

No. 883,017.

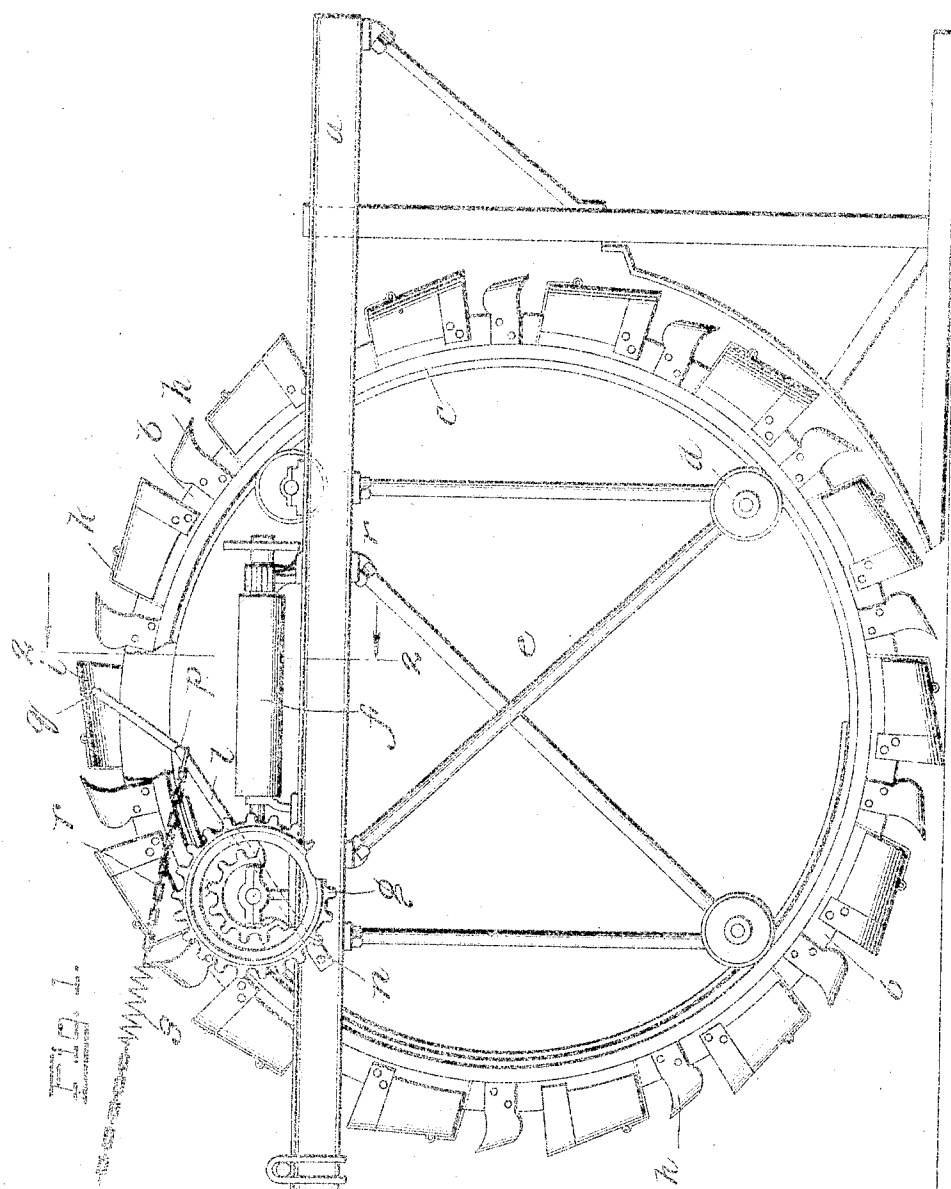
PATENTED MAR. 24, 1908.

A. G. HECK.

DITCHING WHEEL.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 22, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
Wm. D. Dwyer
A. G. Heck, Jr.

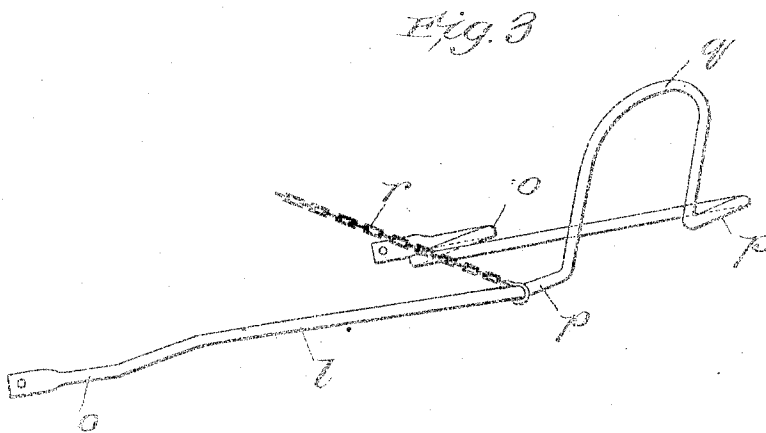
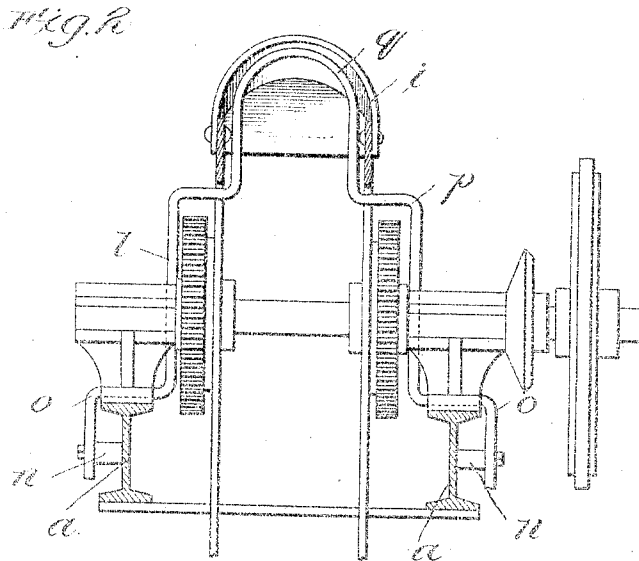
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDERSON C. HECK, OF FINDLAY, OHIO.

DITCHING-WHEEL.

No. 883,017.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 24, 1908.

Application filed July 22, 1907. Serial No. 384,910.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDERSON C. HECK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Findlay, in the county of Hancock and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ditching-Wheels; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in ditching wheels, and the object of my invention is to provide means whereby the buckets of such a wheel will be automatically self-clearing.

When ditching wheels are operated in sticky, clayey soil, much trouble is occasioned by the fact that the soil carried up by the buckets sticks to them and is not discharged at the proper time upon the elevator apron; and the object of my invention is to obviate this difficulty.

With this object in view, my invention consists in the construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a ditching wheel involving my invention, one of the buckets being shown in section. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the scraper.

a indicates the ordinary frame supporting the wheel. The ditching wheel *c* is mounted between the two parallel beams *a* upon pulleys *d*, mounted on a braced frame *e*. *f* represents one of the pulleys of the conveyer apron, and *g* a part of the driving gear. All of these parts are of the usual construction. The ditching wheel is also provided with the cutters *h*, located on the frame of the wheel, outside of the buckets. These cutters are made larger than the smaller ends of the buckets and bend in toward the center of the wheel, forming stops for the buckets.

The buckets *i* are secured to the rim *b* of the wheel *c*, which rim also carries the cutters *h*. Each bucket has a bottom *k* hinged thereto. This bottom may extend to the rim of the wheel or to a lesser distance, as desired.

On the two parallel eye-beams *a* is carried a stout wire frame *l*, movably mounted on pivots *m* carried by said eye-beams. This frame extends upwardly and is bent in, as

shown at *o* and *p*, and terminates in a loop *q* which acts as a plow or scraper for clearing out the sticky material which adheres to the buckets. The loop *q* may be provided with a sharpened edge, if desired.

To one part of the frame *l* is attached a chain or cord *r* provided with a spring *s*, and the other end of said chain is attached to a fixed portion of the machine. The reason for this spring connection is to keep the loop *q* always in contact with the bottom of the bucket and to allow it to yield slightly when it strikes the pivoted bottom *k* of one of the buckets.

The operation is as follows: The ditching wheel being operated in the usual manner, each of the buckets *i* comes in succession over the scraper *q*, which clears the dirt out of the bucket, allowing it to fall upon the elevator apron (not shown) which runs over the roller *f*.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. The combination of a ditching wheel, having buckets thereon, a supporting frame for said wheel and a scraper consisting of the frame *l* provided with pivots, bent portions and the loop *q* mounted on said frame, and adapted, as the wheel revolves, to clean out the dirt from the interior of the buckets successively, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a ditching wheel, having buckets thereon, open at both ends, each bucket being provided with a pivoted bottom at one end thereof, a supporting frame for said wheel, and a scraper pivotally mounted on said frame, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a ditching wheel, provided with buckets thereon, each of said buckets being provided with a hinged bottom, a supporting frame, a scraper pivotally mounted on said frame and adapted to contact with the bottoms of said buckets successively, and means for holding said scraper yieldingly against the bottom of said buckets as the wheel revolves, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

ANDERSON C. HECK.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. PRIDDY,

JASPER S. VAN TASSEL.