

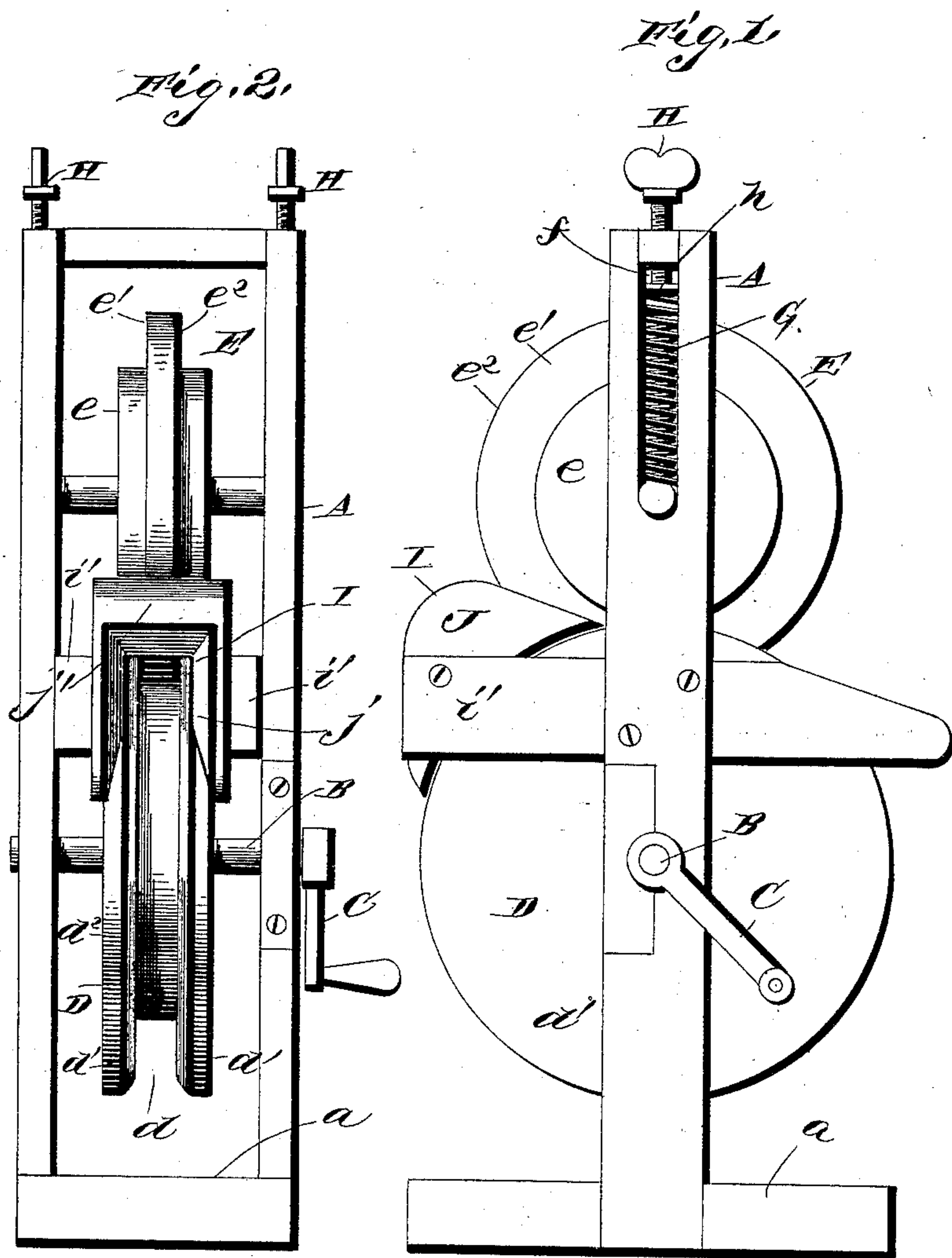
(Model.)

W. R. LASSITER.

MACHINE FOR PRESSING LEAVES OF TOBACCO.

No. 390,238.

Patented Oct. 2, 1888.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. LASSITER, OF HICO, KENTUCKY.

## MACHINE FOR PRESSING LEAVES OF TOBACCO.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,238, dated October 2, 1888.

Application filed April 23, 1886. Serial No. 199,980. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. LASSITER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hico, in the county of Callaway and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Machine for Pressing Leaf-Tobacco, which invention is fully set forth in the following specification.

The invention relates to improvements in machines for pressing the hands or bundles of leaf-tobacco; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of the machine. Fig. 2 represents a side view of the same.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates the rectangular vertical frame of the machine standing upon the base *a*.

B is a transverse shaft journaled in the side uprights of the main frame, and having on its extended journal the crank-handle C. D is a wheel detachably secured on said shaft, and having the circumferential groove *d*, provided with outwardly-beveled sides. The said wheel is composed of the two outer disks *d'* *d'* and the central disk *d*<sup>2</sup>, of smaller diameter, so that the wheel can be taken off the shaft and a smaller or larger central disk be substituted, in accordance with the sizes of the hands pressed.

E is a wheel above the wheel D, and likewise made of the outer disks *e* and the central disk *e'*. The central disk, however, is of larger diameter than the side disks, so that it forms on the complete wheel the circumferential flange *e*<sup>2</sup>, which enters the groove *d* in the wheel D. The said flange has not beveled but rectangular edges, and its diameter is much less than that of the lower wheel, so that it concentrates the pressure on less surface than a wheel of larger diameter would. By having the edges of the groove beveled, as described, the hands are more easily fed down therein.

The wheel E is detachably secured on the shaft F, the ends of which play in the vertical slots *f'* at the upper portions of the side uprights of the main frame. G G are coiled

springs in said slots and bearing on the ends of said shaft, and H H are thumb set-screws, which bear on the washers or blocks *h*, to adjust the tension of said springs.

I is a funnel or hopper attached to the horizontal beams *i'*, secured to and standing out from proper parts of the uprights of the main frame. This funnel or hopper consists of the side plates, J, secured to the beams *i'*, having the beveled portions *j*, and connected by a cross-bar, *j'*, having its inner surface similarly beveled, as shown. The hopper is arranged so as to be in the same horizontal plane as the engaging portions of the two rollers.

In operation the hands of tobacco are fed through the hopper into the groove of the lower wheel, the said wheel being at the same time revolved, and thereby drawing the hand between it and the upper wheel, when it will be compressed by the engaging tongue and groove into a convenient shape for packing. As the wheels continue to revolve of course the hand will be expelled from the rear side of the machine.

The hopper or funnel directs the hands to the engaging portions of the rolls, while its beveled construction permits the ready insertion of the hands.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination of the frame having the projecting beams *i'*, the lower roll journaled in the frame, and having an annular peripheral groove, the walls of said groove being beveled along their upper edges, the upper roll journaled in the frame and having an annular peripheral tongue engaging the groove in the lower roll, and the hopper secured to the beams *i'*, and projecting on each side of the rib of the upper roll, and consisting of the side plates, J, having the beveled portions *j* *j*, and the beveled cross-bar *j'*, connecting said side plates, as set forth.

This March 13, 1886.

W. R. LASSITER.

Witnesses:

J. PAT. HOLT,  
INA L. HOLT.