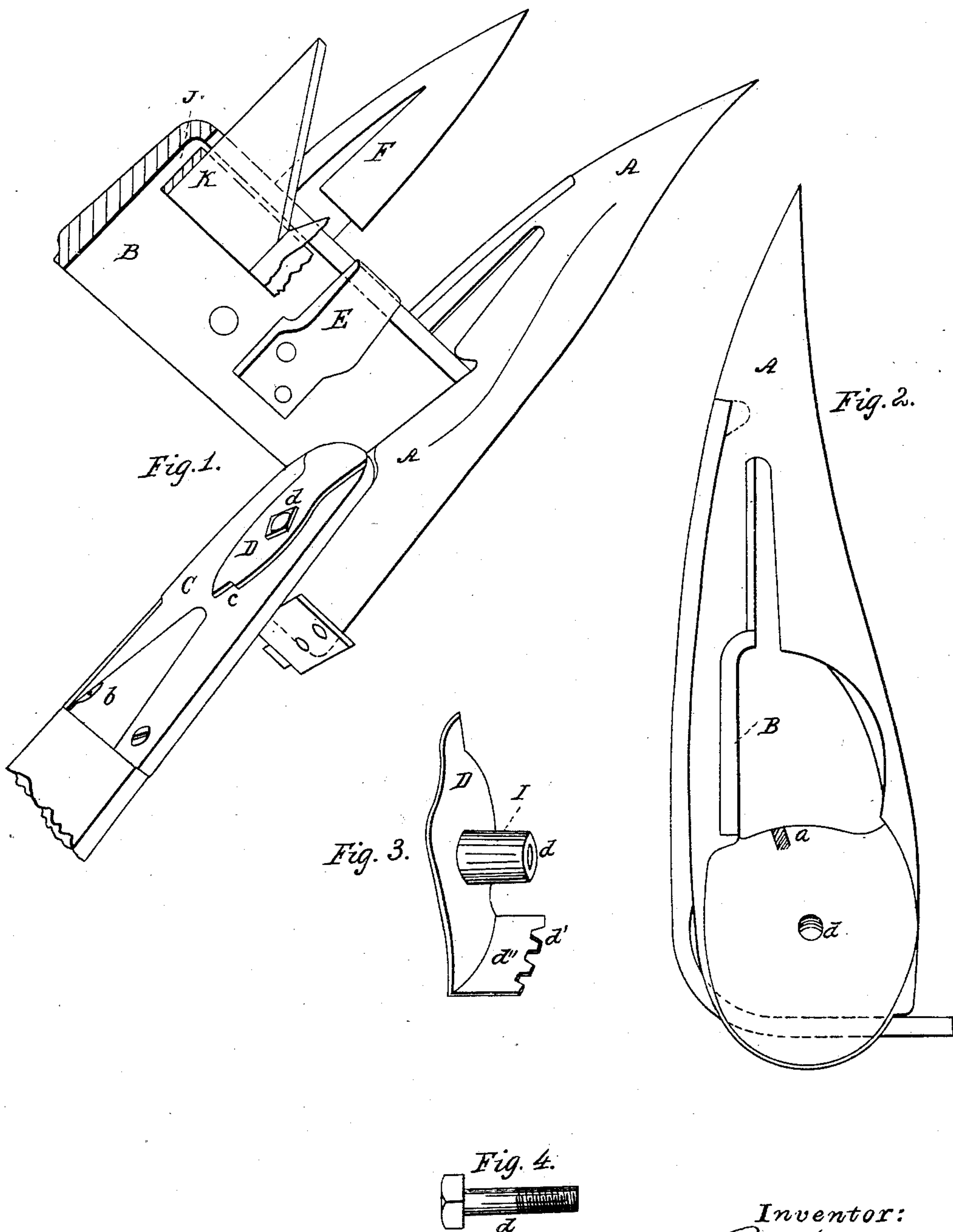


R. DUTTON.
Harvesting Machine.

No. 56,389.

Patented July 17, 1866.



Witnesses:
W. R. Ronald
Fred. B. Sears

Inventor:
R. Dutton
by his atty
J. D. Law

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUFUS DUTTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HARVESTING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 56,389, dated July 17, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUFUS DUTTON, of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Construction of the Grass-Shoe and Track-Board for Harvesting-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof and of their mode or manner of operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, and making a part of this specification.

The nature or character of my invention or improvement consists in an improved manner of constructing and combining the grass-shoe and track-board of harvesting-machines, so that the track-board can be adjusted or sustained at different elevations, as desired, and can also at all times have free movement upward.

Figure 1 is a perspective view from the inside of a portion of the finger-bar of the grass-shoe and of the lower end of the track-board. Fig. 2 is a detached view of the grass-shoe. Fig. 3 is a detached view of the track-board cap, showing the under side as it is fixed to the track-board. Fig. 4 is the bolt securing the track-board and its cap to the shoe.

In the practical operation and use of mowing-machines it is very desirable that the track-board should be so arranged and connected to the grass-shoe that it can easily be adjusted or placed at different elevations from the ground, and also at the same time be capable of having free and unrestricted motion upward.

When the grass is short and light it is desirable that the track-board be let down to and slide upon the ground, while in heavier grass the track-board should be elevated. The elevation of the track-board must also be varied as the finger-bar is rolled on its longitudinal axis, or the points of the fingers elevated or depressed.

The improved construction and arrangement of the track-board and outside or grass-shoe by which such adjustability of the track-board is secured is as follows:

The grass-shoe is shown by A, and C is the track-board. The track-board C is placed upon

and against the shoe A, and is secured thereto by a bolt, *d*, upon which it can have free motion up and down. A lever is inserted in the socket *b* of the metal casing on the lower end of the track-board to move it as desired. Over the lower end of such track-board is placed a cap, D, which is shaped substantially as represented in Fig. 3, so that one part, *d''*, of it will extend over the end of the track-board and down sufficiently far to reach or be in contact with the surface of the shoe. Connected with such cap D, or made a part of it, is also a socket, 1, which passes through the track-board and rests upon the side of the shoe, and through which passes the bolt *d*, which holds such cap to the track-board and connects both of them to the shoe. Between such cap and the shoe the track-board has free movement.

On the surface or side of the shoe, at the points or place where the part *d''* of the cap D meets the side of the shoe, is cast or fixed a projection or stud, *a*, Fig. 2, and in the foot or end of the part *d''* of the cap D are made a number of recesses, *d'*, Fig. 3, of a size adapted to shut over or receive the projection *a* on the side surface of the shoe.

When the cap D is placed in position on the end of the track-board and the bolt *d* is passed through them and the shoe and tightened, the projection *a* enters and is held in one of the recesses *d'*, thus holding such cap in a fixed position with respect to the shoe. By loosening such bolt the cap D may be changed in position—that is, the projection or stud *a* may be made to enter different recesses.

Upon the side of the track-board, or of its metal casing before referred to, near and just above the outer end of the cap D, is also placed, or cast a projection or spur, *c*, Fig. 1, against which the end of the cap D strikes and rests. As the track-board C has free motion on the pin *d*, it can be elevated by the lever in the socket *b*, or by any other mechanism, as may be at any time desired; but the projection or spur *c* coming in contact with the end of the cap D, which is fixed to the shoe, as before described, prevents the track-board descending beyond any given position.

When it is desired to have such track-board

rest upon the ground, the bolt *d* is loosened and the cap *D* is so adjusted that the lower one of the recesses *d'* will take the projection *a* on the shoe, and different elevations are given to such track-board by placing such projection *a* in different ones of the recesses referred to.

The position and elevation of the track-board can thus be varied at pleasure, and, in whatever position placed, the track-board can be freely raised at will or as found necessary.

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

The construction and arrangement of the track-board cap *D*, in combination with the grass-shoe and its projecting spur *a* and the track-board and its spur *c*, the whole arranged and operating substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

R. DUTTON.

Witnesses:

S. D. LAW,

W. R. RONALDS.