

*C. Lidren,
Mower.*

No. 102839.

Patented May 10, 1870.

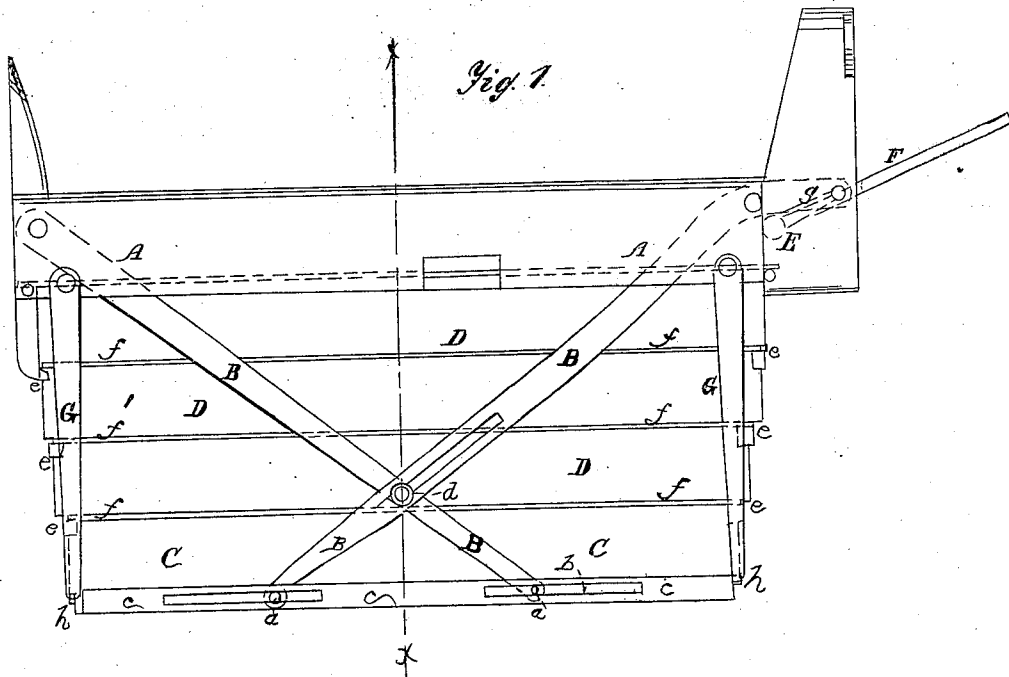


Fig. 2.

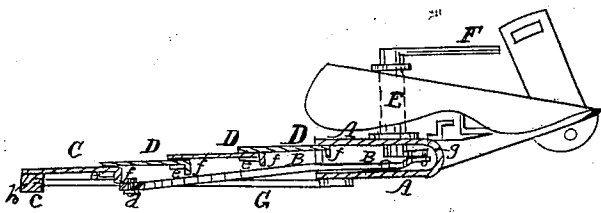
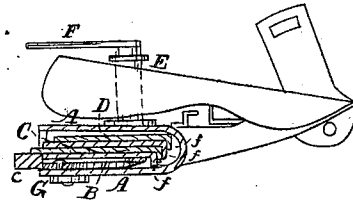


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Alex. F. Roberts
Paul Fleckner

Inventor:
C. Lidren.
PER *Wm. M. M.*
Attorneys.

United States Patent Office.

CHRISTOPHER LIDREN OF LA FAYETTE, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND R. JACKSON, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 102,839, dated May 10, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN PLATFORMS FOR HARVESTERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER LIDREN, of La Fayette, in the county of Tippecanoe and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Harvesters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

Figure 1 represents an inverted plan view of my improved harvester.

Figures 2 and 3 are vertical transverse sections of the same, taken on the plane of the line *x x*, fig. 1, and showing the platform respectively extended and contracted.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to grain platforms for harvesters, and consists in certain improvements, which will be specified hereinafter.

A, in the drawing, represents the finger-bar of a harvester. It is made of metal in such form that its cross section will be like the letter U, the closed end being in front, and the face forming, respectively, the upper and lower sides. The finger-bar may as well be made in form of a letter L, that is to say, the lower face plate may be left off.

Near the ends of the finger-bar are pivoted to its lower plate levers B B, which are laid diagonally to reach, respectively, to the diagonally-opposite ends of a plate C.

The outer ends of the levers B have projecting pins *a*, that fit into slots *b*, of a rib, *c*, that is fastened to the under side of the plate C. One of the levers is or may be slotted near the middle, to receive a pin, *d*, from the other; thereby their motions are made simultaneous. The plate C is the outer one of a number that forms the platform. The other plates D of the platform rest each with its back portion upon the front portion of the one in its rear. Each has a hook, *e*, at each end, and a downward bent front edge, *f*, as shown.

The hooks *e* embrace the ends of the plates in rear, back of their flanges *f*. The several plates are thus locked together and prevented from becoming sepa-

rated. When, by swinging out the lever B, the plate C is carried back, it will by its flange *f*, which acts on the hooks *e* of the plate D next above and in front of it, pull such plate back with it, and this plate will pull the next in its front, and so on until the entire platform is produced in rear of the finger-bar, as in figs. 1 and 2. When, however, the levers B are swung into the finger-bar, they will carry the plate C in with them, and that will, with its flange *f* or other similar stop, push against the flange *f* of the plate D, next in front, and so forth, until all the plates will be collected within the finger-bar, as in fig. 3. The levers can be swung in and out by means of a vertical crank-shaft E, which is swivelled in the inner end or shoe of the finger-bar and has its crank *g* fitted into the front end of lever B.

The shaft can be turned by means of a hand or foot-lever F.

G G, are bars pivoted under the finger-bar, to sustain the platform, their ends abutting in such case against stops *h* formed on the plate C.

The operation is as follows:

When the platform is to remain extended for hand-raking, it is merely left in the position shown in figs. 1 and 2.

When, however, the gavels are to be dropped quickly as soon as cut, the driver or some other attendant will have to alternately extend and contract the platform. While it is extended, it will receive the cut grain; when contracted, it will suddenly drop it. The movement may, if desired, be made automatic.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. An improved grain platform, consisting of slotted levers B B, plate C D, and pivoted sustaining bars G G, all constructed, arranged, and operating as set forth.

2. The grain platform constructed as described, in combination with the V-shaped finger-bar A, as and for the purpose specified.

CHRISTOPHER LIDREN.

Witnesses:

JACOB LANDGRAF,
JOHN KELLEY.