

2 Sheets—Sheet 1..

No. 408,323.

Patented Aug. 6, 1889.



Inventor:
Alfred S. Prickett
Per
Thomas Simpson
Atty

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

A. S. PRICKITT.
CRANBERRY SORTER.

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Fig. 5.

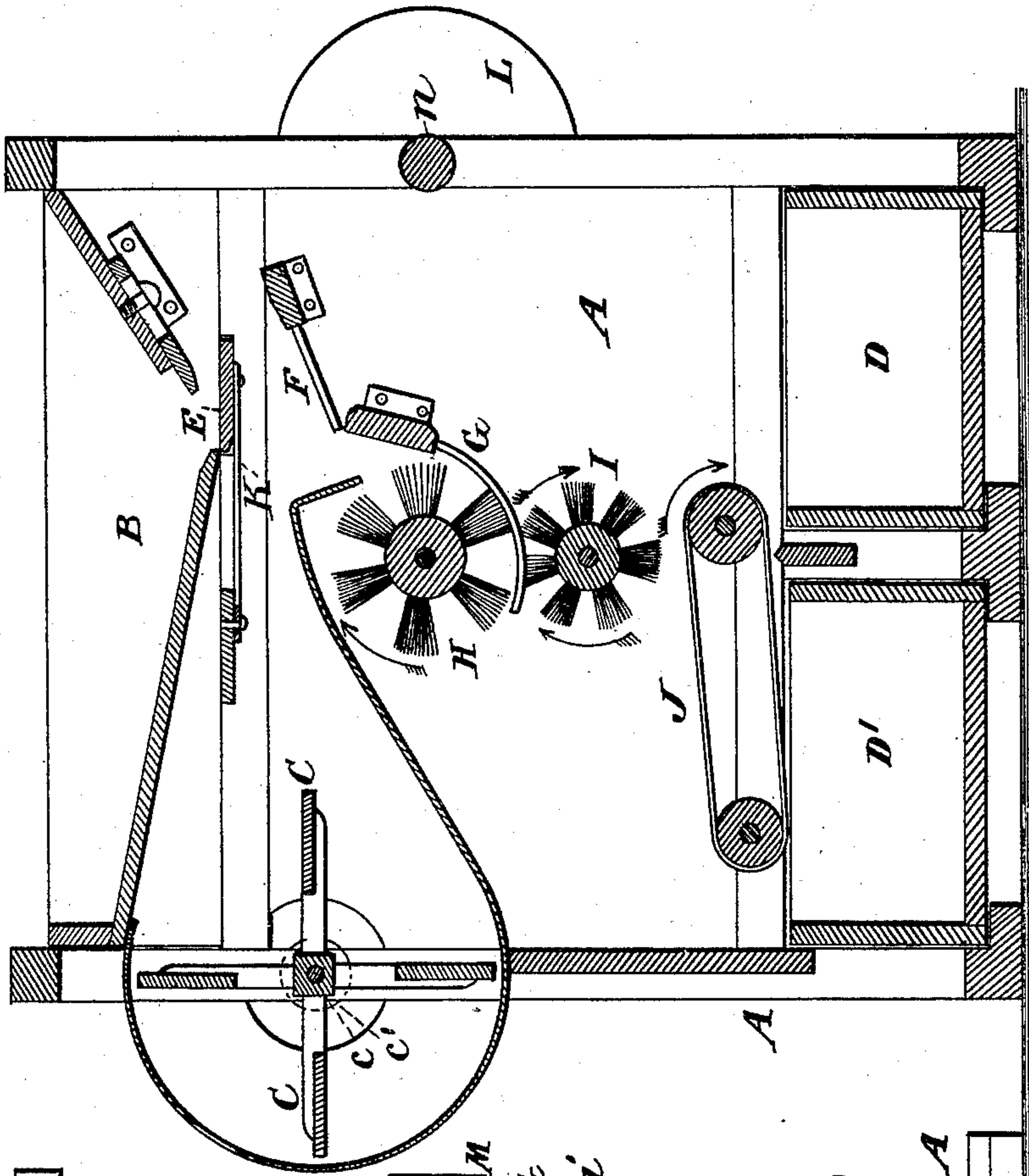
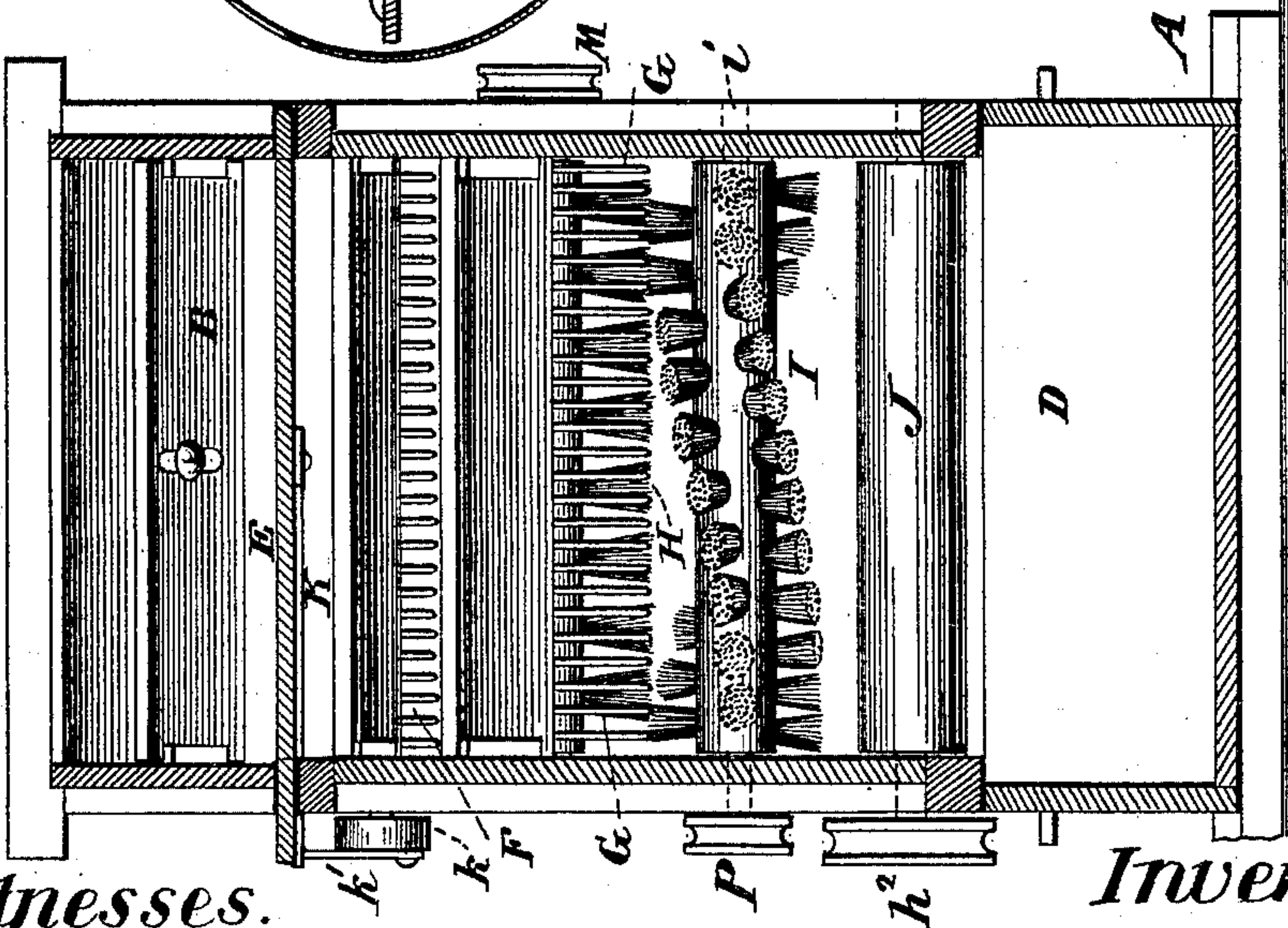


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
A. Ruppert.
Wm. Lewis

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED S. PRICKITT, OF RED LION, NEW JERSEY.

CRANBERRY-SORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 408,323, dated August 6, 1889.

Application filed April 15, 1889. Serial No. 307,291. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED S. PRICKITT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Red Lion, in the county of Burlington and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cranberry-Sorters; and I do 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 appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The cranberry-sorters known to me are doubtless useful for their purpose, but, being worked with a "bounce," are objectionable, because they do not separate the frosted and imperfect berries from the sound ones. Hence my special object is to agitate them without a bounce and to eliminate the soft defective berries.

Figures 1 and 2 are opposite side elevations of my cranberry-sorter; Fig. 3, a horizontal section, and Fig. 4 a vertical cross-section. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal vertical section.

In the drawings, A represents the supporting-frame; B, the hopper; C the fan, and D D' the drawers which receive the sound merchantable berries and the small and mashed ones. The berries are emptied into the hopper B and rest upon the transversely-reciprocating plate E. The latter feeds them to the inclined screen F, from which all dust and light matter are blown out of them by the fan C, so as to pass over and beyond the end of the machine. The small berries pass through the screen F into a subjacent drawer D, while the larger sizes pass down the inclined screen F into the concave screen G, where the soft and frosted ones are forced through the wires by the coaction of two rotary brushes H I. The latter rotate on opposite sides of the wires, pressing the soft berries through the screen, so as to fall into drawer D, and carrying the sound berries with some mashed ones from the concave. The mashed ones

adhere slightly to the brushes until the corresponding parts thereof separate, while the hard solid berries are thrown out, so as to fall into the drawer D'. The mashed ones drop upon the endless traveling apron J, and are by it discharged into the drawer D with the defective berries.

The work is done rapidly, with comparatively little labor, and in a much more thorough manner than I have ever seen it done before.

The reciprocating feed-plate E is operated by the elbow-lever K, which is connected by a crank-disk *k* and rod *k'* with the fan-shaft *c*, the latter being connected by the pulley *c'* and belt *c²* with the hand-crank or drive-pulley L. The latter is also connected by a pulley M with the shaft *h* of the upper rotary brush H by a belt *h'*, and the apron-shaft is also connected by an end pulley *h²* on the other side of the sorter with a double pulley N on the drive-shaft *n*. The pulley N is also connected by a belt O with the pulley P on the shaft *i* of the lower rotary brush I. Thus it will be seen that by this combination of mechanism I operate all the movable parts of the machine at the same time and correspondingly.

What I claim as new, and desire to protect by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a cranberry-assorter, the combination of a concave screen G and two opposite rotary brushes H I, one brush rotating on the inside and the other on the outside of said screen, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a cranberry-assorter, the combination, with the concave screen G and brushes H I, of the traveling apron J and drawers D D', arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALFRED S. PRICKITT.

Witnesses:

JOS. C. HINCHMAN,
JOSHUA S. WILLS.