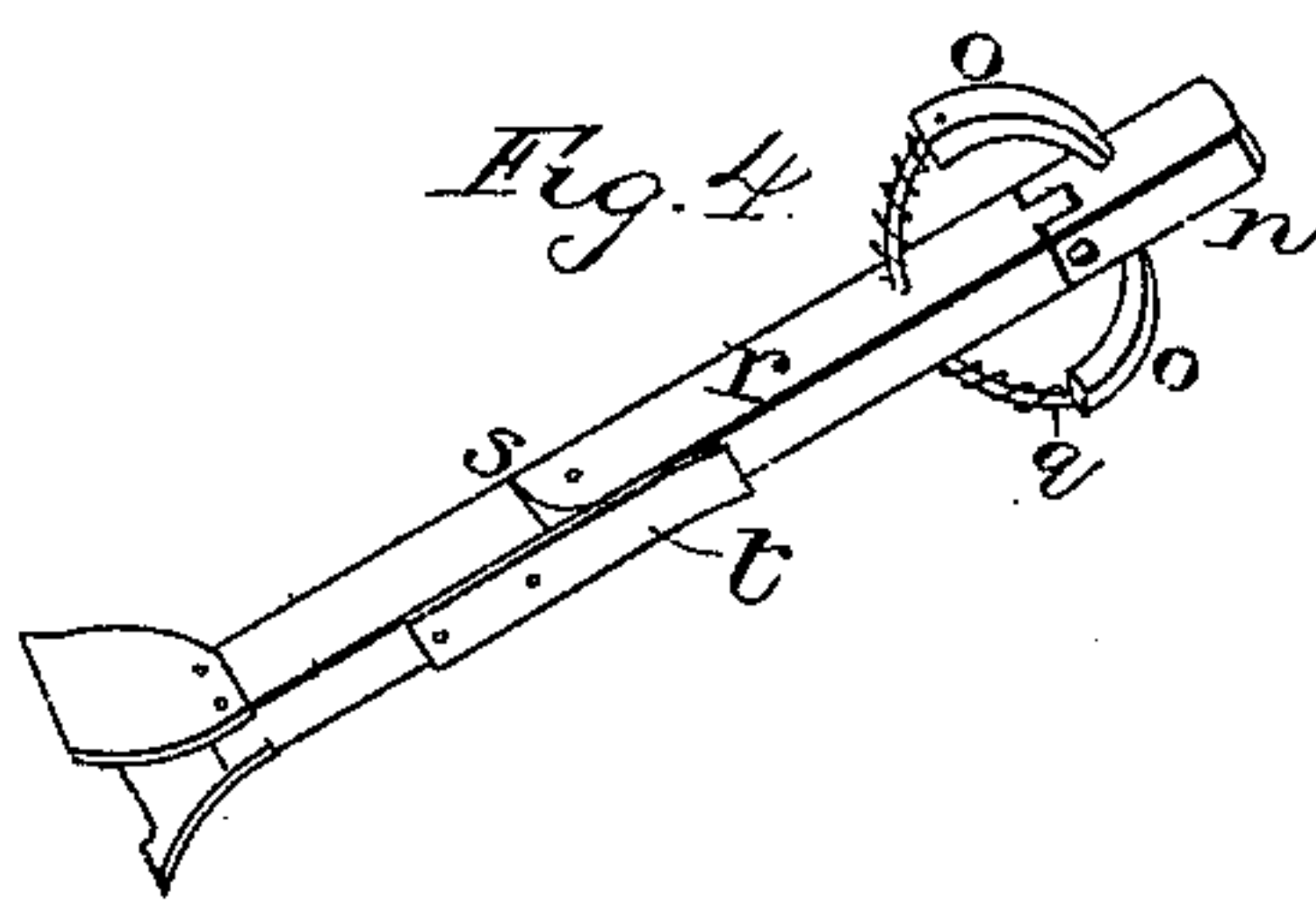


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

J. W. Garner

A. S. D. Haines

Inventor:

R. L. Lee,

per  
F. A. Lehmann, atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

RICHARD L. LEE, OF PLATTSBURG, MISSISSIPPI.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COTTON-CHOPPERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **218,387**, dated August 12, 1879; application filed June 19, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RICHARD L. LEE, of Plattsburg, in the county of Winston and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cotton-Choppers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in cotton-choppers; and it consists in the arrangement and combination of parts, that will be more fully described hereinafter, whereby a simple and effective machine is produced, and one in which the parts are made yielding, so that there is no danger of breakage.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my chopper. Fig. 2 is a side elevation. Fig. 3 is an end view, and Fig. 4 an enlarged detail view.

*a* represents a suitable frame; *c*, the axle, having the driving-wheels rigidly secured thereto; and *d*, two scrapers or plows, which run on both sides of the rows of plants and clean away the weeds.

To one end of the axle, outside of and forming a part of the driving-wheel, is secured the gear-wheel *e*, which meshes with and drives the pinion *g* on the front end of the shaft *f*. This shaft extends back through the frame *a*, and has a crank or a wheel, *h*, provided with a wrist-pin on its rear end, and to which crank or wrist-pin there is fastened the crank *i* by means of the connecting-rod *l*. This crank *i* is on the rear end of the shaft *o'*, which is journaled in the center of the frame *a*, and which shaft does not revolve entirely around, but simply rocks from side to side. Rigidly fastened to this shaft is the arm *n*, and from opposite sides of this arm project the prongs *o*, which have their lower ends united together by the curved rod *q*.

Pivoted upon the shaft *o'*, between the lower split ends of the arm *n*, is the standard *r*,

which has a hole made in its upper end for the curved rod *q* to pass through. Over this curved rod, on each side of the standard, is passed a spiral spring, which is sufficiently stiff to hold the standard to its work, and yet allow it to give in case it should strike an unyielding obstruction, and thus prevent the hoes or standard from being injured or the working of the machine stopped.

Near the center of the standard is made a joint, *s*, so that the lower end of the standard can swing backward in the line of travel in case the hoe should catch behind an obstruction as the machine is being drawn forward.

The lower part of the standard is held in line with the upper part by means of a suitable spring, *t*, which allows the lower part to give sufficiently to prevent breakage or the stopping of the team.

To the lower end of the standard are fastened both a hoe having a full straight edge and one having the center of its edge removed, as shown. The full-edged one is used for chopping out the cotton, while the hoe having the center of its edge removed is used for stirring up the ground, and chopping sugar-cane and some of the small grains when drilled. These two hoes make a zigzag cut as the machine is drawn along, leaving a plant or plants in between each cut.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

In a cotton-chopper, the rocking shaft *o'* and its operating mechanism, in combination with the arm *n*, prongs *o*, provided with springs, the standard *r*, jointed at its upper end and provided with the joint *s*, and spring *t*, substantially as shown.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of June, 1879.

RICHARD LEROY LEE.

Witnesses:

JAMES D. LEE,  
W. J. GENTRY.