

J. W. FAWKES.

Seed-Dropper.

No. 49,250.

Patented Aug. 8, 1865.

Fig. 1

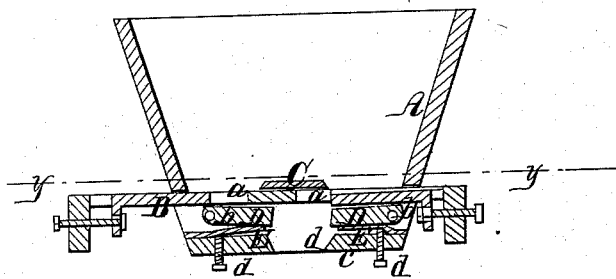
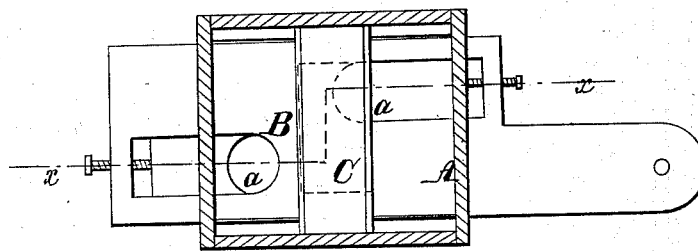


Fig. 2



Witnesses;
Wm. Brown
Theo. Fawkes

Inventor;
J. W. Fawkes
per Munroe & Co. Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. W. FAWKES, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORN-PLANTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **49,250**, dated August 8, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. W. FAWKES, of Decatur, in the county of Macon and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Corn-Planter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is vertical section of my invention, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a horizontal section of the same, taken in the line *y y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in the corn-dropping device, and has for its object the dropping of the corn without breaking it, and the consequent even distribution of the same.

The ordinary corn-dropping devices which are provided with perforated reciprocating slides are, as a general thing, the most preferable; but they are attended with the disadvantage of breaking the corn, caused by the uppermost projecting grain or kernel in the perforation or seed-cell of the reciprocating slide being brought in contact with the cut-off, the action being similar to a pair of shears. This difficulty is fully obviated by my improvement.

A represents a hopper of a corn-planter, and B a reciprocating slide, which has two perforations or seed-cells, *a a*, made through it; and C is a cut-off placed in the lower part of the hopper, underneath which the slide B works. These parts may be arranged in the usual way, and therefore do not require a minute description.

D D represent two bars, which are fitted on pivots *b b* below the slide B, the latter work-

ing or resting on said bars. The pivots *b b* are at the outer ends of the bars D D, and the latter rest on springs E E, which are secured at their outer ends to the bottom plate, *c*, of the hopper, and have regulating or adjusting screws *d d* bearing against their under sides, said screws passing up plate *c*, as shown clearly in Fig. 1. The bottom plate, *c*, has a hole, *d*, made in it, which is directly underneath the cut-off C.

From the above description it will be seen that a certain degree of play or yielding movement in a vertical direction is allowed the slide B in consequence of said slide resting on the pivoted bars D D, and the latter, in turn, resting on the springs E E, and in case of a grain or kernel of corn projecting above the upper surface of the slide B in either of the cells *a* the slide B will yield and admit of the grain or kernel being forced out of the cell up into the hopper as the cell passes underneath the cut-off, instead of being broken, as hitherto. Thus the corn will be more evenly planted than by the ordinary seed-dropping devices now in use. The corn passes out of the cells *a* as the latter get entirely under the cut-off and drops between the bars D D and through the hole *d*.

The bars D D may be made to yield or give under a greater or less pressure by regulating or adjusting the screws *d d*.

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

The pivoted bars D D and springs E E, or their equivalent, in connection with the reciprocating slide B, provided with the cells *a a*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

J. W. FAWKES.

Witnesses:

J. G. STARR,
A. J. HANKS.