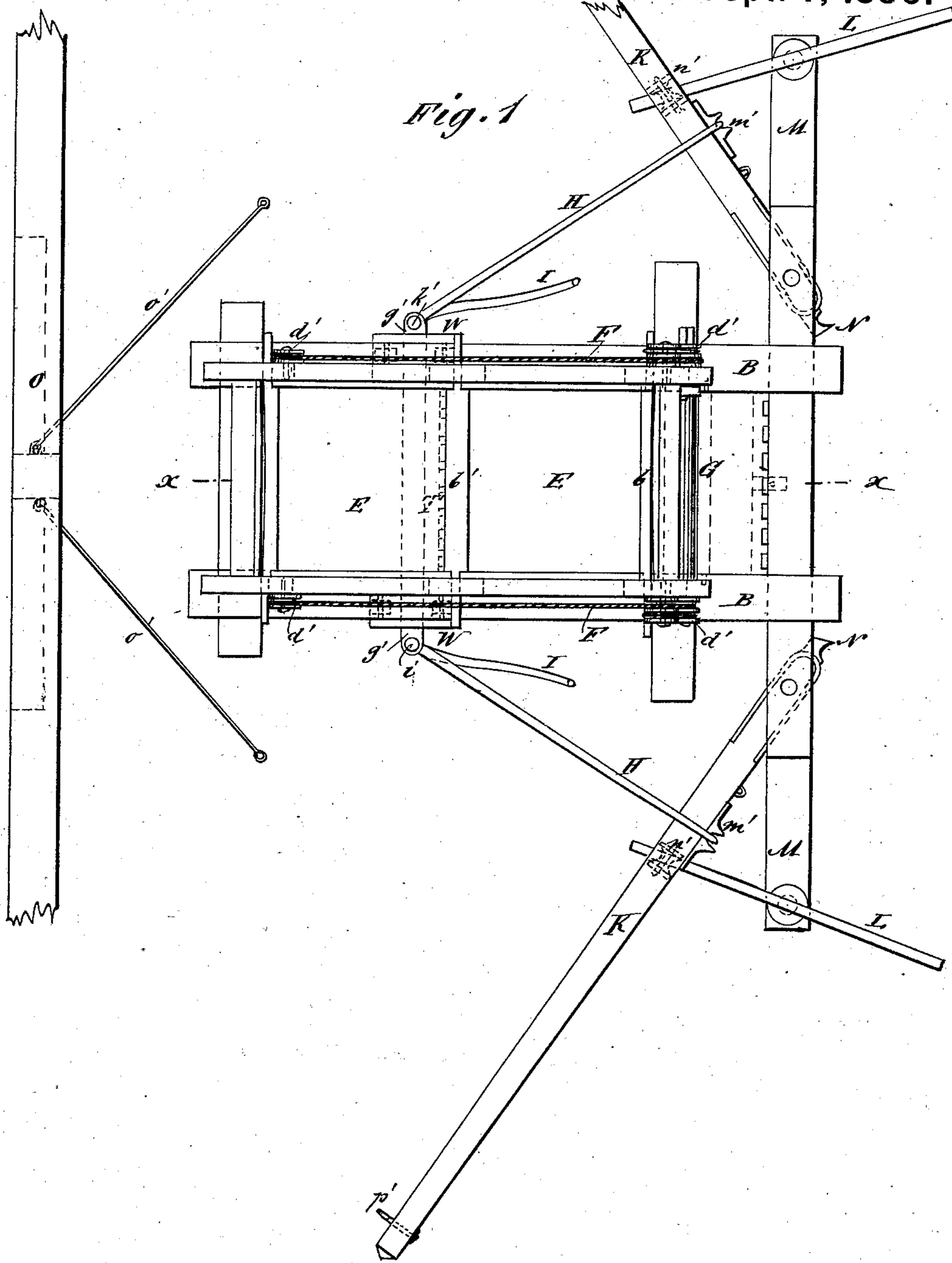


W. B. PADGETT.
Cotton Press.

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

No. 231,926.

Patented Sept. 7, 1880.



WITNESSES:

C. Nevada
C. Bengwick

INVENTOR:

W. B. Padgett

BY

ATTORNEYS.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

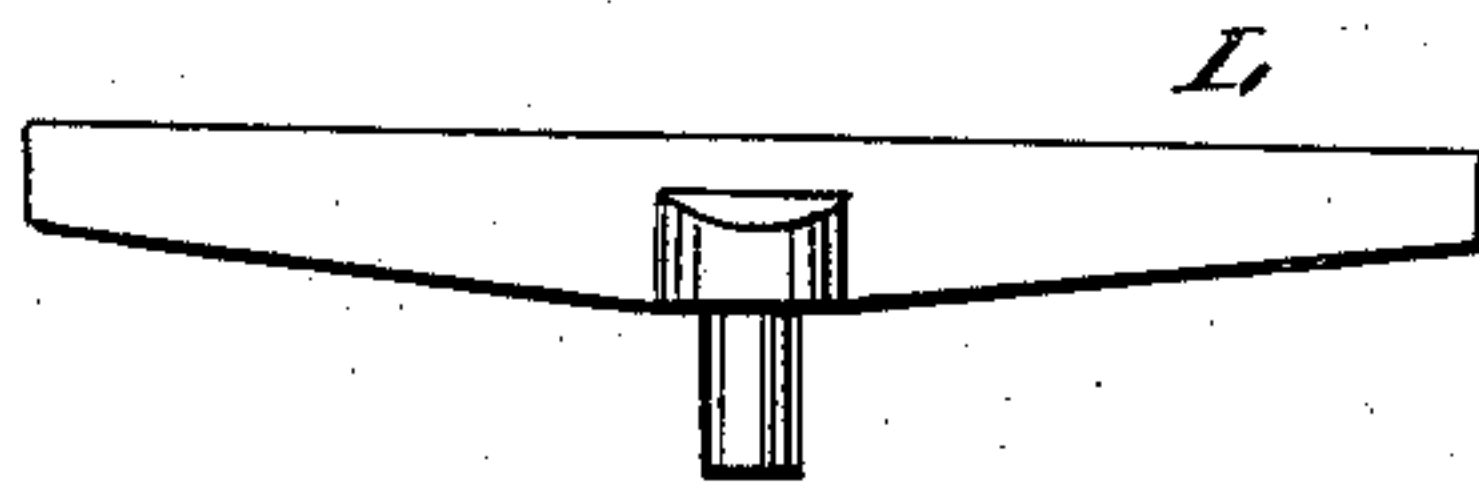
Patented Sept. 7, 1880.



Fig. 3



C. Nyeux
C. Sedgwick



W. B. Padgett

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. PADGETT, OF BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS.

COTTON-PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 231,926, dated September 7, 1880.

Application filed January 30, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. PADGETT, of Batesville, in the county of Independence and State of Arkansas, have invented a new and Improved Cotton-Press, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a plan of the press. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation on line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the movable rail.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved press for cotton, hay, or other material that may be operated by hand or other power.

The invention consists of the box A, into which the material to be pressed and baled is inserted through an opening, *a'*, in its rear, that is firmly secured upon the horizontal timber-frame B, and this frame in its turn is supported on a still lower frame, C, the space D between the two being inclosed to form the pressing and baling compartment. The movable cover E of the press is held in place and guided in its movements by the three cross-pieces *b'*, that are secured on its upper surface and project through the three vertical slots *c'* in the sides of the box. This cover may be of sufficient weight to press the cotton or other material down into the part D, or additional weight may be placed upon it for this purpose, and it may be raised and held at any desired elevation by the ropes F, that are fastened to the ends of the two end cross-pieces, *b' b'*, of the cover and passed around or over the grooved pulleys *d' d'*, and finally secured on the grooved pulleys of the winch G, which is held in bearings on the front of the press, and is provided with the usual ratchet and pawl *f'*.

The follower T, whose front face is vertically grooved for the convenience of passing the bands when baling, remains in the rear part of the chamber D until the cotton is pressed down into the chamber from above. It is secured between two parallel and horizontal strong iron straps, *g'*, that project on both sides from the chamber D through the horizontal slots *h'*. Between these projecting ends on each side are clamped the blocks W W by the bolts *k' k'*, while set in grooves in

the under sides of the blocks are the rollers *l' l'*, which rest on the timbers of the frame C and support the blocks and traveler, that they may be moved with a minimum of friction. Secured to each bolt *k' k'* are two iron loops, H and I, a long and a short one, respectively. The loops H are looped over the levers K K, and their bights engage in the grooved iron plates *m' m'*, so that they may not slip when a strain is put upon them.

The levers, it will be seen, are pivoted on bolts set vertically in the front timbers of the press-frame, and are provided with grooved rollers *n' n'*, that are secured to their under sides by staples, and these rollers are made to rest on the movable revolving rails L, that are set in sockets in the sills M M, thereby preventing any undue downward inclination of the levers during the progress of the work. On the end of each lever is a strong hook, N, whose functions will hereinafter be explained.

When the chamber D is filled with cotton ready for pressing power is applied to the long arms of the levers to carry them forward and draw along the follower for the purpose of compressing the cotton; but when it happens, as it not unfrequently does, that better leverage is necessary to give requisite power for properly compressing the cotton, the hooks N are made to engage in the short loops I I, and a reflex or backward movement is given to the levers, in order to effect the desired result.

O represents a post of the gin-house in which the press is presumably located, that has attached to it two rods or hooks, *o' o'*, for the purpose of catching and holding the levers at any time during the progress of baling, being made to engage in the hooks *p' p'* at the ends of the levers. The cotton, as it is compressed, is forced to the forward end of the chamber D, which is open at the top for the convenience of baling and closed below by a removable door, *s'*. Here it is banded, and when the door is removed made to fall into the space below.

I am aware that cotton-presses resembling this have been used and operated by long levers operating in long loops attached to the traveler, and that neither the box nor certain other parts are new; and I am aware, too, that a circular fixed rail extending all the way

around the press has been used for support of the levers; but the levers and loops in such cases often fail to effect proper compression, while the circular rail is in great part useless
5 and much in the way of the operators. I do not, therefore, broadly claim levers, loops, and supporting-rails in the construction of a cotton-press; but,

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

1. In the construction of a cotton or hay press, the short loops I I, levers K K, provided with hooks N N and grooved rollers *n' n'*, and
15 movable rails L L, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination of loops H and I and follower T with the levers K, provided with hooks N and grooved rollers *n'*, and the movable rail L, substantially as herein shown and
20 described.

3. The combination of box A, chamber D, and cover E with the follower T, loops H and I, levers K, provided with hooks N and grooved rollers *n'*, and movable rails L, constructed and
25 arranged substantially as herein shown and described.

WILLIAM B. PADGETT.

Witnesses:

THOS. B. PADGETT,

MARK A. R. WYCOUGH.