To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. CARRISLE, of Sumter, in the county of Sumter and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful improvement in corn-huskers, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a top view of my improved machine. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the longitudinal section of the same taken through the line $x$ to $x$, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved machine for separating ears of corn from their husks, and which shall be simple in construction, convenient in use, and effective in operation, enabling the work to be done faster than it can be by hand, saving the hands of the operator from injury, and leaving the husks in fine condition for being fed to stock.

The invention consists in the combination of the stop-claw with the sash that carries the knife; in the combination of the sliding-block, spring fingers, and points or cutters with the stop-claw and knife-sash; in the combination of the hinged lever of the frame A with the knife-sash and sliding block that carries the cutter-fingers; and in the combination of the spring-lever with the knife-sash, stop-claw, and spring-points or cutters attached to the sliding block, as hereinafter fully described.

A is the frame of the machine, the vertical front portion of which extends above the platform or table of the machine, and has a way formed in it to receive the sash B, which is moved up and down by a handle C, attached to it, or by a treadle-crank, crank-wheel, or a belt, as may be desired or convenient. To the upper part of the sash B is attached, in an inclined position, a knife D, for separating the ear from its stem. E is a claw or pointed finger attached to the handle or other part of the sash B, in such a position that when the said sash B is raised and the ear placed upon the rest F attached to the forward part of the table of the machine, and pushed forward, the points of the stop-claw E may penetrate the husks and strike against the first kernels at the butt of the ear, and stop said ear in proper position for the knife D in its descent to cut said ear from its stem. The points of the stop-claw E are so formed that should one of said points enter the space between two kernels the other point may strike squarely against one of said kernels, so that the ear will always be stopped at the proper point. G is a lever attached to one end of a spring H, the other end of which is attached to the frame A. To the lever G is attached a foot I, in such a position that when the said lever G is lowered the said foot I will rest upon the ear and hold it firmly in its place in the rest F while being operated upon. As soon as the lever G is released the elasticity of the spring H will raise the lever G and foot I out of the way. To the sash B is hinged the upper forward end of the bar J, the lower rear end of which is hinged to the bar K, the lower end of which is hinged to the base-frame of the machine. The upper end of the bar K is hinged to the rear end of a short bar L, the forward end of which is hinged to the head-block M, that slides in a slot in the table or upper part of the frame A. By this arrangement the head-block M will be moved back and forth by the upward and downward movement of the sash B. To the head-block M are attached the rear ends of a number of spring fingers N, to the forward ends of which are attached points O or cutters, for slitting the husks.

I prefer to attach the points O detachably, so that they can be readily detached and replaced by others should they be broken or otherwise injured.

In using the machine the ear to be husked is laid upon the rest F, with its stem forward, and is pushed forward till stopped by the stop-claw E. The spring-lever holder G H I is then lowered to hold the ear, and the sash B is forced downward. By the downward movement of the sash B the stop-claw E is withdrawn, the knife D cuts the ear from its stem, and the husks are slit longitudinally by the points O, as they are drawn back along the ear by the rearward movement of the head-block M, and drop from the ear, which is then removed from the rest F and placed in a basket or other receptacle. The sash B is then raised, and the machine is ready for another ear.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—
1. The combination of the stop-claw E with
the sash B that carries the knife D, substantially as herein shown and described, and for
the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the sliding block M,
spring-fingers N, and points or cutters O with
the claw E, and knife-sash B, substantially as
herein shown and described, and for the pur-
pose set forth.

3. The combination of the hinged bars J K
L with the knife-sash B and sliding head-
block M, that carries the spring-cutter fingers
N O, substantially as herein shown and de-
scribed, and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination of the spring-lever
holder G H I with the knife-sash B, stop-claw
E, and spring points or cutters N O attached
to the sliding block M, substantially as herein
shown and described, and for the purpose set
forth.

JOHN M. CARLISLE.

Witnesses:
D. JAMES WINN,
L. W. JOYNT.