

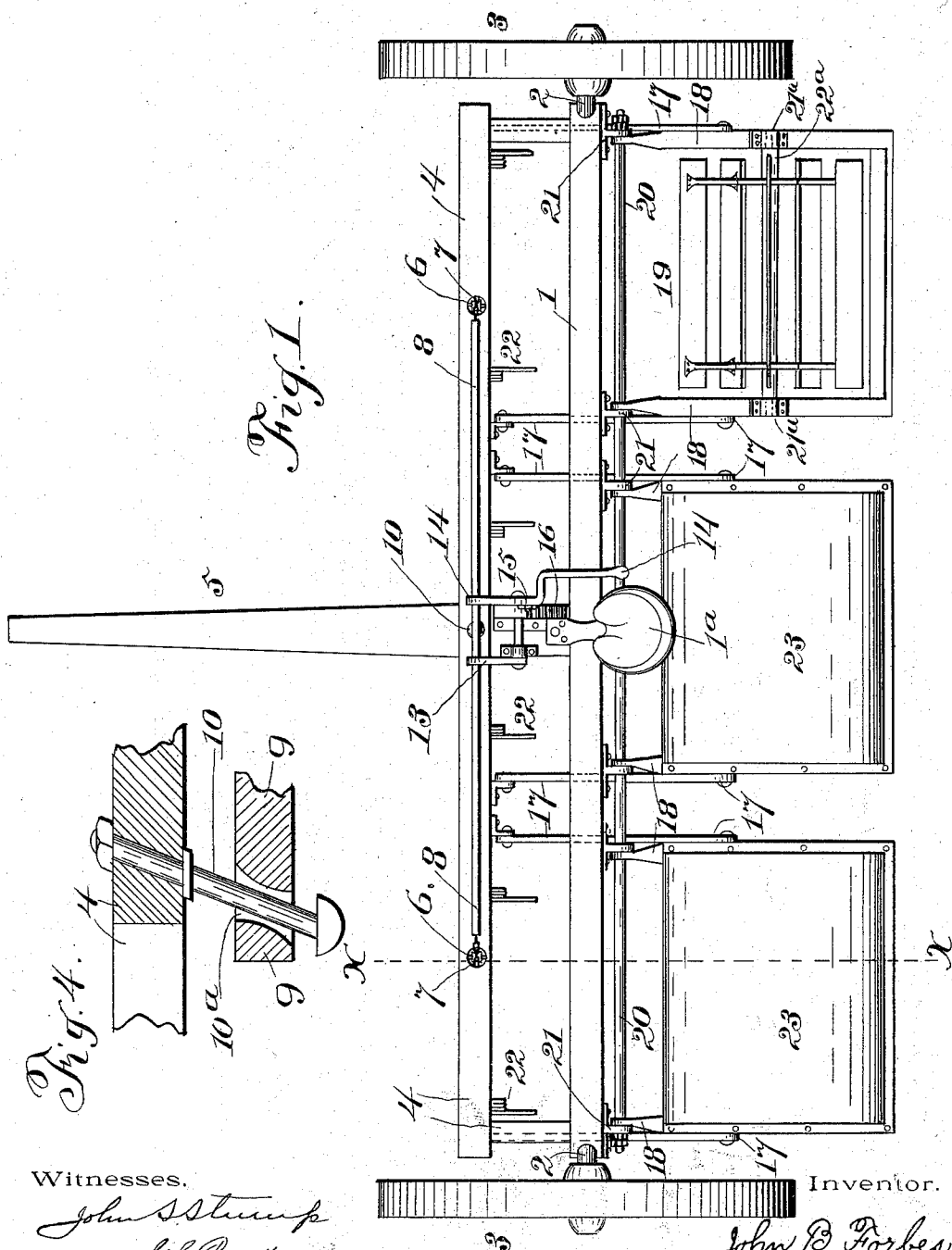
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. B. FORBES.  
CORNSTALK CUTTER.

No. 567,893.

Patented Sept. 15, 1896.



Witnesses.

*John S. Stump*  
*J. L. Bennett*

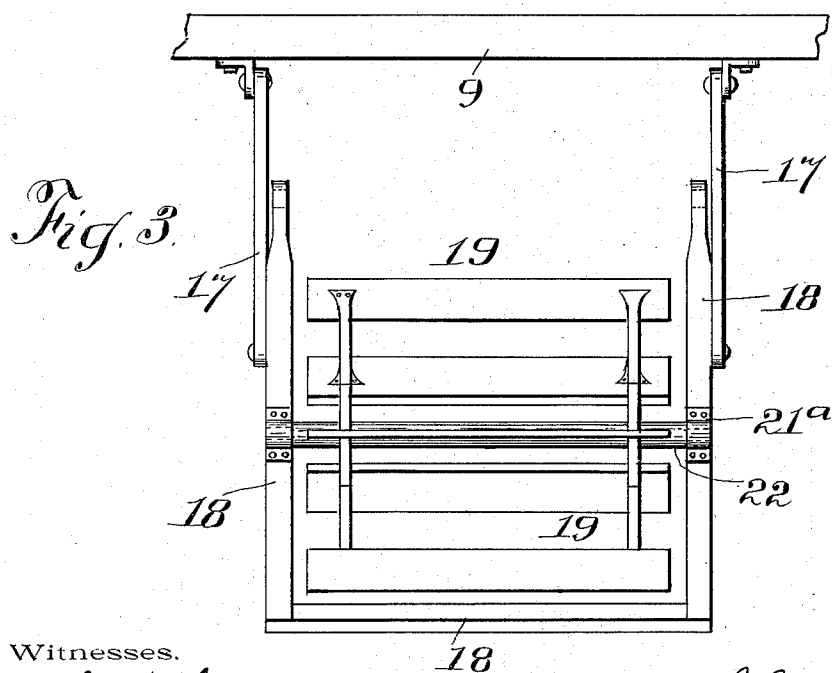
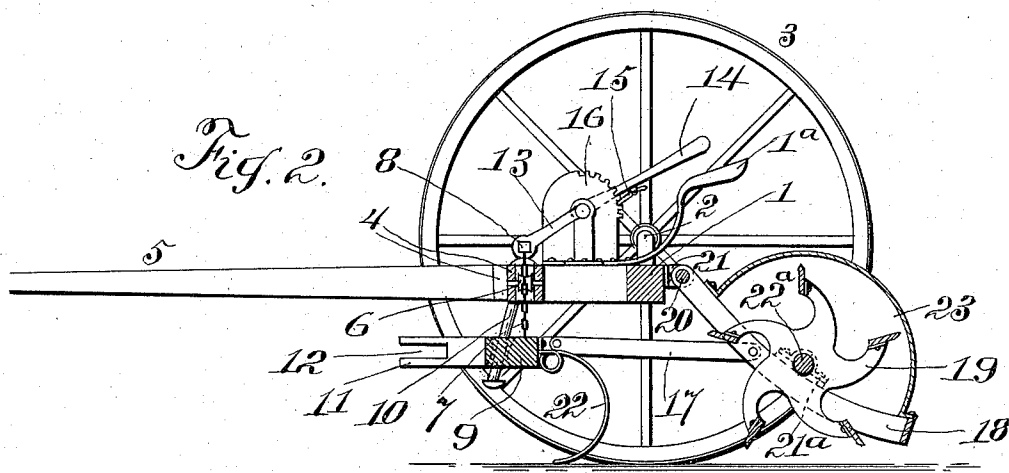
Inventor.

*John B. Forbes*  
*By C. J. Bell*  
Attorney.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

No. 567,893.

Patented Sept. 15, 1896.



Witnesses.

John's stamp.  
J. L. Bennett.

Inventor.

John B. Forbes  
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Attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. FORBES, OF JEFFERSON, IOWA.

## CORNSTALK-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,893, dated September 15, 1896.

Application filed April 22, 1896. Serial No. 588,626. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN B. FORBES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jefferson, in the county of Greene and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cornstalk-Cutters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to harvesters, and particularly to a cornstalk-cutter, and its novelty and advantageous construction and improved results will be understood from the following description and claims when taken in connection with the annexed drawings.

The object of the invention is to provide a draft-bar hanging from the axle-hound of the machine, to which bar rotary cutters are connected and automatically adjusted by the movement of the said bar.

A further object of the invention is to provide a new and novel means of hanging a series of rotary cutters independent of each other from the axle of the machine, so as to cut three rows of cornstalks at one time during the travel of the machine.

Further objects and advantages peculiar to this machine will be hereinafter fully described.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, Figure 1 is a top plan view with one hood removed. Fig. 2 is a section on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan view of one of the cutters, its journal-arms, its connecting-bars, and part of the draft-bar. Fig. 4 is an enlarged section of the draft-bar and hound at the intersection of the king-bolt with parts broken away.

The same numeral-references denote the same parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

The axle 1 is provided with an ordinary driver's seat 1<sup>a</sup>. The axle sits below the spindles 2 of the wheels 3 and is provided with a hound 4, the latter extending the whole length of the axle and having a tongue 5 connected to it and to the axle. Near each end of the hound is a sheave or pulley 6, housed in the body of the hound and is engaged by chains 7, secured to each end of a lift-bar 8 above the hound and extending through the latter, where they are secured to the draft-bar 9. A king-bolt 10 is fixed to the hound in a slant-

ing or diagonal position, which connects the hound and draft-bar through a hole 10<sup>a</sup> in the latter and is of sufficient length to allow the latter ample vertical play or movement, and the bolt-hole is of sufficient size to permit the bolt to follow in a diagonal direction the draft-bar as the latter is raised and lowered. This draft-bar has a forward projection 11, provided with a lateral slot 12, in which is to be secured a whiffletree 13.

In operating the machine to raise the cutters the lift-bar is raised, which raises the draft-bar vertically and slightly backward as it is drawn up to the hound, and owing to the cutter-frame 18, being pivoted as described, and the connecting-bars 17 to said frame and draft-bar, the latter will push the cutter-frames upward as it takes the upward and backward course. In lowering the cutters the draft-bar has simply to be lowered as desired.

The lift-bar 8 is operated by a hand-lever 14, carrying an arm 13, and is provided with a pawl 15 and pivoted to a toothed block 16, secured to the axle and hound, and the said lever and arm being connected to the lift-bar 8 to raise and lower the draft-bar 9 for the purpose hereinafter described.

Pivoted to the rear face of the draft-bar 9 are a series of connecting-bars 17, which extend rearwardly beyond the axle and are connected in sets of two to the journal-arms 18 of the cutters 19. One end of the arms 18 is pivoted on the shaft 20, secured in brackets 21 upon the rear of the axle 1, and the other ends of the said arms are provided with journal-boxes 21<sup>a</sup>, in which the ends of each cutter-shaft 22<sup>a</sup> are journaled. Thus it will be seen that the least vertical movement given the draft-bar will be imparted to the cutter-arms and raise or lower the cutters according to the movement of the hand-lever 14, as described. The rear face of the draft-bar 9 is provided with spring-fingers 22, which precede the cutters and clear the way for the better operation of the latter.

The cutters are each provided with a hood or cover 23, secured to the journal-arms 18, to protect the cutters and to prevent the cut stalks, &c., from flying over the machine. It will be observed that the cutters are independent of each other, that the arms and con-

necting-bars have sufficient play to allow the cutters to adjust themselves on account of their own weight to the ground or surface they travel upon, and that further adjustment of the cutters may be made by the driver operating the hand-lever without leaving his seat. Although I have shown three cutters, one or more may be removed without disturbing all of them by simply removing the shaft and disconnecting the connections.

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

1. The combination with a cornstalk-cutting machine, of an axle-hound having sheaves or pulleys housed in its body, a shaft secured to the axle, a lift-bar above the hound, a draft-bar adjustably hung from the hound and connected to the lift-bar through the sheaves or pulleys to lift the cutters simultaneously with the lift of the draft-bar, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination in a cornstalk-cutting machine, having a series of revoluble cutters hung from the axle of the machine, a draft-bar adjustably hung from the axle-hound, a lift-bar above the hound means for adjusting the draft-bar, and arms and rods connected together and connecting the cutters with the

draft-bar, whereby the cutters are given the same adjustment as the draft-bar, as set forth.

3. The combination with a cornstalk-cutter having a series of revoluble cutters each cutter having an independent frame hung independent of each other from the axle of the machine, of a draft-bar, and means operated through the axle-hound for raising and lowering the cutters and the draft-bar simultaneously, as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination with a machine of the character described of a shaft suspended from the axle of the machine, the arms forming a series of independent cutter-frames in the ends of which the cutters are journaled, the other ends being pivoted to the said shaft, a draft-bar hung from the axle-hound, and bars connected at one end to the said journal-arms and at the other end to the draft-bar to raise and lower the cutters simultaneously with the draft-bar, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN B. FORBES.

Witnesses:

CAL DAVIS,  
J. A. HENDERSON.