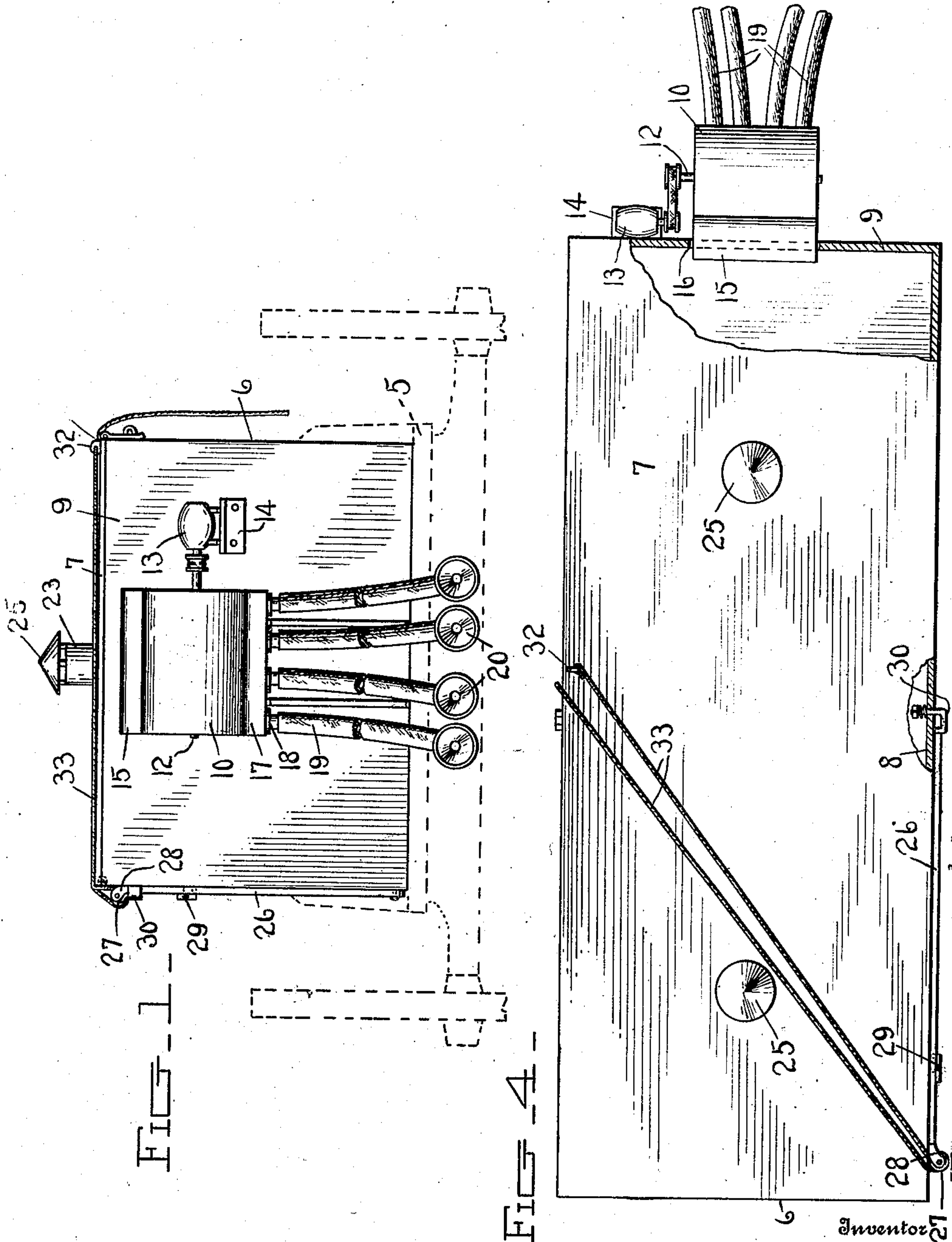


919,847.

T. J. GESSMAN.  
COTTON PICKING APPARATUS.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1908.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909.  
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

L. B. James  
M. J. Miller

Theodor J. Gessman

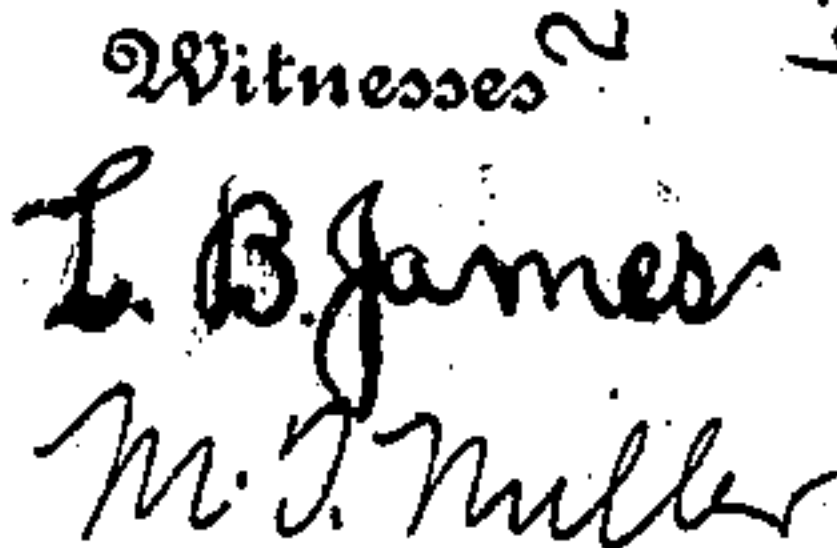
By

*Charles Charles*

Attorneys

919,847.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Theodor J. Gessman

**Attorney:**



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODOR J. GESSMAN, OF WARWICK, OKLAHOMA.

## COTTON-PICKING APPARATUS.

No. 919,847.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 27, 1909.

Application filed March 27, 1908. Serial No. 423,611.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THEODOR J. GESSMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Warwick, in the county of Lincoln, State of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cotton-Picking Apparatus; 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.

The present invention has reference to cotton-pickers, and it aims, primarily, to provide an exceedingly simple and effective suction-operated apparatus of that nature which may be readily mounted upon the bed of a farm wagon of any conventional type without necessitating any alteration either in the wagon or in the apparatus itself, and which may be removed with equal facility from the wagon at the conclusion of the picking operation.

To this end, the invention comprises a covered receptacle having its rear wall provided with a horizontal slot through which the discharge neck of the casing of a fan extends, the casing being secured directly to said wall adjacent the motor which drives the fan, the suction tubes being fitted at their upper ends upon nipples formed upon a second neck located toward the bottom of the casing.

The invention further resides in the provision upon the hinged lid or cover of the receptacle of a pair of exhaust pipes whose lower ends communicate with the interior of the receptacle through openings formed in said lid, while their upper ends have deflectors secured thereto, which permit the escape of air through the pipes, and, at the same time, prevent that of the picked cotton.

The invention will be readily understood from a consideration of the following detailed description, and its preferred embodiment is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which corresponding parts or features, as the case may be, are designated by similar reference numerals in the several views.

Of the said drawings: Figure 1 is a rear elevation of the complete invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 4 is a top plan view, part of the cover being broken away for clearness of illustration.

A portion of the wagon bed is shown in dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 5 designates generally, the bed of a farm wagon of any conventional type upon which is mounted a rectangular receptacle 6 preferably constructed of sheet steel. The open top of this receptacle is normally closed by a steel cover 7 hinged at one side to the adjacent side wall 8 of the receptacle and provided at its opposite side with a fastening device of any ordinary type. To the rear wall 9 of the receptacle is secured the casing 10 of a fan 11, the fan shaft 12 being driven by a motor 13 mounted upon a bracket 14 which projects laterally from said front wall and is riveted thereto. The upper portion of the fan casing is provided with a V-shaped neck 15 disposed longitudinally thereof, the horizontal arm of said neck projecting through a horizontal slot 16 formed in the rear wall 9 and extending into the interior of the receptacle. The lower portion of the fan casing is, in like manner, provided with a longitudinal neck 17 upon which a series of downwardly inclined nipples 18 is formed, each nipple having fitted thereon the upper end of a suction pipe 19 whose lower end carries a cup 20. The suction pipes, which are preferably formed of rubber or similar flexible material are maintained in distended position by means of helical springs 21 fitted in the interior thereof. The fan casing has disposed within its interior a screen 22 of wire gauze or other suitable material, the screen being so arranged as to prevent the cotton drawn into the casing by the action of the fan from coming into contact with the fan blades.

The receptacle cover 7, above referred to, has formed therethrough adjacent its front and rear ends a pair of openings 23, in which the lower ends of the front and rear vertical exhaust pipes 23 are fitted, said pipes being held in such position by circumscribing flanges 24 which are formed thereon and are riveted to the cover. Each exhaust pipe carries at its upper end a conical ribbed deflector 25.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that when the fan is in operation and the cups 20 are held against the open cotton bolls, the suction caused by the rotation of the fan will remove the cotton from the bolls and force it through the discharge neck 17 into the interior of the receptacle, the air exhausting through the spaces between the edges of the deflector 25 and the corresponding pipes 23, which spaces, however, are suf-



ficiently small to prevent the cotton from escaping therethrough.

The side wall 8 of the receptacle to which the cover is hinged has pivotally connected thereto the lower end of a lever 26, the upper end of the lever carrying a pulley 27 rotatably mounted in a bracket 28 secured to said end. The lever is normally maintained in an inclined position by the engagement therewith of a clip 29 which is likewise secured to the wall 8, a spring pressed clip 30 being secured to the upper edge of said wall directly above the point at which the lever is pivoted. The side edge of the cover to which the locking device, above referred to, is secured, is provided with an eye bolt 32 to which one end of a cable 33 is fastened, said cable being lead around the pulley 27. By reason of this construction, it will be apparent that upon the application of stress to the free end of the cable after the lever 26 has been moved into vertical position, in engagement with the clip 30, the cover 7 will be raised into open position.

While the weight of the receptacle is ordinarily sufficient to maintain it against displacement during the movement of the wagon, said receptacle may, if preferred, be further secured to the wagon bed by means of metal braces 34 which depend from the casing of the fan and are formed integral therewith, the lower ends of said braces being bolted to the wagon bed. The bolts, however, are adapted to be withdrawn from engagement with the wagon bed, to permit the removal of the receptacle, when desired.

It will be obvious, therefore, from the foregoing, that the apparatus as a whole, is extremely simple in its construction, may be manufactured at a correspondingly low cost, and may be mounted upon the bed of a farm wagon of any ordinary type without necessitating any alteration either in the bed or in the apparatus itself.

What is claimed is:

The combination, in a cotton-picking apparatus, of a receptacle and a cover therefor, the receptacle having a horizontal slot formed in its rear wall, and the cover having an opening formed therethrough; an exteriorly-located fan casing secured to said wall and provided with a horizontal discharge neck extending through said slot and opening into the interior of the receptacle, and with a second neck having a series of nipples formed thereon; a fan disposed within said casing; a motor secured to said rear wall and arranged to rotate said fan; a suction pipe secured to each nipple; an exhaust pipe having its lower end fitted in the opening in said cover; and a conical deflector secured to the upper end of said exhaust pipe, to permit the escape of air and prevent the escape of the picked cotton from the interior of the receptacle.

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

THEODOR J. GESSMAN.

Witnesses:

R. E. PRINE,  
JAS. H. KENNEY.