To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH K. DAVIS, of Monticello, in the county of Fairfield and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cotton and Hay-Presses; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cotton-press embodying my improvement.

Figure 2 is a transverse section of the nut and beam upon which it works.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of my hinged clamp.

This invention relates to an improvement on an improved cotton and hay-press patented September 28, 1869, by Joseph K. Davis.

The first part of my improvement consists in providing two of the uprights at the same end of the frame of a hay or cotton-press with scarf or beveled joints and catches, which also act as supports, the object of the invention being to permit that portion of the frame above the joints to be drawn from a perpendicular to an inclined position and replaced at pleasure.

A A are scarf or beveled joints, working on hinges in the uprights B B.

C C are catches, which act as supports when the frame above the joints A A is placed in an inclined position.

The catches C C have notches, d d, which receive the pins e e on both sides of the uprights B B, and hold the uprights when perpendicular.

f f are notches, which receive the rounds of the catches C C. When the top of the frame is drawn outward the catches then become supports.

Clents G G are fastened to the uprights directly beneath the girder H H, and form a resting-place for the end of the lid I when the doors J J are open and the top of the frame inclined. The hinges k k are thus prevented from breaking.

L L are nuts, whose upper portions are rectangular while their lower portions are curvilinear.

Their upper portions are provided with mortises, m m, for the reception of levers, which vary in length.

The lower portions are provided with grooves, n n, for the reception of a cord, by which they may be both screwed up or down rapidly at the same time.

The nuts L L are provided with grooves o o, and the seeds p p have corresponding grooves.

Friction-balls, q q, are introduced into the spaces formed by the meeting of the grooves when the nuts L L are placed upon the seats p p.

The object of introducing the balls q q is to reduce the friction as much as possible.

The clamp R has the lever S connected to it by the hinge T, when in its place on the press.

The lever S is parallel with the upright B, and is held so by a pin or nail in the upright, behind which it is placed.

U U and V V are cross-pieces and braces used to strengthen the frame of the press.

The lid I can be raised and held in an elevated position by the hooks x x.

The operation of my improvements can be readily understood. Raise the nuts L L on the screw until the girder H will clear the lid I. Raise the catches C C from the pins e e, and draw the upper portion of the frame into an inclined position, permitting the rounds of the catches to enter the notches f f. The lid I will then rest on the bale, if one is in the press; if empty, it will rest on the clents G G. Release the levers S from their places behind the nails or pins, and the expansion of the bale of hay or cotton will at once force the clamps B B off and the doors J J open.

The lid I can now be raised and held up by the hooks at x x.

By placing a cord in the grooves n n and drawing upon it with the hands, both nuts can be worked down rapidly at the same time.

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

The uprights B B, provided with scarf or beveled joints A A, catches C C, and notches f f, as and for the purposes herebefore specified.

To the above specification of my invention I have signed my hand this 1st day of August, 1870.

JOSEPH K. DAVIS.

Witnesses:
SOLON C. KEMON,
CHAS. A. PETTIT.