M. E. ROACH.

SULKY STALK-CUTTERS.

No. 193,729. Patented July 31, 1877.

Fig. 1.

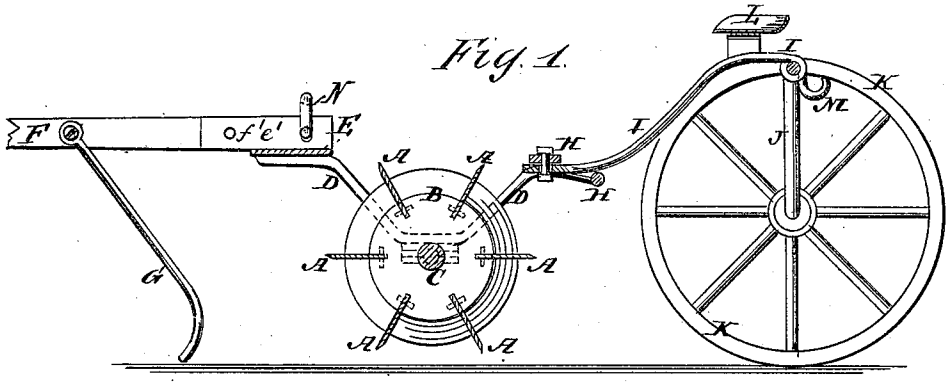



Fig. 2.

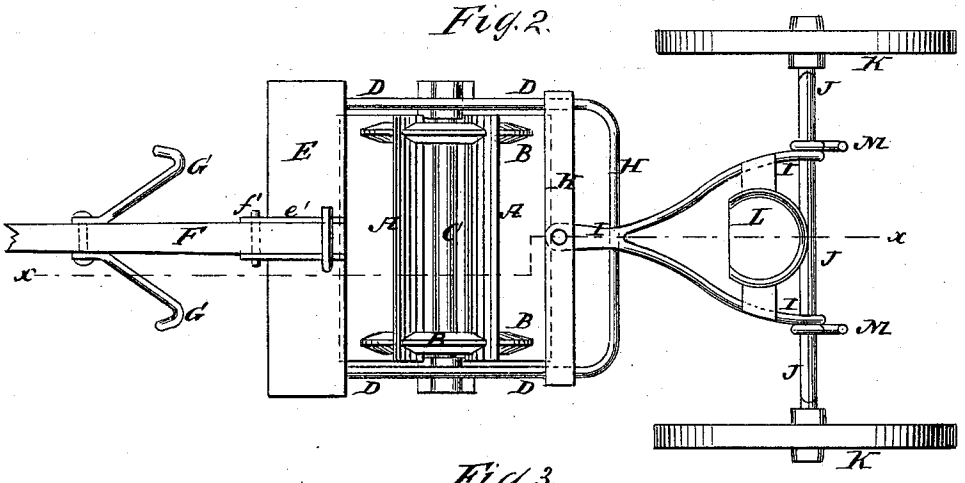
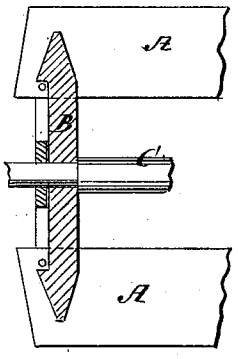



Fig. 3.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHEAL E. ROACH, OF ROLLING PRAIRIE, INDIANA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SULKY STALK-CUTTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 193,729, dated July 31, 1877; application filed May 28, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MICHEAL E. ROACH, of Rolling Prairie, in the county of La Porte and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sulky Stalk-Cutter, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my improved machine, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail cross-section of one of the cutter-wheels.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved machine for cutting corn-stalks into pieces in the field, so that they may be turned under by the plow, and will not impede or clog it, and which shall be simple in construction, convenient and effective in use, and may be readily drawn from place to place.

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawing, and then pointed out in the claims.

A A are the cutting-plates, which are inserted in radial slots in the wheels B, and are secured in place by pins passed through their inner corners beneath shoulders formed upon the outer sides of said wheels B, so that they may be readily detached to be sharpened.

The wheels B are secured to a shaft, C, the journals of which revolve in bearings attached to the side bars D of the cutter-frame. The forward parts of the bars D are curved upward and forward, and to their ends are attached the ends of a cross-bar, E, to the center of which is attached a socket, *e'*, open upon the upper side to receive the tongue F, which is secured in place in said socket by a bolt, *f'*. To the opposite sides of the tongue F are pivoted the upper ends of two rods, G, the lower ends of which drag upon the ground, and have hooks formed upon them to straighten the stalks, so that they will be cut by the cutter.

The rear parts of the side bars D are curved upward and rearward, and their rear ends are connected by two cross-bars, H, placed at a little distance apart, and to the center of the forward one of which is bolted the forward end of the reach I. The reach I is curved upward and rearward, and its rear part is forked, and is secured to the arched middle part of the axle J. Upon the journals of the axle J revolve the sulky-wheels K.

To the rear part of the reach I is attached the driver's seat L. To the arch of axle J are attached two hooks, M, for the purpose hereinafter set forth.

By this construction the tendency of the draft is to tilt the cutter-frame D E H forward, which tendency is resisted by the draft of the sulky, and is made to press the cutters into the ground. The machine is adjusted for being drawn from place to place by detaching the reach I and running the sulky forward until the rear cross-bar H can be raised and hooked upon the hooks M. The forward end of the reach I is then placed upon the rear end of the tongue F, and the lower arm of the U-bolt N is passed through the socket *e'* and tongue F, and its upper arm is passed above the reach I, so as to make the tongue F rigid and secure the reach I at the same time.

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

1. The combination of the sulky, consisting of the reach I, the arched axle J, the wheels K, and the seat L, with the frame D E H of the cutter and the tongue F, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination of the hooks M with the sulky-axle D and cutter-frame D E H, whereby said frame may be suspended, as set forth.

MICHEAL E. ROACH.

Witnesses:
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