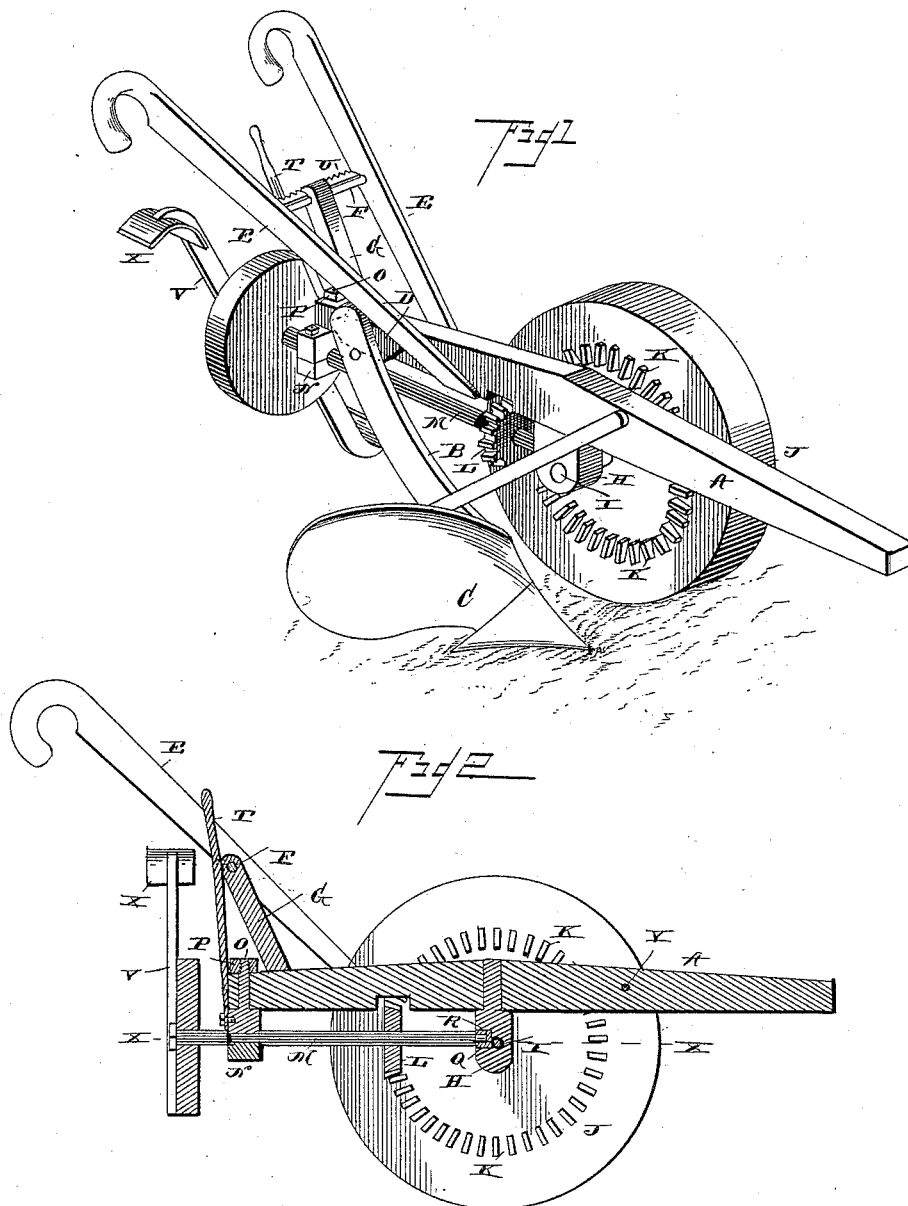


(No Model.)
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 W. J. LEAIRD, W. W. MEGGS, G. F. POND & W. D. SEPARK.
 COTTON CHOPPER.

No. 423,331.

Patented Mar. 11, 1890.



Witnesses
John Moore
Wm. Bagger

By their Attorneys,

Inventors
William J. Leaird
William W. Meggs
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Ca Snow & Co.

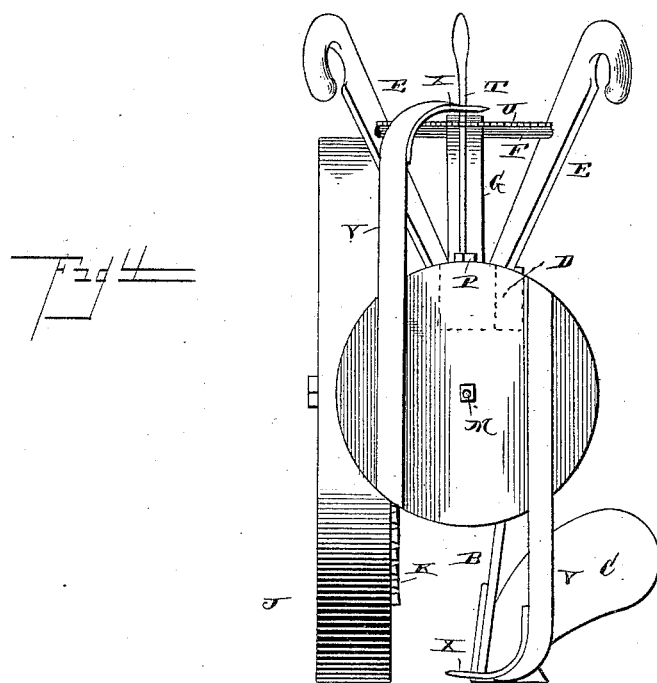
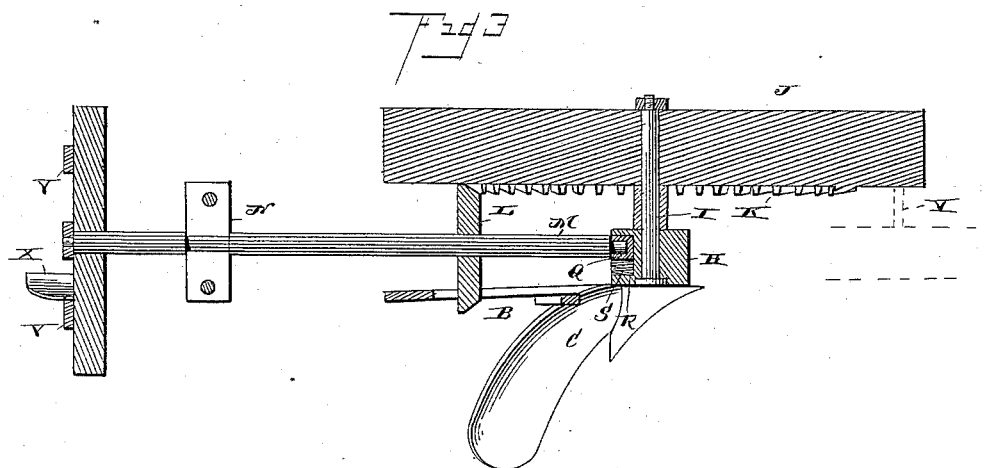
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. LEAIRD, WILLIAM WESLEY MEGGS, GEORGE FRANKLIN POND,
AND WILLIS DEANE SEPAK, OF PEACHLAND, NORTH CAROLINA.

COTTON-CHOPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 423,331, dated March 11, 1890.

Application filed June 25, 1889. Serial No. 315,534. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM J. LEAIRD, WILLIAM WESLEY MEGGS, GEORGE FRANKLIN POND, and WILLIS DEANE SEPAK, citizens of the United States, residing at Peachland, in the county of Anson and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful Cotton-Chopper, of which the following is a specification.

10 This invention relates to cotton-choppers; and it has for its object to provide a device of this class which shall be simple in construction, durable, easily operated, and which may be conveniently attached to the beam of an
15 ordinary plow, so as to be operated in connection with the latter.

The invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, which will be hereinafter described, and
20 particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved cotton-chopper. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal
25 sectional view taken on the line *x x* in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a rear view.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A designates a beam, and B the standard,
30 of an ordinary plow, which latter is designated by letter C.

D is a block interposed between the beam A and the upper end of the standard B, for the purpose of spacing the same sufficiently
35 to make room for the operating mechanism, as will be presently described.

E E designate the handles, which are secured to the sides of the plow-beam, and which are connected by means of a rung F, passing
40 through a brace or bracket G, which extends upwardly from the plow-beam near the rear end of the latter.

H designates a bracket extending downwardly from the plow-beam and forming a
45 bearing for a short transverse shaft I, the outer end of which carries a wheel J, adjacent to and at some distance from the landside of the plow. Said wheel is provided on its inner side with a series of teeth or cogs K K, adapted to
50 mesh with a pinion L, which is mounted upon a longitudinal shaft M. The rear end of the

shaft M has its bearings in a block or box N, which is provided with an upwardly-extending bolt O, passing vertically through the beam A and secured by means of a nut P, 55 thereby connecting the said box or bearing N pivotally to the rear end of the plow-beam. The front end of the shaft M is journaled in a box Q, which is arranged to slide transversely in a recess R in the rear side of the bracket H, 60 a spring S being arranged adjacent to said box to force the latter in the direction of the wheel J, with which the pinion L is thus normally held in engagement. The pivoted box N is provided with an upwardly-extending 65 handle T, which may be made to engage any one of a series of recesses U U in the rung F, thereby causing the said pivoted box and the shaft journaled therein to be retained in any position to which it may be adjusted. The 70 rear end of the shaft M is provided with a wheel or disk having adjustable arms V V, carrying at their outer ends the chopping-hoes X X, which may be of any suitable construction. 75

Y is an arm or bracket extending laterally from the beam A toward the wheel or disk J, and bearing against the inner face of the latter, so as to prevent it from wobbling.

From the foregoing description, taken in 80 connection with the drawings hereto annexed, the operation and advantages of our invention will be readily understood. When the machine passes over the field, the plow will enter the soil and make a furrow along one side of 85 the row of growing plants, and the wheel J will travel on the opposite side of said row, transmitting a rotary motion to the longitudinal shaft M, which carries the chopping-hoes, causing the latter to chop or thin out the 90 plants in the usual manner. When it shall be desired to temporarily suspend the operation of the chopper, the box N may be swung upon its pivot by means of its operating-handle, thus disengaging the pinion L from the 95 teeth or cogs upon the wheel J.

It will be observed that owing to the block D, which is interposed between the beam A and standard B, the latter are spaced sufficiently to admit of the free movement of the 100 pinion L.

The device as an entirety is simple in con-

struction, and it will be observed that the cotton-chopping device may be readily attached in operative position to the beam of an ordinary plow without altering the construction of the latter.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the plow, the beam of which is provided with a downwardly-extending bracket having a recess in its rear side, a shaft journaled transversely in said bracket and carrying the operating-wheel, a box mounted pivotally upon the under side of the beam at the rear end of the latter, a shaft journaled in said box and having a pinion meshing with the operating-wheel, the front end of said shaft being journaled in a box arranged to slide transversely in the recess in the rear side of the bracket depending from the plow-beam, a spring arranged to bear against the said sliding box, an operating-handle attached to the pivoted box at the rear end of the plow-beam, and a disk mounted at the rear end of the longitudinal shaft and carrying the chopping-hoes, substantially as set forth.

2. In a cotton-chopping attachment for plows, the combination of a box adapted to be attached pivotally to the under side of the plow-beam at the rear end of the latter, the longitudinal shaft journaled in said box and having at its rear end a disk carrying the chopping-hoes, the front end of said shaft being journaled in a box sliding transversely in a bracket depending from the plow-beam, a shaft journaled transversely in said bracket, an operating-wheel at the outer end of said shaft, and a pinion mounted upon the longitudinal shaft and meshing with said operating-wheel, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM J. LEAIRD.
WILLIAM WESLEY MEGGS.
GEORGE FRANKLIN POND.
WILLIS DEANE SEPARK.

Witnesses:

C. B. MOORE,

B. P. ^{his} MURRY.
mark