

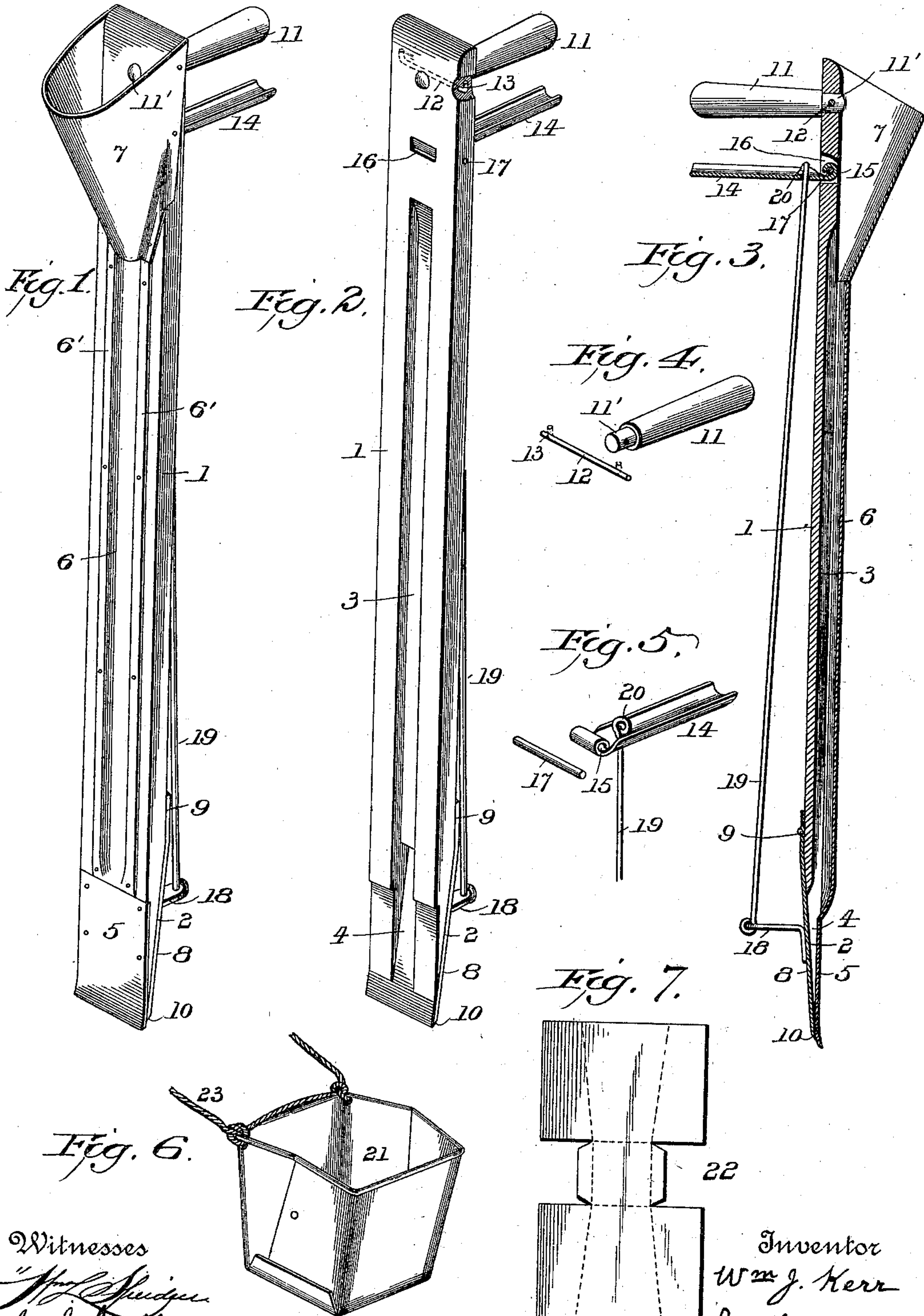
No. 625,774.

Patented May 30, 1899.

W. J. KERR.  
SEED PLANTER.

(Application filed Mar. 14, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SEED-PLANTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 625,774, dated May 30, 1899.

Application filed March 14, 1899. Serial No. 708,997. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. KERR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ozark, in the county of Christian and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Seed-Planters; 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 appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to hand seed droppers or planters, and has for its object the provision, in devices of the class embracing a seed-tube, earth-opening blades, and rod and handle operating mechanism, of improvements in the seed-tube which facilitate the admission of the seed thereto and improvements in the operating mechanism and other parts of the device whereby greater strength and ease of operation of the parts are had and many advantages obtained over the ordinary construction.

Having the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain improvements and novel combinations of parts set forth in detail hereinafter, and recited in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view; Fig. 2, a similar view with the seed tube and hopper and the stationary earth-opening blade removed; Fig. 3, a longitudinal section; Fig. 4, a detail of the handle and its connection; Fig. 5, a detail of the operating-lever and its connection; Fig. 6, a detail of the seed-receptacle, and Fig. 7 a view of the blank from which the seed-receptacle is formed.

The stock 1 consists of a flat piece of wood of suitable length and beveled or tapered at its lower end 2. Along one side of the stock is a groove 3, which extends completely through the tapered end at 4.

The numeral 5 designates a flat piece of steel, secured to the grooved side of the stock at the lower end thereof. This piece extends beyond the end of the stock and constitutes an earth-opening blade. It also serves as a wall for the slot 4.

The seed-tube 6 is of semitubular form, with flanges 6', which are fastened to the stock in position to bring the semitubular part in line

with the groove 3, thus forming the complete seed-conveyer.

The seed-hopper 7, which is fastened to the upper portion of the stock, is flared or widened at its top or mouth and tapers or narrows downward until it terminates at the upper end of seed-tube 6 and at a point somewhat below the upper end of groove 3. By reason of this peculiar construction and disposition the seed fed into the hopper by hand is directed to the groove and all clogging or interruption of the feed is prevented. The remaining earth-opening blade is shown at 8, and consists of a strip of steel secured to the stock at 9 and bent throughout the remainder of its length so that its own resiliency will keep it closed snugly against the beveled portion 2 and covering the slot 4. The lower end of this blade is beveled at 10 to insure the easy entry of both blades in the ground when the device is in use.

At the upper end of the stock is a handle 11, having a tenon 11' fitted into the stock and held by a fastening-rod 12, extending transversely through it and the stock and having its ends clenched at 13. This construction provides a handle which is very strong and adapted to remain firm at all times.

The numeral 14 designates the operating-lever, which is of semitubular form and bent into a transverse eye 15 at its end, said eye being received in an opening 16 in the stock and pivoted on a pin 17, extending through the latter. The lever is disposed immediately below the handle, so that both can be gripped by the operator. An angle-iron 18 has one leg connected to the blade 8, and a rod 19 connects the remaining leg to the lever. This connection is accomplished by loosely passing the end of the rod through the lever and forming it into a curl 20, which fits in the trough of the lever, thus affording a strong fastening which prevents turning of the connecting-rod.

In Figs. 6 and 7 is shown a cheap, simple, and durable form of metallic box or seed-receptacle adapted for attachment to the operator and designed to contain the seeds to be planted. This box 21 is formed from the blank 22 in a manner which is apparent, and it is provided with a cord 23, which is de-



signed to go around the waist of the operator and be tied at his back, so that the receptacle will be positioned in front.

In operating the device the user takes the requisite number of seeds from the receptacle with one hand and places them in the hopper and with the other hand presses the blades into the earth and grips the lever and handle, whereupon the seeds pass out between the blades, after which the device is withdrawn and the soil closes over the seeds.

The present invention is adapted for planting or dropping all kinds of corn, beans, peas, and other seeds and can be operated rapidly and easily without clogging.

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

1. In a hand seed dropper or planter, the combination with a stock having a tapered or beveled end and a groove extending along its length and through the beveled end, of a covering for the groove, an earth-opening blade secured to the end of the stock and forming a back for the slot, a movable earth-opening blade normally closed against the tapered end and the first-named blade, and means for spreading the movable blade.

2. In a hand seed planter or dropper, the combination with a stock having a groove extending along its length, of a covering for said groove, earth-opening blades at the end of the stock and adapted to receive the seed from the groove between them, and a feed-hopper connected to the stock with its lower end ex-

tending below the upper end of the groove which opens into said hopper.

3. In a hand seed planter or dropper, the combination with a stock, of earth-opening blades, a lever of semitubular form having a transverse eye, a pivot-pin passing through said eye and connecting the lever to the stock, and a rod connected at one end to one of the blades and having its other end passed through the lever and provided with a head fitting the concavity of the lever.

4. The herein-described hand seed planter or dropper, comprising a stock having a tapered end and a groove in its side which extends through the tapered end, a covering for the groove, a hopper connected to the stock and extending over the upper end of the groove, an earth-opening blade secured to one side of the stock at its end, a resilient earth-opening blade secured to the other side of the stock and normally closed against the beveled portion of the end, a handle secured to the stock, a semitubular lever having an eye pivoted to the stock below the handle and adjacent thereto, and a connecting-rod fastened at one end to the resilient blade and having its other end passed through the lever and provided with a head received in the concavity thereof.

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

WILLIAM J. KERR.

Witnesses:

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