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Anited States Patent Office.

HARVEY B. STEELE, OF WEST WINSTED, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 75,481, dated March 10, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE HAY-FORKS.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, HARVEY B. STEELE, of West Winsted, county of Litchfield, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and improved Power Hay-Fork; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention and improvement consists in the form and arrangement of the parts, by which use the connecting and operating parts of it are covered by the shield or scabbard, in connection with the point, as shown.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A is a metallic shield or scabbard. B is a lever with a ring on its outer end. C is a pair of ears or projections from the edge of the scabbard A, to secure lever B, which is held by a pin, D, connecting with lever B; and extending into the shield is a short lever, E, which is connected or pivoted to the upper end of connecting-bar F, and by the bar F with the point G of the fork.

I am aware that forks have been made and are in use with similar points and for the purpose, but as constructed are subject to serious objections from the exposed parts, levers, rods, &c., which frequently clog by the hay passing into and between the levers, to prevent or injure their successful use; and I claim that my form of shield, and the connection of the parts to it, are new, and an improvement.

A metal bar of the desired length, formed with a ring in its upper end, near which the lever D enters into the shield a, in a longitudinal slot fitted to receive it, to move back and forth. This rod is attached by a pin to one side of the clog or spear-point of the fork, the fulcrum of which is a pin near its opposite side. As this rod is pushed down, by lifting the lever with the hand after the fork is thrust into the hay, it turns the point or clog to a position at right angles with the rod, in which position it cannot be drawn from the hay, which is lifted to its desired position, when the lever is drawn down by a cord attached thereto, throwing the clog or arrow-point in line with the rod, instantly dropping the hay.

What I claim as my invention, and lesire to secure by Letters Patent, is-

The shield or scabbard A, constructed as described, in combination with the lever B E, connecting-rod F, and prong G, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

Witnesses:

E. S. WOODFORD, LYMAN BALDWIN. HARVEY B. STEELE.