

(No Model.)

J. JOHNSON.  
Reciprocating Cleaner for Nuts, &c.

No. 241,667.

Patented May 17, 1881.

Fig. 1.

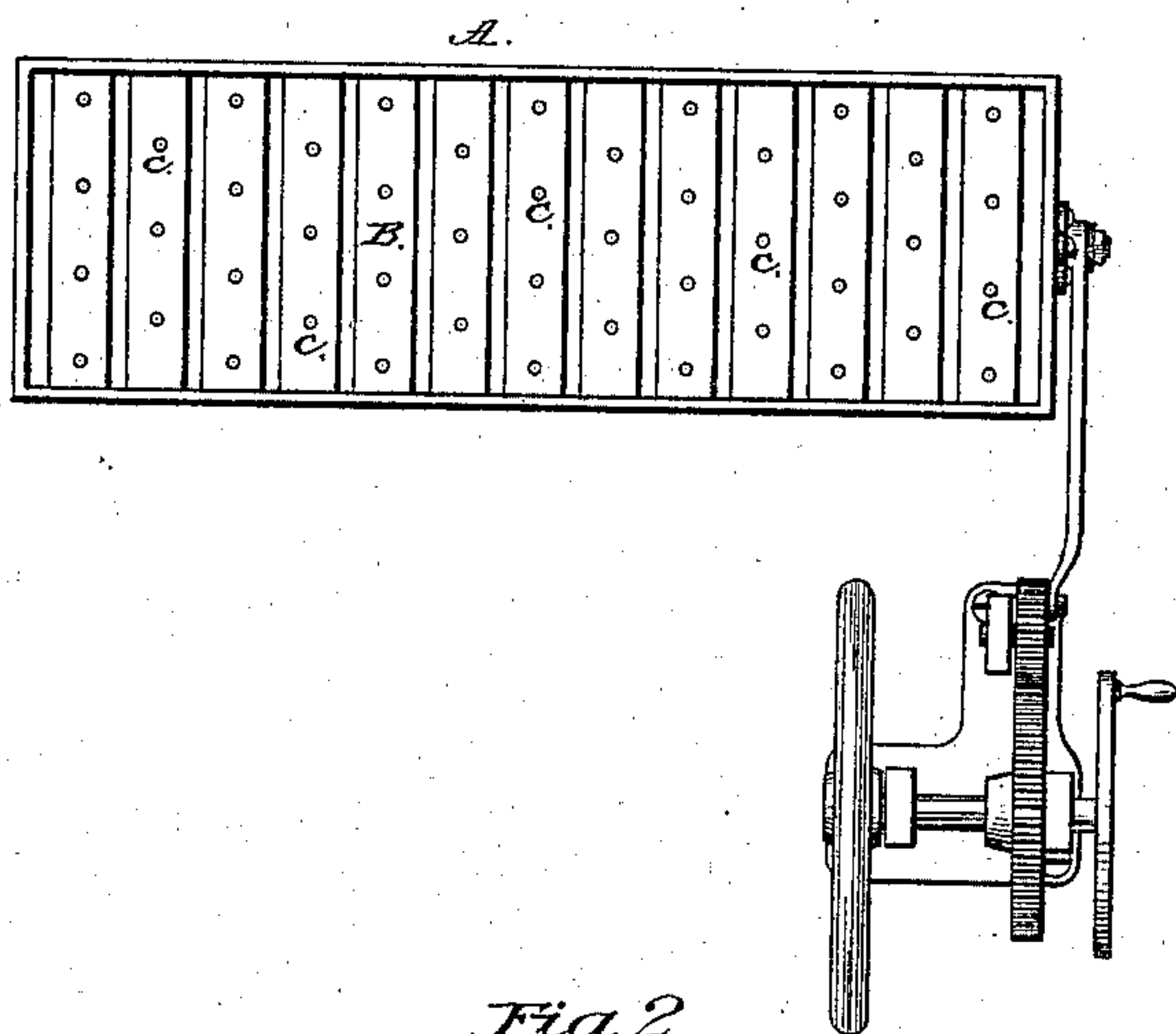


Fig. 2.

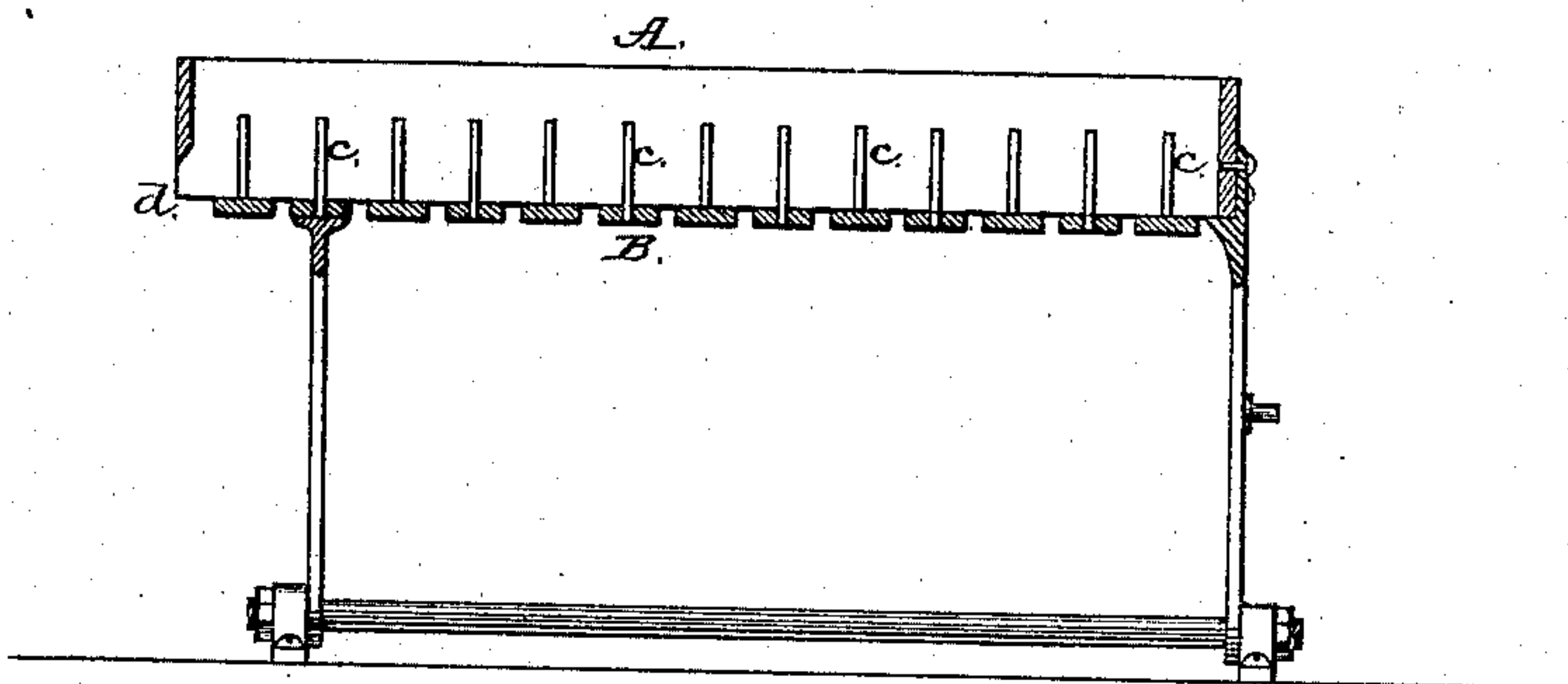
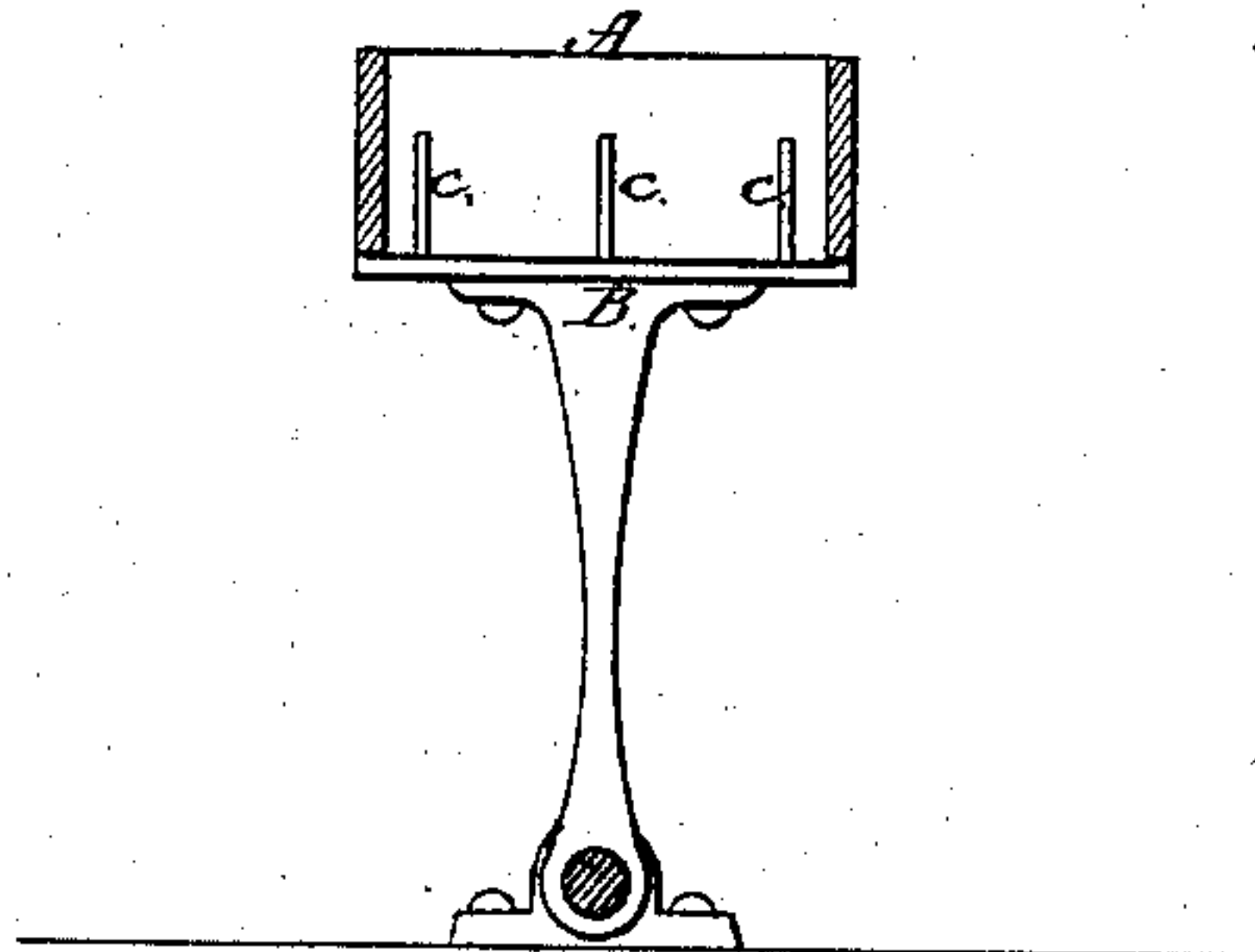


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEE JOHNSON, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR TO BENTON HARPER VELLINES, OF SAME PLACE.

## RECIPROCATING CLEANER FOR NUTS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 241,667, dated May 17, 1881.

Application filed February 4, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEE JOHNSON, of Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and valuable  
5 Improvements in Reciprocating Cleaners for Nuts, Dried Fruit, Grain, and other Articles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference  
10 being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a top view of a machine embodying this invention. Fig. 2 is a  
15 longitudinal section, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section, of the same.

This invention has relation to means for effecting a thorough cleaning of nuts, dried fruit, coffee, grain, and other articles; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement  
20 of the reciprocating box or receptacle having a slatted or open-work bottom and pins or pegs rising from said bottom, said pins or pegs being arranged at suitable distances apart  
25 throughout its extent, all as hereinafter shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the box or receptacle, having a bottom, B, composed of slats, with interstices between the same, or otherwise constructed with  
30 open spaces or interstices which shall be large enough to allow the dust and trash from the articles being cleaned to pass freely through, and at the same time small enough to prevent  
35 the passage of the said articles which are designed to be supported on the bottom. Rising from the bottom of the box are the whipping pins or pegs c, which are arranged at suitable distances apart throughout its extent, substantially as shown in the drawings. The box or  
40 receptacle is designed to have a reciprocating motion, and for this purpose it may be supported upon bearings or hangers allowing such motion; or it may be connected to arms, which  
45 are, in turn, connected to a rock-shaft or rock-shafts arranged in bearings, preferably below the box, as indicated in the drawings, the ef-

fect of this construction being such that the bottom will at each reciprocation lift the articles therein slightly and then move downward  
50 therefrom, so that it will move freely under the mass, and the pressure of the latter during the motion of the box will be less upon the bottom.

Motion may be communicated to the box by  
55 hand or power, the gearing being connected to the box by means of a pitman usually, and balance-wheels being employed to assist in keeping up a steady and uniform movement of reciprocation. Usually the box is provided  
60 at one end with a discharge-opening, d, the nuts being designed to be fed in at the other end.

The operation is as follows: The nuts or other articles to be cleaned are fed into the box  
65 at one end, and a reciprocating motion is given to said box, as indicated above, thereby rapidly forcing the pins or cleaners c to and fro through the mass, which is sufficiently lifted and supported by the bottom. The nuts are therefore  
70 forcibly driven about and against each other, and a thorough cleaning action is the result, the nuts passing regularly from the feed end to the discharge end of the box, and the dust and small trash falling through the interstices  
75 of the bottom. The feed may be kept up continuously during the motion of the box, or the latter may receive a charge before the shaking is commenced. When the charge is large or  
80 the motion very rapid, a cover may be arranged over the box to prevent the nuts or other articles from being thrown over the wall of the box. The same effect may be produced  
85 by connecting the pins or cleaners to the cover and making them of sufficient length to descend to the bottom of the box; but the mode first described is preferred.

Sometimes I design to use for the bottom a wire or perforated screen, causing the same to rest on bars extending along or across the bot-  
90 tom of the receptacle, said bars carrying the cleaning-pins, which project upward through the interstices or perforations of the screen-bottom, above the same.



Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 A reciprocating cleaner for nuts, fruit, grain, or other articles, consisting of a receptacle or box, A, its open slatted or interstitial bottom B, and the rubbing pins or pegs rising from said bottom at uniform distances apart throughout its extent, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOSEE JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

THOS. P. WARREN,  
B. H. VELLINES.