



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHANIEL S. KETCHUM, OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SHEAF-DROPPERS FOR HARVESTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,611, dated June 4, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL S. KETCHUM, of Mashalltown, in the county of Marshall and in the State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bundle-Carriers for Harvesters; 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 "bundle-carrier for harvesters," as will be hereinafter more 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 plan view, and Fig. 2 a side elevation of my invention.

A A represent two parallel arms or side beams for attaching my device to the harvester, said arms being inclined upward toward the rear. In these arms or side beams are pivoted two bars, B B, provided with slats C C. On the outer or upper bar B are secured two arms, D D, connected by levers E E with a cross-bar, G, attached to the slats of the inner or lower bar. The levers E E form elbows with the arms D D when the bundle carrier is closed, but are nearly straightened out when the carrier opens to let the bundle drop, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2. To the inner bar B is attached a handle, H, or said handle may be formed on one of the slats, by means of which handle the operator can raise, both bars and slats so as to close the car-

rier, allowing a pawl, I, to drop under and catch on the cross-bar G of the inner rack, thus holding them both up. The pawl or lever I is angular or L-shaped, as shown in Fig. 2, so that the operator can readily remove the same from the cross-bar G by turning it on its pivot, thus opening the carrier. The weight of the bundle in the carrier at once opens it, when the pawl or lever I is removed and the bundle falls to the ground in a bunch to be shocked.

The binders stand on the platform J, above which is a binding-table, K. The binders, standing on the platform, bind every alternate bundle, and throwing the same in the carrier, to be dropped through when a sufficient number is in to make half a shock. At the next round another half shock is left directly opposite, the two put together.

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

1. The combination of the two racks B C B C, arms D D, levers E E, and cross-bar G, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The combination of the arms or side beams A A, racks B C B C, arms D D, levers E E, cross-bar G, pawl I, platform J, and table K, all constructed as described, and arranged substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of February, 1872.

N. S. KETCHUM.

Witnesses:

M. H. HAVILAND,  
HEMAN P. WILLIAMS.