F. B. PRESTON.

HAND SEED-PLANTER.

No. 191,882. Patented June 12, 1877.

Fig. 1

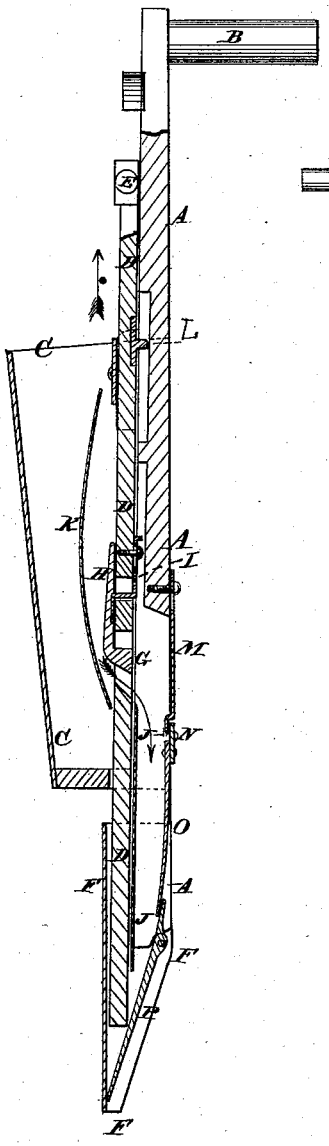
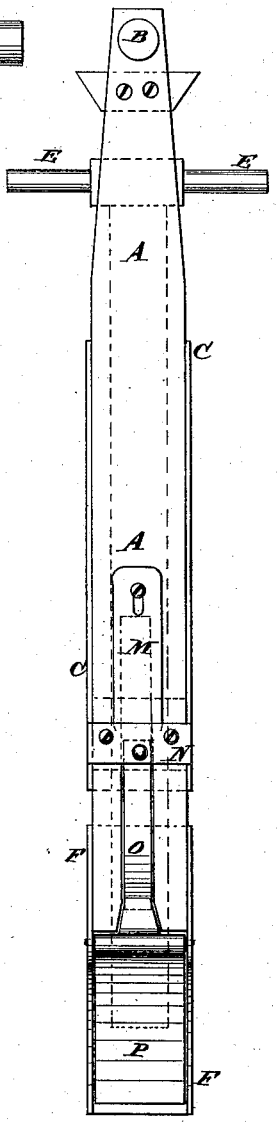


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

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FRANCIS B. PRESTON, OF FAYETTE, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND SEED-PLANTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **191,882**, dated June 12, 1877; application filed April 2, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS B. PRESTON, of Fayette, in the county of Howard and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hand Seed-Planter, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of my improved planter. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved hand machine for planting corn and other seeds, which shall be simple in construction, convenient in use, easily adjusted to plant more or less seed to a hill, reliable in operation, and not liable to get out of order.

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawing and then pointed out in the claim.

A is the rear or main board of the planter, to the upper end of which the handle B is attached.

C is the seed-hopper, the sides of which are attached to the middle part of the side-edges of the board A.

D is the dropping slide which passes through the seed-hopper C, along the forward side of the board A, and to the upper end of which is attached the handle E, by which it is operated.

The lower part of the slide D, is covered with a plate, F, the side parts of which are bent back at right angles and are attached to the side edges of the lower end of the board A. The edges of the part of the turned-back sides of the plate F, that project below the board A, are beveled off so that the said plate may enter the soil easily.

In the part of the slide D that works in the lower part of the hopper C is formed a slot to receive seed from said hopper, and drop it into a slot in the board A.

The size of the dropping hole in the slide D is regulated by a block, G, formed upon a bar or plate, H, placed upon the forward side of the slide D, and to which is attached a strap, I, which passes through a slot in the slide D, is bent upward at right angles along the rear side of said slide D, and is slotted to receive the small screw by which it is secured in place, so that by loosening the said screw the regulator may be adjusted as required.

J is a plate attached to the forward side of the lower part of the board A, and extending up a little above the bottom of the hopper C, to prevent the seed from running through the slot of the slide D when the said slide is lowered.

K is a plate attached to the hopper C, and extending nearly to the bottom of said hopper, so that its lower edge may be upon a level with or a little below the upper edge of the plate J, to prevent any seed from entering the dropping-hole of the slide D after it has been raised so high that the seed may pass over the upper edge of the plate J, the lower edge of the plate K serving as a cut off to prevent the slide D from carrying up any more seed than enough to fill its dropping-hole.

The slide D is made to move up and down in a straight line by a stud, L, attached to its rear side, and which enters a groove in the forward side of the board A.

The upper part of the slot in the board A is covered with a plate, M, the upper end of which is slotted to receive the screw by which it is secured to the board A. The lower end of the plate M has a toe formed upon it which is slipped beneath the edge of a narrow cross-plate, N, attached to the board A, so that by slipping up the plate M to free its toe, it may be swung to one side to enable the regulator G H I to be readily adjusted.

The lower part of the slot in the board A, is covered with the spring O, the upper end of which is attached to the plate N, and its lower end rests against the inner side of the upper end of the plate P, so as to hold the lower end of said plate pressed forward against the plate F, so that soil cannot enter the cavity of the planter when its lower end is thrust into the ground. The plate P is hinged near its upper end to the lower end of the board A.

The plate or foot-piece F may be cleaned from soil, should it become clogged by unskillful handling, by pressing upon the plate P and spring O at their point of meeting, which

will raise the lower end of the plate so that it can be turned back and up toward the seed-hopper, allowing the soil to be easily removed.

By this construction as the slide D is raised enough seed for a hill is taken from said hopper and dropped into the slot of the board A, down which it passes and rests in the angle between the plates F P. When the planter has been thrust into the soil the slide D is pushed down, which forces the plate P back and forms a space in the soil into which the seed drops. The seed is covered by the falling in of the soil as the planter is raised.

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

1. The combination, with plates M N, of spring O, hinged plate P, and plate F, forming the rear side of the passage, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The plate M, provided with a toe, as and for the purpose described.

FRANCIS B. PRESTON.

Witnesses:

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