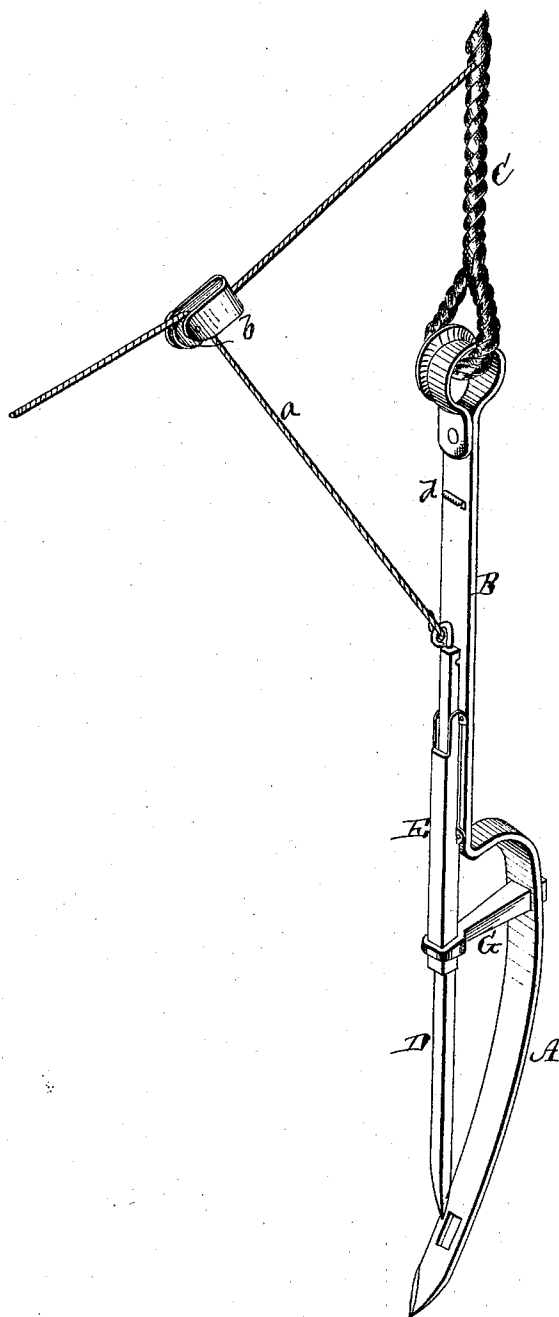


F. BOBBITT.
HORSE HAY-FORKS.

No. 182,155.

Patented Sept. 12, 1876.



WITNESSES

H. L. Outland
C. L. Ewert

INVENTOR

Frank Bobbitt.

By *W. H. Alexander*
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK BOBBITT, OF HENRY, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE HAY-FORKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **182,155**, dated September 12, 1876; application filed March 27, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK BOBBITT, of Henry, in the county of Marshall and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse Hay-Forks; and I 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, which form part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a horse hay-fork, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, which represents a perspective view of my invention.

A represents the blade of my hay-fork made in curved form, as shown, the upper end thereof forming the handle B, to which the hoisting-rope C is attached. D represents a square steel prong, passing through an elongated wrought-iron guide, E, attached to the lower part of the handle B, and extending a suitable distance below the same.

The lower end of the guide E is held in a gage, G, fastened by bolt and nut to the blade A, as shown.

To the upper end of the prong D is attached the trip-rope *a*, which passes over a pulley, *b*, suspended from the hoisting-rope C, a short distance above the handle. Near the upper end of the handle is a projection, *d*, to stop the prong D when raised.

The operation is as follows: The prong D is raised up to the stop *d*, and the blade A then inserted in the hay and the prong pushed down to its place, the point of the prong entering a hole near the end of the blade, which holds the hay until ready to deposit the load.

This is done by simply giving a sudden pull on the trip-cord *a*, which raises the prong and allows the hay to slide off from the blade.

This hay-fork is simple in construction, and durable and effective in operation. The pulley *b* being fastened to the rope C above, renders it almost impossible for the fork to twist around and get foul, so that it cannot be tripped.

By the use of the gage G the fork is adapted to all kinds of hay.

In handling timothy or long hay the gage remains on the fork; and if clover or short hay, the gage is taken off, which gives the full length of the blade. Prairie-hay may also be handled with it, as the hay is bound between the blade and prong so that it cannot draggle.

The fork may be used as a common hand-fork in cleaning up bottom of load.

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

1. In a hay-fork, the combination of the curved blade A with handle B, and the sliding prong D, and stationary guide E, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The combination of the curved blade A with handle B and hoisting-rope C, the stationary guide E, sliding prong D, with tie-rope *a*, and the pulley *b*, suspended from the hoisting-rope, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The removable gage G, in combination with the blade A, prong D, and guide E, all as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK BOBBITT.

Witnesses:

G. H. WOOD,

ANDREW V. SHURTS.