(No Model.)

W. B. BOWERS.

BAND CUTTER.

No. 274,707. Patented Mar. 27, 1883.

Fig. 1

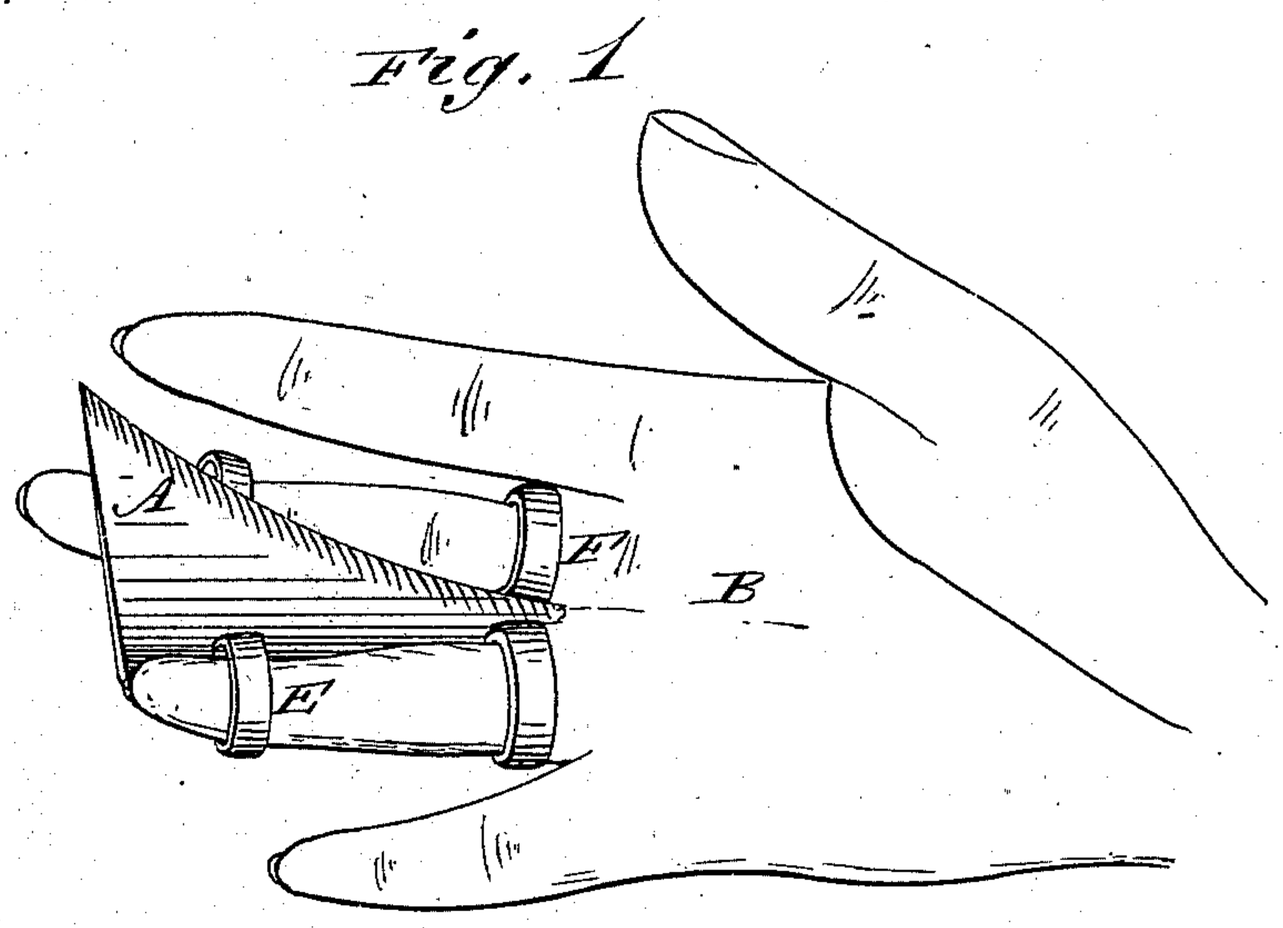
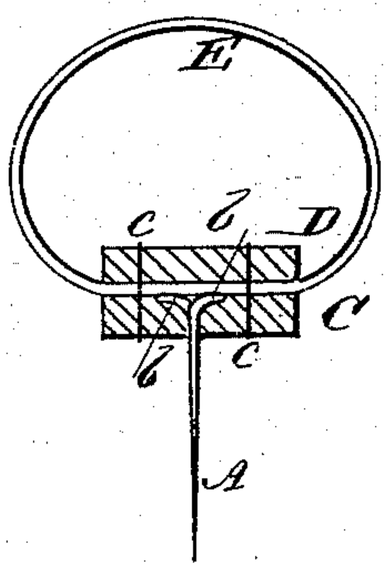


Fig. 2

Fig. 3



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. BOWERS, OF FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA.

BAND-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,707, dated March 27, 1883.

Application filed August 8, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BENTON BOWERS, of Falls City, in the county of Richardson and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Band-Cutters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention consists in a cutter for the bands of any bound or bundled grain, in which is combined a cutting-blade and straps or bands for holding the cutter to the hand, and arranged to receive certain fingers of the hand through them, whereby, when feeding grain to a thrashing-machine, one man can conveniently both cut the bands which bind the grain and at the same time feed the grain to the machine, thus dispensing with an extra person for cutting the bands.

The invention also consists in a special construction of such band-cutter, whereby the blade, which is supported by a block or strips, is arranged under or on the inner side of the two middle fingers of the hand.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figures 1 and 2 represent perspective views of modified constructions of the band-cutter applied to the hand of the operator, and Fig. 3, a transverse section of the band-cutter shown in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings, A indicates a triangular steel blade or cutter, arranged to project within the hand B, between the two middle fingers thereof, and secured to loop-shaped straps or bands E F at or near each end of the blade, through which straps or bands said fingers pass to hold and support the cutter.

In Fig. 2 the triangular blade A is represented as attached to a block or strips, C D, which may be of leather, wood, or any other suitable material, but is here supposed to consist of two leather strips, to which the blade is secured by means of turned-over pointed projections *b b* on the back of the blade, and rows of stitching *c c*, uniting the two strips C D, together, as shown in Fig. 3. Passing transversely through this blade-supporting block C D at or near either end, are the two loop-shaped finger straps or bands E F, through which the two middle fingers of the hand carrying the cutter are projected; and attached to these straps or bands E F is another strap, G, arranged to pass over the back of the hand, and which, being doubled, is parted about the middle of the back part of the hand and its two end portions passed twice around and tied at the wrist.

The construction shown in Figs. 2 and 3 provides for the blade, which is carried by the block, being firmly held in front or on the inside of the two middle fingers.

By using two band-cutters—that is, one in each hand—one person can both cut the bands which bind the grain and feed the thrasher at the same time, the cutters not materially, if at all, interfering with his feeding the grain, the band being cut and the bundle loosened in handling the sheaf.

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

The band-cutter A, provided with means for attachment to or between the middle fingers of the human hand, with the outer end of the cutting-edge elevated, and said edge then gradually declining inwardly toward the palm of the hand, as shown and described, whereby the wire or other band may be cut by the thrashing-machine feeder as the bundle of grain is being fed to the thrasher, and by a backward-drawing movement toward the feeder.

WILLIAM BENTON BOWERS.

Witnesses:

H. L. RANDALL,

E. N. MELTON.