

J. B. MOONEY.

END-EXTENSION FOR WAGON-BEDS.

No. 171,736.

Patented Jan. 4, 1876.

Fig. 1

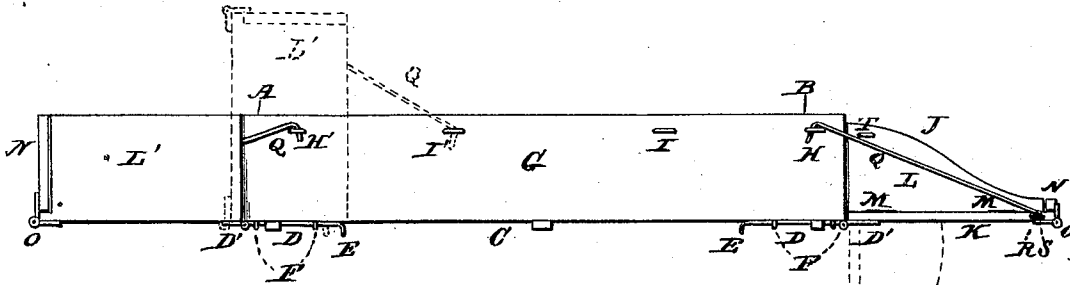


Fig. 2

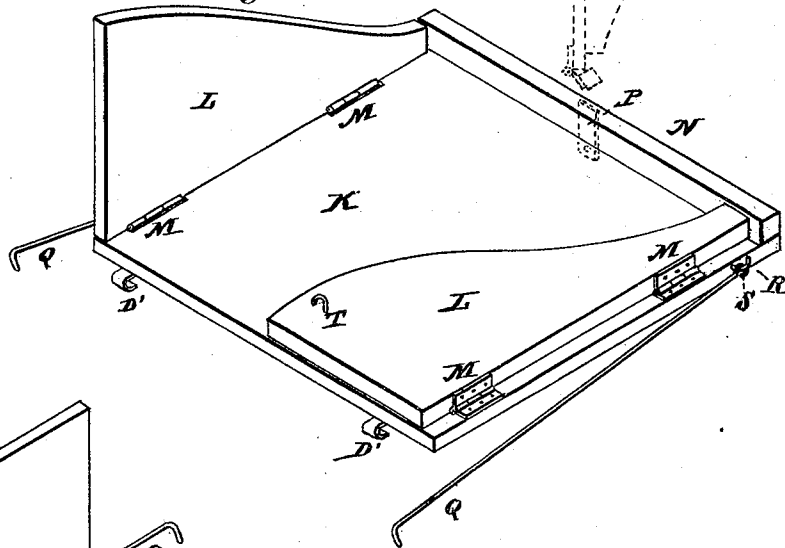
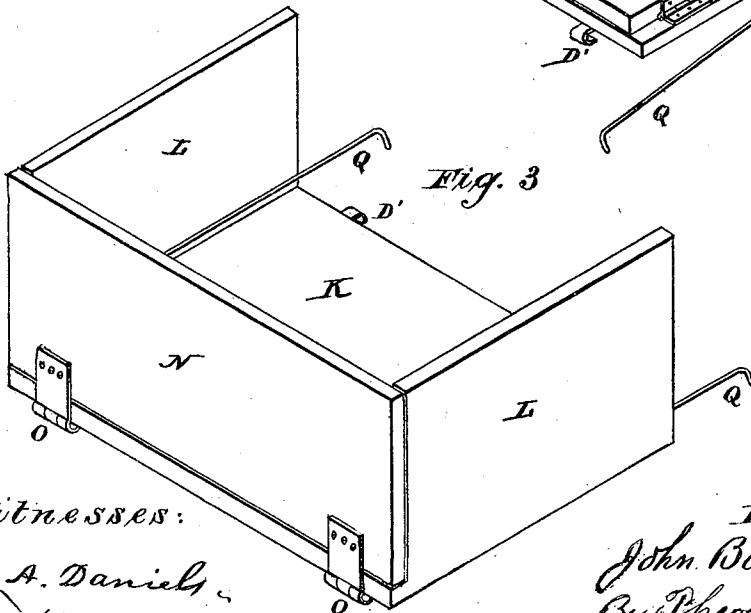


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

H. A. Daniels,
J. B. Mooney

Inventor,

John Bartly Mooney
By Theodore Munger
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. MOONEY, OF DUBLIN, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN END EXTENSIONS FOR WAGON-BEDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,736**, dated January 4, 1876; application filed November 27, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN BARTLY MOONEY, of Dublin, in the county of Wayne and State of Indiana, have made a new and useful Improvement in Extensions for Wagon-Beds; and I hereby declare the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, showing the extension and its modification in place. Fig. 2 is a view, in perspective, of the extension, and Fig. 3 is a similar view of the modification.

The wagon-bed heretofore used in hauling grain, especially corn, fruits, vegetables, &c., from the field to the store-house, and from the latter to the market, is open to the objection of requiring the farmer or laborer to remove a considerable portion of the load near one or both ends of the wagon-bed with the hands before the shoveling or scooping process can be commenced, thereby consuming a large amount of time, and requiring a great amount of labor that might otherwise be employed to advantage.

The object of my invention is to provide the ordinary wagon-bed with a means by which this waste of time and labor may be saved; and to this end it consists of an adjustable extension for wagon-beds, said extension being composed of a bottom, sides, and end gate, detachably hinged by sliding hinges to the end of the wagon-bed, and supported by hooked rods secured to the extension, and adapted to connect with staples in the sides of the wagon-bed, to form either a continuation of the wagon-bed or to be folded vertically against the end thereof, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

Similar letters of reference in the accompanying drawing indicate like parts in the invention.

The usual rods and braces employed for strengthening the wagon-bed proper are not shown in the drawing, for the reason that I do not lay claim to any improvement in the wagon-bed itself.

A and B are the end gates of the wagon-bed, A representing the front, and B the rear, end

gate. The bottom C of the wagon-bed is provided on the under side at each end with a pair of sliding half-hinges, D D, which are, preferably, of strap metal, having the downwardly-projecting flanges E E, which prevent their withdrawal from the ways in which they work. The ways are, preferably, formed by driving the staples F over the half-hinge D D up into the bottom C of the wagon-bed. The sides G of the wagon-bed are provided on their outsides, near their upper edges, with the staples H H' and I I'. The bottom K of the extension J has a pair of stationary half-hinges, D' D', secured to its under side at the inner edge, which unite with, or hook into, the half-hinges D D, and complete the pair of hinges. The sides L L of the extension J are connected with the bottom K by hinges M M, which permit said sides L L to fold inwardly upon the bottom K. An end-gate, N, is connected to the rear edge of the bottom K by hinges O O, which permit it to fold upon the bottom K, and against the rear edges of the sides L L, in which position it is secured by a button, P. Hooked rods Q Q are secured to the extension J by staples R driven through eyes S on one end of said rods Q Q into the side edges of the bottom K. Hooks or arms T opening upwardly are driven into the outsides of the sides L L, near their front upper edges.

Fig. 3 shows a modification of the invention. In this modification the bottom K' is made slightly wider than the bottom C of the wagon-bed. The sides L' L' are fixed to the bottom K', and not hinged as are the sides L L. In all other respects, except, possibly, in the use of the arms T, it is similar to the extension J.

The sides L L L' L' may be either curved, slanting, or rectangular, as may be desired, and the end-gate N should correspond with the sides.

To attach the extension J to the wagon-bed, the half-hinges D D should be drawn out from beneath it, and the half-hinges D' D' hooked into them, when the bottom K should be pushed inwardly until its front edge is in contact with the rear edge of the bottom C of the wagon-bed. The sides L L should then be turned up, to form continuations of the sides

G G of the wagon-bed, and the rods Q Q dropped into the arms T T, and hooked into the staples H H. If the end-gate N is not already supported in place by the button P, that should be done. When the extension J occupies the position just described the wagon-bed is supposed to be loaded.

In order to at once commence shoveling or scooping to unload, remove the end-gate B, when the corn or other contents of the wagon-bed will slide upon the extension, and present an inclined surface, into which the shovel or scoop can be readily introduced by a person on the wagon-bed.

If it is desired to remove a portion only of the load, such as turnips, &c., when retailing them from the wagon at market, the operator may open the end-gate N of the extension, and, while standing upon the ground, insert the shovel or scoop, and place the turnips, &c., into the measure or vessel waiting to receive them.

Both ends of the wagon-bed are provided with means for attaching the extension, so that two persons may unload at one and the same time by using an extension at each end. Should the team be in the way of the extension at the front end of the wagon-bed, the outside traces may be loosened, and the animals be made to stand aside.

When the extension is attached to the wagon-bed, and is not in use, it may be folded vertically against the end of the wagon-bed by unhooking the rods Q Q, folding the sides L L upon the bottom K, drawing the sliding hinges

D D D' D' out sufficiently far to permit the extension to be turned up, and hooking the rods Q Q into the staples I I'.

The modification shown in Fig. 3 may be folded in the same manner, except that the sides L' L' embrace the end of the wagon-bed, instead of being folded upon the bottom K'.

When desired the extension may be detached from the wagon-bed, and laid away, by unhooking the rods and hinges which connect it with the wagon-bed.

I am aware that hinged end-gates have been used, and that folding end-gates having stationary or folding sides, and forming part of the wagon-bed itself, have also been used. These I do not claim; but

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

The detachable adjustable extension for wagon-beds consisting of the bottom, sides, and end-gate, secured by sliding hinges to the end of the wagon-bed, and supported by hooked rods secured to said extension at one end, and adapted to be connected at the other end with staples in the sides of the wagon-bed, to form either a continuation of the wagon-bed, or to be folded vertically against the end thereof, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing improvements, as above described, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

JOHN BARTLY MOONEY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

DEAN REED,
L. B. F. RABEY.