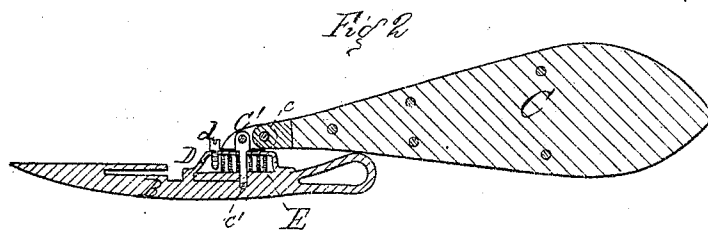
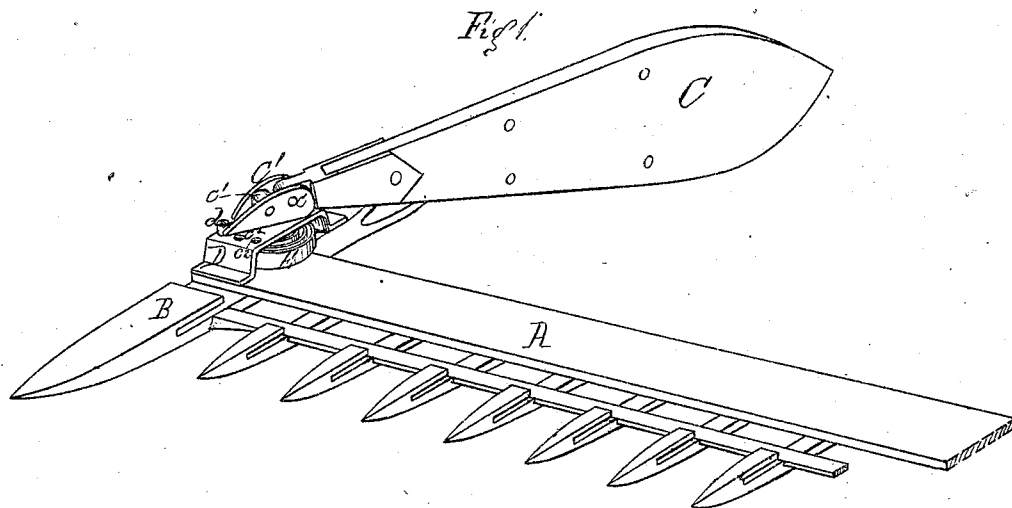


CHARLES N. OWEN.

Improvement in Track Clearers for Harvesters.

No. 121,123.

Patented Nov. 21, 1871.



Witnesses
Aleg. Mahon
H. H. Doubleday

Charles N. Owen
by his Attorney
A. L. Smith

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES N. OWEN, OF SALEM, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRACK-CLEARERS FOR HARVESTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 121,123, dated November 21, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES N. OWEN, of Salem, in the county of Columbiana, State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Track-Clearers for Harvesters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement, and Fig. 2 a vertical longitudinal section taken on line *x y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference denote corresponding parts in both figures.

The want of a track-clearer which is adjustable and yielding, while at the same time possessed of sufficient strength or tension to clear away the grass with certainty, has long been felt among manufacturers of harvesting-machines. With a view to meet the above-recited requirements I have made this invention, which consists, essentially, in combining with the outer shoe of a harvester finger-bar a track-clearer, connected with said shoe by means of two pivots, one horizontal and the other vertical, the vibration of the clearer about the vertical pivot being controlled by a spring and a stop, in a manner and for a purpose which will be hereinafter fully explained.

In the drawing, A is the finger-bar; B, the outer shoe, and C the track-clearer; these parts being of any usual or desired construction. The clearer C is attached to a socket-piece, C', by means of a horizontal pivot, *c*, whereby the clearer is free to vibrate vertically to pass over obstructions. The socket-piece C' is mounted on the shoe by means of a vertical pivot, *c*¹, which passes through a bracket, D, formed upon or secured to the upper side of shoe B. The lower end of pivot *c*¹ should be stepped in the shoe, as shown in Fig. 2; and when desired I provide the lower end of said pivot with a screw-thread, which takes into a corresponding thread in the shoe. Thus, by screwing the pivot into the shoe a sufficient distance before affixing the clearer, the parts may be secured in proper position. E is a coiled spring, confined within

bracket D, and actuating pivot *c*¹, and through the pivot the clearer, in such manner as to throw the rear of the clearer inward, as will be readily understood. In practice I usually construct bracket D in the form of an inclosing-shell, surrounding spring E, so as to shut out any substances which might clog or impede the action of the spring. *d* is a stop, against which a projecting jaw or spur of socket-piece C' strikes, thus limiting the inward throw of the clearer. Stop *d* may be inserted in any one of a series of holes, *c*², in bracket D', thus making the clearer adjustable.

It will readily be seen that the tension upon the clearer may be increased to any desired or practicable extent by winding up spring E, and yet leave the clearer free to yield sufficiently to pass obstructions; and that by applying the spring to the vertical pivot, with which the clearer vibrates in a horizontal path, it (the clearer) is entirely free from restraint when vibrating vertically. The spring E may be arranged within a suitable cavity or recess formed in on or upon the shoe or bar, as may be preferred, as its exact location may be changed at will without affecting the nature of the invention.

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

1. In combination with a track-clearer attached to the finger-bar or shoe of a harvester by two pivots, one vertical and the other horizontal, substantially as described, a spring, applied to and acting upon that part of the joint or connection which vibrates in a horizontal plane, as set forth.

2. In combination with a track-clearer attached to the finger-bar or outer shoe of a harvester by a vertical pivot, the coiled spring E, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination with the pivoted clearer C, the spring E and adjustable stop *d*, substantially as set forth.

C. N. OWEN.

Witnesses:

PETER AMBLER,
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(74)