

N. VANDENBURGH.

Potato Digger.

No. 108,537.

fig: 1

Patented Oct. 18, 1870.

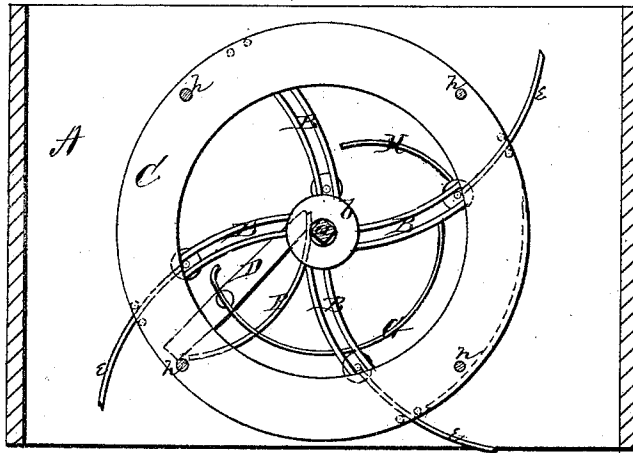
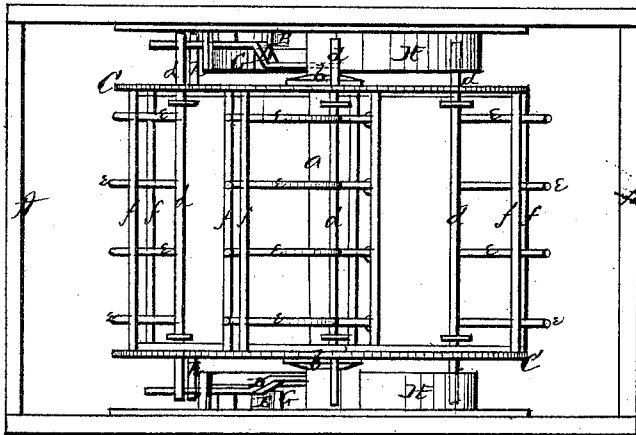


Fig. 2



Witnesses:

C. Levert.  
A. H. Marr

Inventor.

Nicholas Vandenburg  
per Alexander Thomson  
attys.

# United States Patent Office.

NICHOLAS VANDENBURGH, OF SCHUYLERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 108,537, dated October 18, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN POTATO-DIGGERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NICHOLAS VANDENBURGH, of Schuylersville, in the county of Saratoga and in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Potato-Digger; and 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, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a potato-digger, as will be hereinafter 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, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view, and

Figure 2, a plan view of my machine.

A represents a box or frame, of any suitable dimensions, mounted upon wheels.

Through the center of this box passes a horizontal shaft, *a*, on which, near each end, within the box, is placed a circular flange, *b*.

This flange is, by a series of slotted curved arms, B B, connected with a rim, C, as shown in fig. 1.

Through each set of slotted arms B B, that is, through the corresponding arms at each end of the shaft, passes a rod, *d*, provided with a number of teeth, *e e*, which pass between guide-rods *f f*, connecting the outer edges of the two rims C C, at or opposite the ends of the slotted arms B B.

Around the outside of the two rims C C, and connecting the same, should be a cylinder, provided with holes for the teeth *e e* to pass through; said cylinder also to have a projecting flange around each end. This whole cylinder, with its interior mechanism, to be revolved by means of suitable gearing, connected with one or both of the driving-wheels.

As the cylinder revolves, a pin, *h*, on the outside of each rim C, strikes a lever, D, pivoted on the inside of the box A; the other end of said lever then strikes the

end of the rod *d*, forcing the same to the outer end of the arm B.

As soon as the pin *h* has passed the lever D, a spring, E, returns said lever to its original position, to be again turned by the next pin, and to operate the next rod.

The rod *d*, having been moved to the outer end of the arms B, the teeth *e e* projecting a suitable distance beyond the cylinder or casing, the rod is held there while the cylinder makes about one-half of a revolution, by means of the flange G, which is secured on the inside of the box, and on the outside of which flange the end of the rod *d* moves.

While the teeth are in this position, they enter the hill and come under the potatoes, carrying the same up with them on the outside of the casing or cylinder. When the cylinder has completed the half revolution spoken of, the ends of the rod *d* pass under another flange or cam, H, on the inside of the box. This flange or cam is so constructed as to force the rod *d* inward to the inner ends of the arms B, withdrawing the teeth from the outside of the cylinder, the potatoes remaining on top of the cylinder, and then fall off on a screen arranged for that purpose on the back of the cylinder.

Having thus fully described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The slotted arms B B, connecting the flange *b* and rim C, and forming guides for the rakes *d e*, in which the same are moved out and in, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The combination of the shaft *a*, flange *b*, slotted arms B B, rim C, pins *h h*, lever D, spring E, and cams or flanges G G and H, all constructed and arranged to operate substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand this 16th day of September, 1870.

NICHOLAS VANDENBURGH.

Witnesses:

A. N. MARR,

A. A. YEATMAN.