HOSPER & SELLERS.

Corn Harvester.

No. 85,828. Patented Jan. 12, 1869.

Fig. 1.

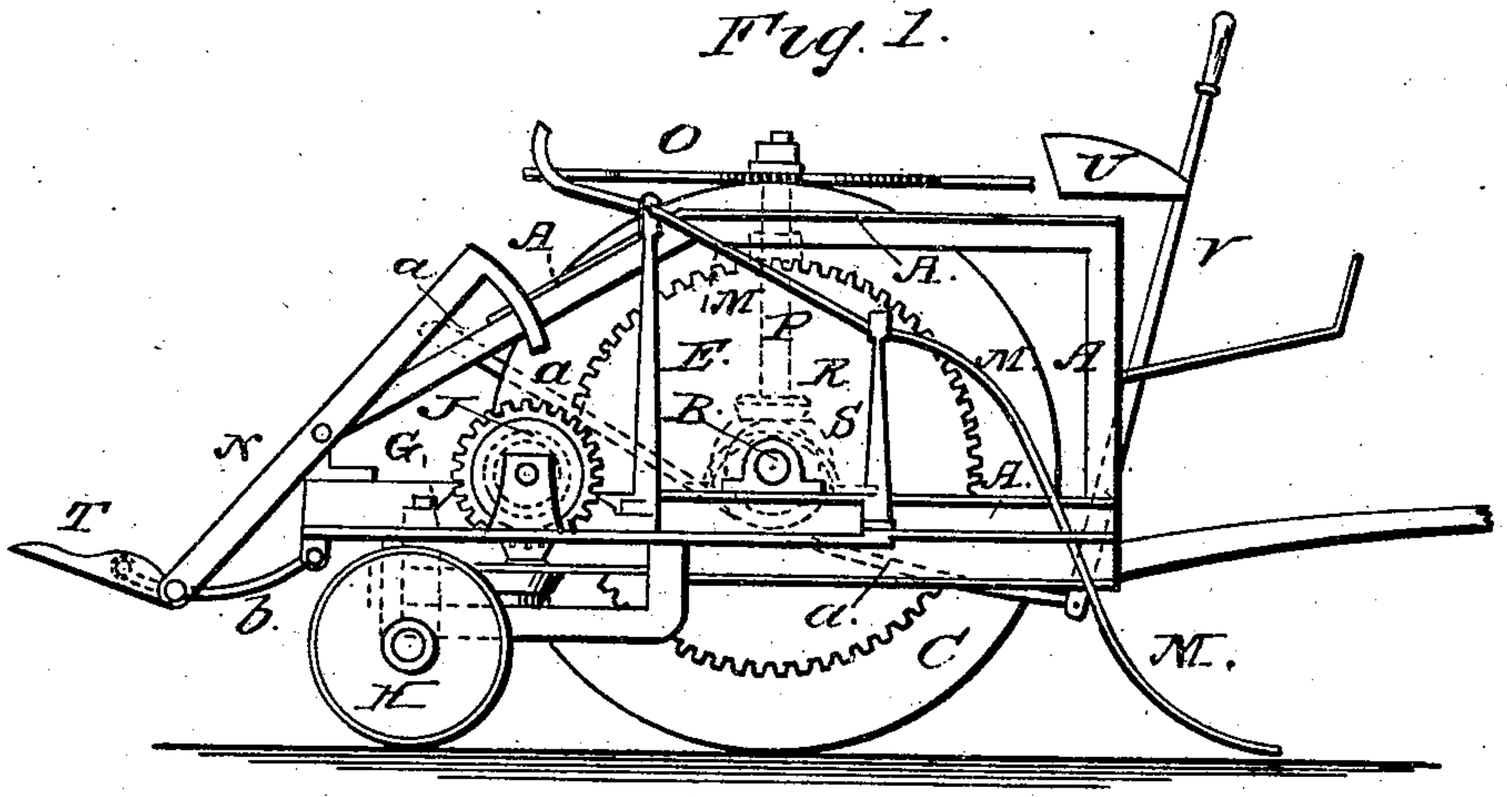
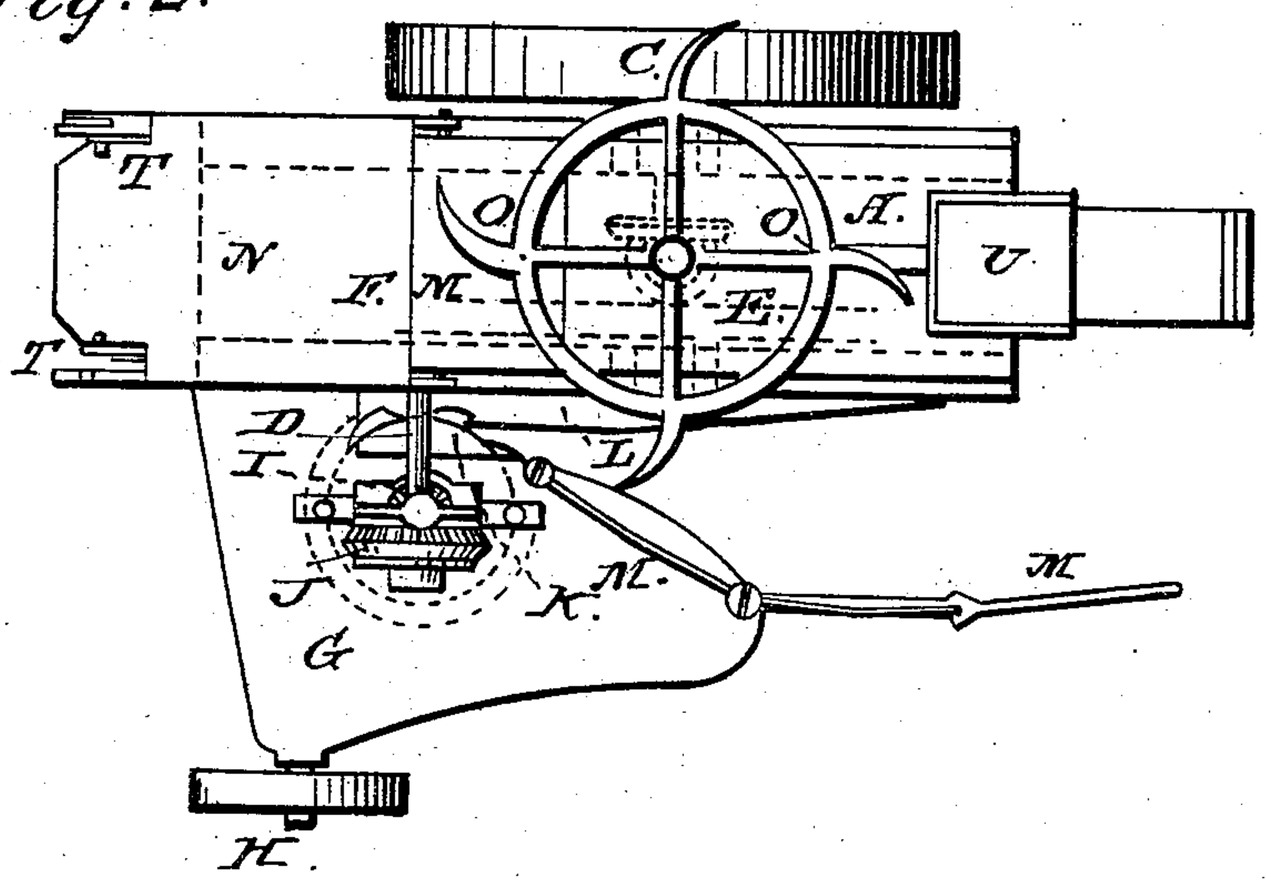


Fig. 2.



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NICHOLAS HOSPERS, OF PELLA, AND MORRIS SELLERS, OF KEOKUK, IOWA.

Letters Patent No. 85,828, *dated January* 12. 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORN-HARVESTERS.

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, NICHOLAS HOSPERS, of Pella, and county of Marion, and MORRIS SELLERS, of Keokuk, and county of Lee, both of the State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corn-Harvesters; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of our invention is to so construct a machine that, being drawn by one or more horses through a field of standing corn, the corn will be brought into contact with a circular knife or rotary-moving knives, and cut off. At the same time, by an arrangement hereinafter to be described, the corn-stalks are thrown upon an inclined plane, so arranged that at the option of the person operating the machine, they may be deposited at such points and in such quantities as may be deemed best for shocking.

The nature of our invention consists in the mode of arranging the several parts of the machine to accomplish the objects above mentioned.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and

Figure 2, a plan view.

A represents a frame, of suitable material and dimensions, in the lower part of which the shaft B has its bearings.

This frame A is provided with a cover, which is formed by an upright extending vertically (a suitable distance) at the front end of the base of the frame, and from thence horizontally over the gearing and under the reel, and sloping at the rear.

At the end of said slope is the pivoted incline N, which is flush with the slope, and forms part of its plane when in its normal position. This frame shields the major portion of the gearing, and prevents the clogging thereof by the particles of corn-stalks, &c.

The main wheel C, upon which the machine is supported, is of a size sufficient to come up flush with or above the roof of the machine, and thereby act as shield to the gearing at this side.

On one side of the frame A, on the shaft B, a driving-wheel, C, is placed, which imparts motion to an auxiliary shaft, D, by means of a large cog-wheel, E, on the former shaft, and pinion F, on the latter.

The shaft D has its bearings in the lower part of the frame A, a suitable distance in rear of the shaft B, and the said shaft D extends beyond the frame on the side opposite the one where the driving-wheel is placed.

On this side is also a platform, G, which extends from the rear part of the frame, and to this platform a smaller wheel, H, is attached.

The outer end of the shaft D has a bearing in an ear or standard on the platform G, and at this end of the said shaft is a mitre-wheel, I, which gears into a pinion, J.

This pinion is secured to a small vertical shaft, which has its bearings in angular bars above and below said platform, and to which a circular knife, K, is secured.

The circular knife K consists of a circular plate, with a series of knives on its periphery, which, by the means above described, obtains a rapid rotary motion.

The platform G, which, as already stated, extends from the rear of the frame A, extends also forward along the side of the frame a suitable distance, but leaves a space between the frame and itself.

A guard, L, is attached to this side of the frame, between which and the said platform the corn-stalks enter, when the machine is in operation; a railing, M, on the inner edge of the platform, keeping them in proper place, and the rotary knife K cuts them off.

The stalks are then carried up on the inclined plane N, by means of the reel O, which is placed on top of the frame A.

The shaft P, to which the reel is secured, passes down through the frame, and is at its lower end provided with a small mitre-wheel, R, which gears into a similar wheel, S, on the main shaft, the reel thus obtaining its motion from the driving-wheel also.

At the rear end of the inclined plane N are two standards, T T, which hold the stalks on the same, until as many as are desired have collected, when the operator, from his seat U, at the front end of the machine, dumps the inclined plane, and deposits the corn-stalks in one pile, instead of scattering them all over the field, as is the case with other harvesters now in use.

The dumping of the corn-stalks is accomplished by means of a lever, V, alongside of the driver's seat, which lever is connected by the rod *a* to the upper end of the plane N.

At the same time the standards T T are turned downward, they being pivoted to the lower end of the plane N, and connected, by curved arms *b b*, to the rear end of the frame A, in such a manner that when the plane N is in proper position to receive the corn-stalks, they stand upright, and prevent the stalks from falling off, but as soon as the operator dumps the plane, they extend and allow the stalks to fall down.

Having thus fully described our invention,

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

1. The frame A, with its vertical, horizontal, and sloped roof or cover, in combination with the wheel C, reel O, and pivoted incline N, all constructed and operating substantially as specified.

2. The arrangement of the inclined plane N and standards T T, operated by the lever V and rods *a* and *b b*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

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Witnesses:
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