L. N. CLARK.

THRESHING MACHINE.

No. 43,971. Patented Aug. 30, 1864.

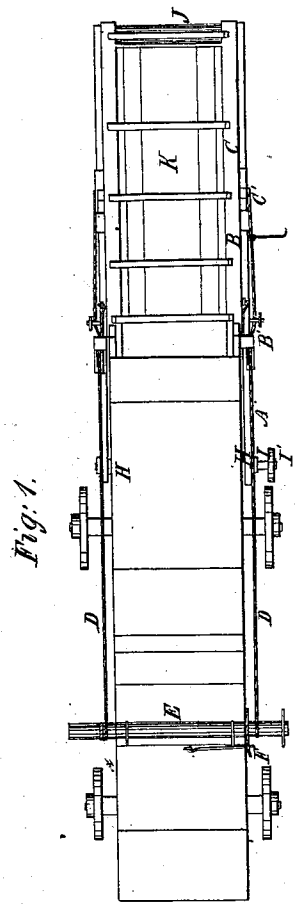


Fig: 1.

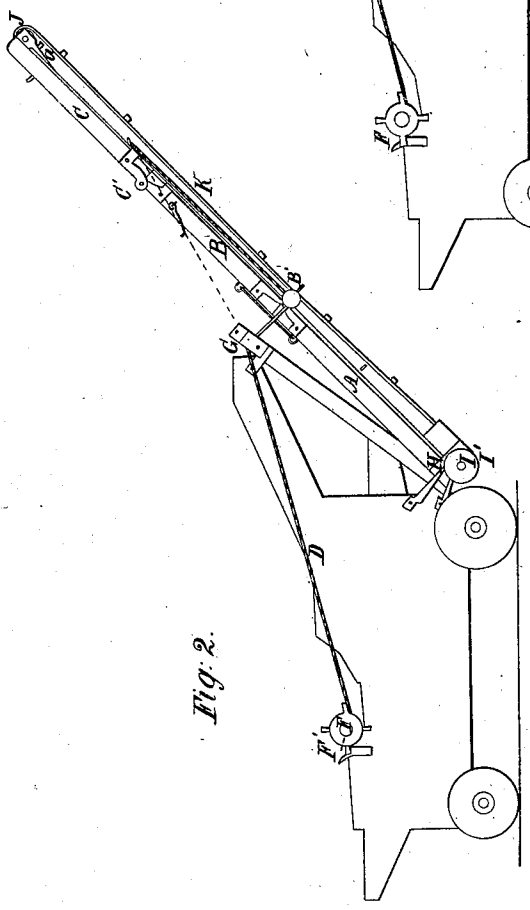


Fig: 2.

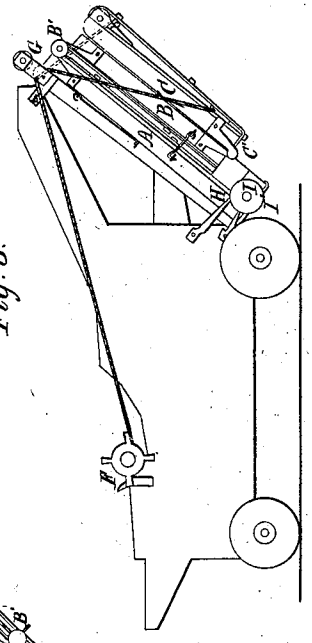


Fig: 3.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

L. N. CLARK, OF BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN.

THRASHING-MACHINE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **43,971**, dated August 30, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, L. N. CLARK, of Brighton, in the county of Livingston and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Thrashing-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view. Fig. 2 is a side view in the same position as that shown in Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a side view in another position.

Like letters refer to like parts in the several views.

In order to make the nature of my invention obvious, it will be necessary for me first to describe the modes in common use. They are usually composed of two sections of nearly uniform length, united by hook-hinges when in operation, and attached to the separator by hook and eye and driven by a band or chain around the pulley at the upper end for the purpose of giving motion to the endless-belt elevator. These straw-carriers are generally made of one, or, at most, two sections, and have to be elevated and depressed by hand, and when it is necessary to move the stacker it will require four men to do it.

In my improved straw-carrier for thrashing-machines the carrier is permanently attached to the separator, and is composed of three sections of any desirable length by observing the relative proportions shown at A B C. The endless-belt carrier is driven from a pulley at its base with a band extending to the top, and is easily adjustable from the ground. The upper end of the carrier is supported, elevated, or depressed by means of a rope or chain, D, upon each side of the carrier. The lower ends of these ropes are attached to a windlass-beam, E, that is placed transversely to the body of the separator, and is held in the desired position by a pawl and ratchet-wheel, F. The supporting-rope D passes between friction-wheels G at the tail-end of the thrasher at its most elevated portion. The lower section, A, of the carrier is joined to the lower rear end of the thrasher by means of a strong articulating joint, or, rather, the lower roller that carries the endless belt has its journal-boxes so formed as to furnish the requisite support and articulation, and imperfectly shown at H. The section B is joined to the section A by means of a hinge-joint, B′, and the section C is hinged to the section B by the hinge-joint C′. The hinges B′ are placed upon the lower side of the elevator, and the hinges C′ are placed upon the upper side, in order that the carrier may have firmness when extended, and also that it may be folded upon itself, as seen in Fig. 3, in order for transportation. When the carrier is thus folded, it is secured together by hooks, and the rope D is placed over a pin, *a*, at the outer end of section C. The endless belt which carries up the straw passes around a roller, I, at the lower end of the carrier-frame and around a similar roller, J, at the upper end of section C. The endless carrier-belt is shown at K, and has slats placed transversely upon its surface to carry up the straw. The supporting-rope D is attached to section C, near its lower end. The gravity of the upper end keeps the joint C′ firm and steady, while the tension upon the rope D keeps the joint B′ firm and steady when extended.

In order to unfold the carrier, unhook the hooks upon each side which assist in holding the sections together, unfasten the windlass, and carry out the sections B and C to a horizontal position. Now, by a proper adjustment of the rope D, by turning the windlass by means of the wheel F′, the carrier can be elevated to any desired position and changed at pleasure, by turning the windlass, without stopping the machine. The endless belt is put in motion by a band from any convenient part of the thrashing-machine passing around the pulley I′ upon the shaft I, and in consequence of this shaft I being the articulating point of the carrier, the elevation or depression of the upper end will not change the relation of the driving and receiving pulleys.

I do not broadly claim a hinged and folding straw-carrier, but confine my claim to the above-described improvements in hinging, folding, and securing the carrier-frame and in elevating and depressing the same.

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

Making the carrier-frame of three or more sections and hinging them together, as described, and attaching the lower section to the thrashing-machine in the manner described, in combination with the ropes D and windlass E, when these several parts are constructed, arranged, and combined as and for the purpose herein set forth.

L. N. CLARK.

Witnesses.
IRA W. CASE
NILES CASE.