

M. K. WHEAT.
 SPRING-LOCKS FOR PLOWS.

No. 173,873.

Patented Feb. 22, 1876.

fig. 1.

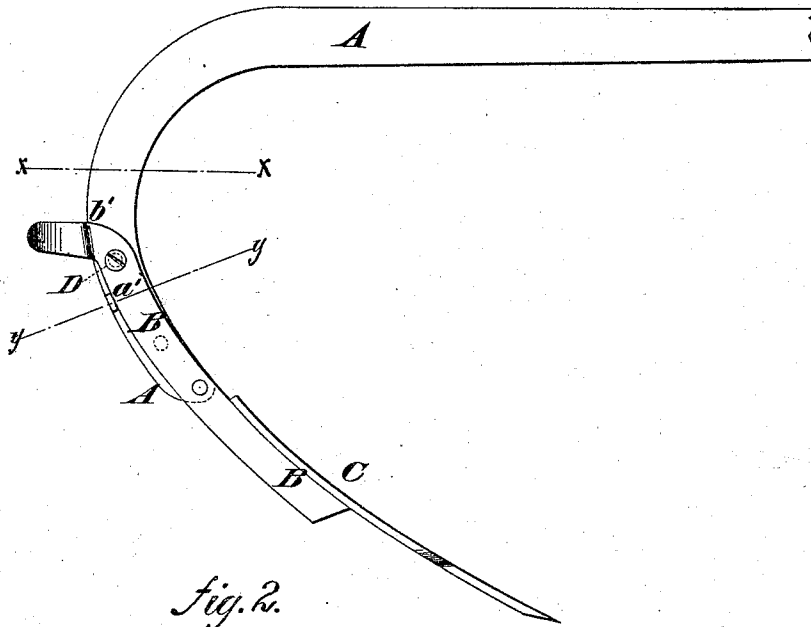


fig. 2.

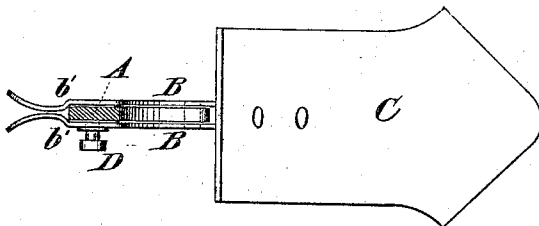
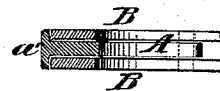


fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

John Goethals
Alfred Lyncott.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILTON K. WHEAT, OF PARIS, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPRING-LOCKS FOR PLOWS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,873**, dated February 22, 1876; application filed January 22, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILTON K. WHEAT, of Paris, in the county of Bourbon and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spring-Locks for Plows, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view of the rear part of a plow-beam to which my improvement has been applied. Fig. 2 is a section of the same, taken through the line *xx*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section of the same, taken through the line *yy*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved device for holding the plow-plate of cultivators, drills, and shovel-plows in place when at work, in such a way that, should the plow-plate strike an obstruction, it will swing back and thus prevent it from being broken, and which shall be simple in construction, convenient in use, strong, durable, not liable to get out of order, and reliable in operation.

The invention consists in the spring lock-bars, provided with shoulders at their upper ends, pivoted to the plow-beam or the plow-standard, and having the plow-plate attached to their lower ends, as hereinafter fully described.

A represents a plow-beam, the rear end of which is curved downward, to serve as a standard, or has a standard attached to it, and which may be made of wood or iron. B are two spring-bars, which are pivoted to the opposite sides of the lower end of the beam A, and the lower ends of which project below the lower end of the beam A, and to them, or to a seat attached to them, is bolted the plow-plate C.

Several holes may be formed in the lower part of the beam A, to receive the pivoting-bolt of the spring-bars B, so that the plow may be adjusted to work deeper or shallower in the ground, as may be desired.

The spring-bars B project upward along the

opposite sides of the beam A, and their upper ends are bent to the rearward and have inwardly-projecting shoulders *b'* formed upon them, to overlap the rear edge of the beam A, and resist the draft-strain upon the plow C.

Should the plow C strike an obstruction, the shoulders *b'* will slip off the edge of the beam A and allow the plow C to swing back, to prevent any part of the plow from being broken. After the obstruction has been passed, a slight push upon the plow C by the plowman, with his foot, will throw it back into working position. As the plow C comes into working position, and the shoulders *b'* spring into place at the rear edge of the beam A, the rear edges of the spring bars B strike against projections or other stops *a'*, formed upon or attached to the rear edge of the beam A, to prevent the plow C from swinging too far forward.

The spring-bars B may be adjusted to yield at any desired resistance by set-screws D, that pass in through the said bars B, and rest against the sides of the beam A, so that, by adjusting the said screws D, the shoulders *b'* may be adjusted to overlap the edge of said beam more or less, as may be desired, according as the plow is to work in hard or loose soil. The screw D also enables the wear to be taken up, to prevent the said wear from causing the shoulders *b'* to yield too easily.

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

The spring lock-bars B, provided with the shoulders *b'* at their upper ends, pivoted to the plow-beam A or the plow-standard, and having the plow-plate C attached to their lower ends, substantially as herein shown and described.

MILTON KENNEDY WHEAT.

Witnesses:

J. E. PATON,
RUSSELL MANN.