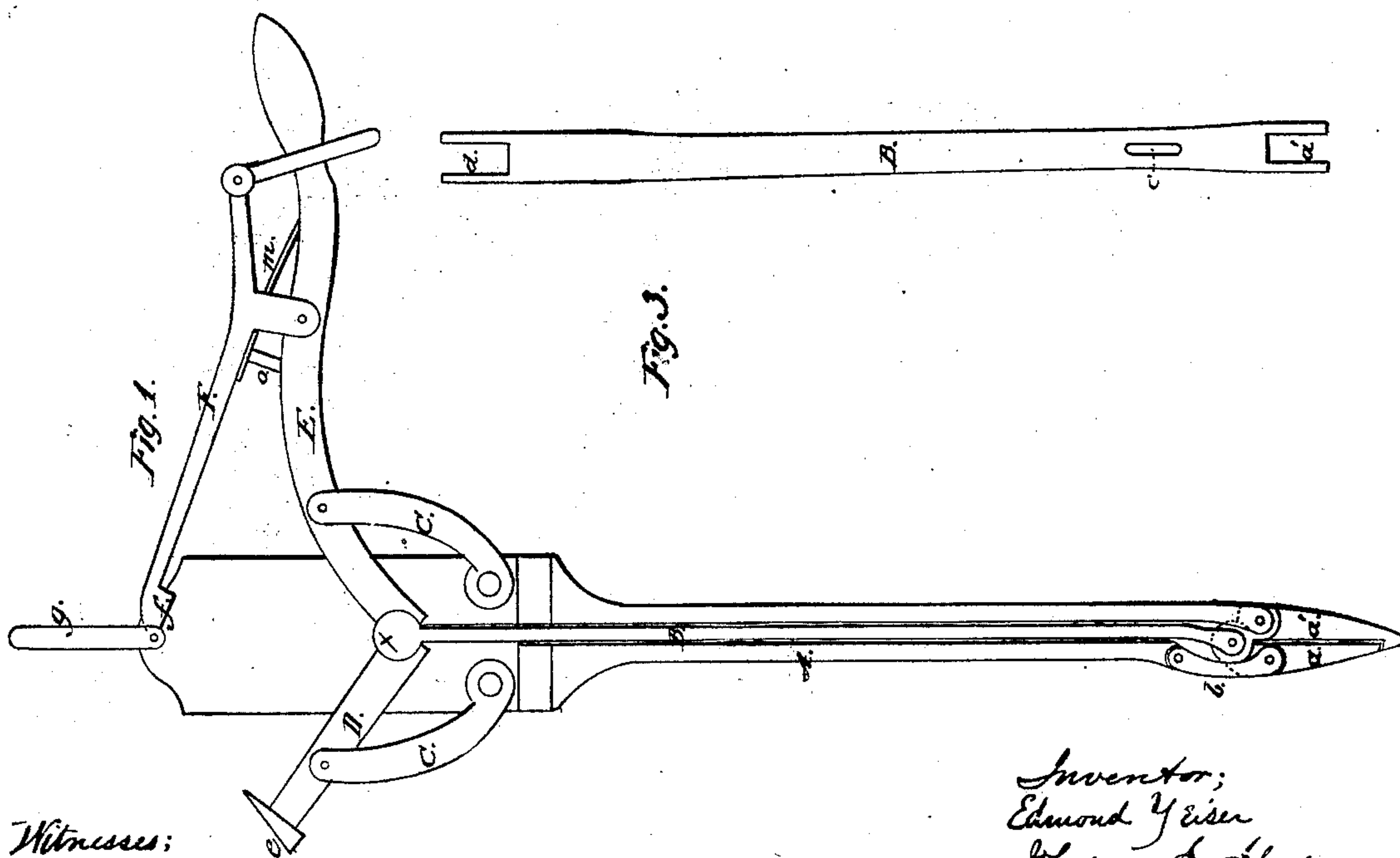
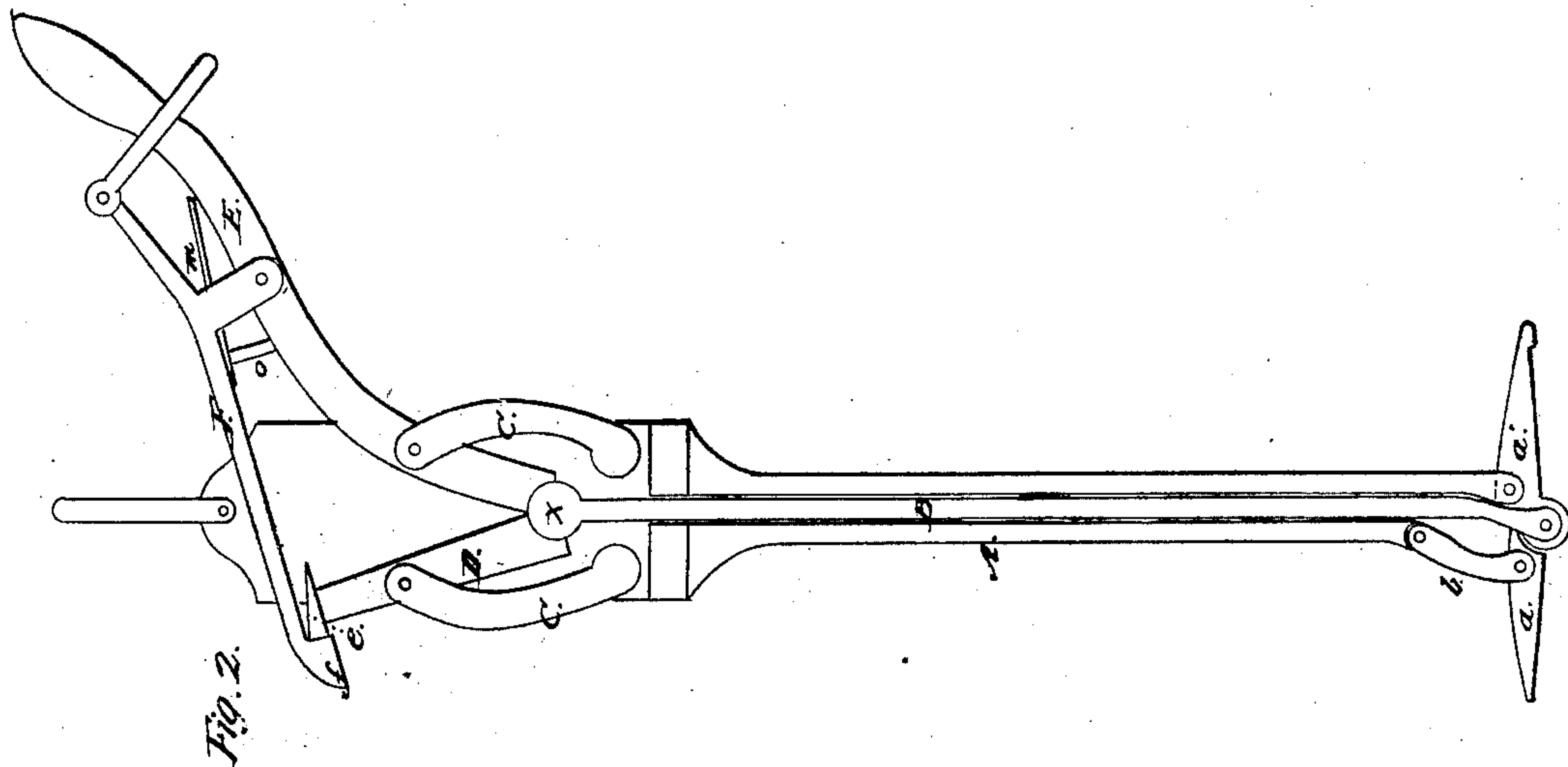


Yeiser & Sheets.

Horse Hay Fork.

N^o 61302

Patented Jan. 15, 1867.



Witnesses:
John P. Jacobz
Charles Alexander

Inventor;
Edmond Yeiser
Johnson S. Sheets
per
Alexander H. Mason

United States Patent Office.

EDMUND YEISER AND JOHNSON S. SHEETZ, OF SHERIDAN, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 61,302, dated January 15, 1867; antedated January 5, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE HAY-FORKS.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, EDMUND YEISER, and JOHNSON S. SHEETZ, of Sheridan, in the county of Lebanon, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful improvements in "Hay-Forks;" and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon.

In the drawings hereto annexed, and forming a part of this specification, A represents the body of the hay-fork, which is made in the form shown, having an oblong slot, into which is placed the sliding-bar B. This bar being made slightly longer than the slot into which it is placed, extends both above and below. Hinged to the said bar B, at the top portion *x*, is a lever, E, at one side, and a boot, D, at the other. C C represent two metallic bows, which are pivoted to the upper portion of the hay-fork; one of said bows is secured to the under portion of the lever E, while the other is secured to the boot D. *a* and *a'* represent two metallic spears, which are pivoted to the two ends at the bottom of the body A, (formed by the slot heretofore described,) and hinged to the extremity of the sliding-bar B. The spear *a'* is made slightly longer than the spear *a*, and has a shoulder formed at the end so that the spear *a* fits against the spear *a'*, just above said shoulder, and the two when together act as one spear and prevent the hay from passing between and opening them, as is usual where forks are constructed with an opening at the ends, between the two spears. *b* represents two crooked arms, which are secured to one of the ends of piece A, and are pivoted to the spear *a*. The use and operation of said arms will be hereinafter set forth. Upon the lever E is secured a catch, having a shoulder (as seen at *f*) upon its farther end, and is provided with a ring at the other extremity, which ring encircles the handle of the lever E and is to attach a cord to work it. Between the catch F and lever E is a small spring, *m*, and a stud, *o*, to prevent said catch from coming too near the lever and to spring it from the same. Figure 3, accompanying drawings, shows the sliding-bar B, with the jaws *d* and *d'*, by which the lever and boot are hinged at the top, and the spears at the lower end; also, a small slot, *e*, through which passes a screw (not shown) to prevent it from being drawn too high up or pressed too low down. It will be seen by drawing the lever upwards that the boot is drawn towards the body of the fork, as well as said lever, and the bar B, by means of the hinges, is pressed downwards, when the spears *a* and *a'* separate and assume the position as seen in Figure 2. In pressing the aforesaid lever upwards the catch F moves towards the end of the boot D and catches upon the heel *e* of said boot, and the fork is securely held in the required position. By pressing upon the outer end of the catch the shoulder *f* is disengaged from the boot heel; then press the lever downwards and the point *x* is carried toward the top of the fork and the spears are brought together, assuming the position shown in Figure 1. While in this position (the device being secured to a beam by a rope attached to the ring *g*) it is plunged into the hay, when the point of the lever is thrown up, and the spears spreading with the hay on them. The fork is then elevated, and a cord attached to the ring of the catch is pulled and the weight of the hay will bear the spears straight and drop into the receptacle.

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

1. The metallic body A, provided with a sliding-bar B, lever E, catch F, and boot D, arranged and operating substantially as herein specified.
2. The spears *a* and *a'* connected as described, spear *a'* being slightly longer than spear *a*, spear *a* shutting within a shoulder on the end of spear *a'* to form a perfect joint, the whole arranged and operating as and for the purposes set forth.

As evidence that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two witnesses.

EDMUND YEISER,
JOHNSON S. SHEETZ.

Witnesses:

E. REED,
W. STEACH.