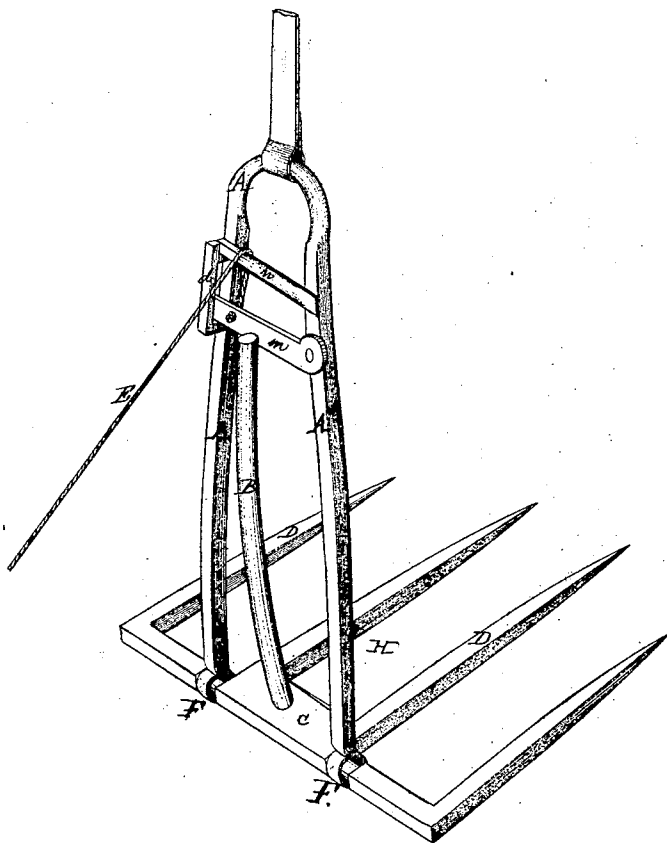


S. P. Mearns,
Hay Fork.

No. 103485.

Patented May 24, 1870.



Witnesses.

Harry King
J. Lehmann

Inventor.

Paul P. Mearns
per Hand Mearns
attys.

United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL P. MECAY, OF KILBOURNE, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 103,485, dated May 24, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE HAY-FORKS.

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, SAMUEL P. MECAY, of Kilbourne, in the county of Delaware and in the State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse Hay-Forks; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of a horse hay-fork, and in the arrangement of the devices hereafter set forth and explained.

The accompanying drawing represents a perspective view of my invention.

Letter A represents the handle, which consists of a straight bar of metal, bent double, and which has its lower ends pivoted to the head of the fork H by means of clasps F, in such a manner that the fork can tip freely up and down.

Extending upward from the head C is a rod, B, the upper end of which catches against the latch *m*, pivoted to the rear side of the handle, so as to hold the tines D in a horizontal position while loaded with hay.

One end of this latch moves up and down in the loop *a*, and has the trip-core E attached to it, which

is made to pass up over the small cross-bar *n*, so that the pull by which the latch is raised may act directly upon it.

By having the latch pivoted to the shank, instead of attached to the fork-bar, the operation of the fork is made freer, and the tripping-rope and latch are not liable to become disarranged.

The fork is so constructed that, as soon as the latch is raised, the tines fall from their own weight, and assume a perpendicular position, when the fork is ready to be dropped upon the hay to be again loaded.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The fork herein described, consisting of the shank A, having latch *m* pivoted thereon, clasps F, fork-head C, and bar B, all constructed and arranged to operate substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of July, 1869.

SAMUEL P. MECAY.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH GRADY,
WILLIAM FARIS.