

(No Model.)

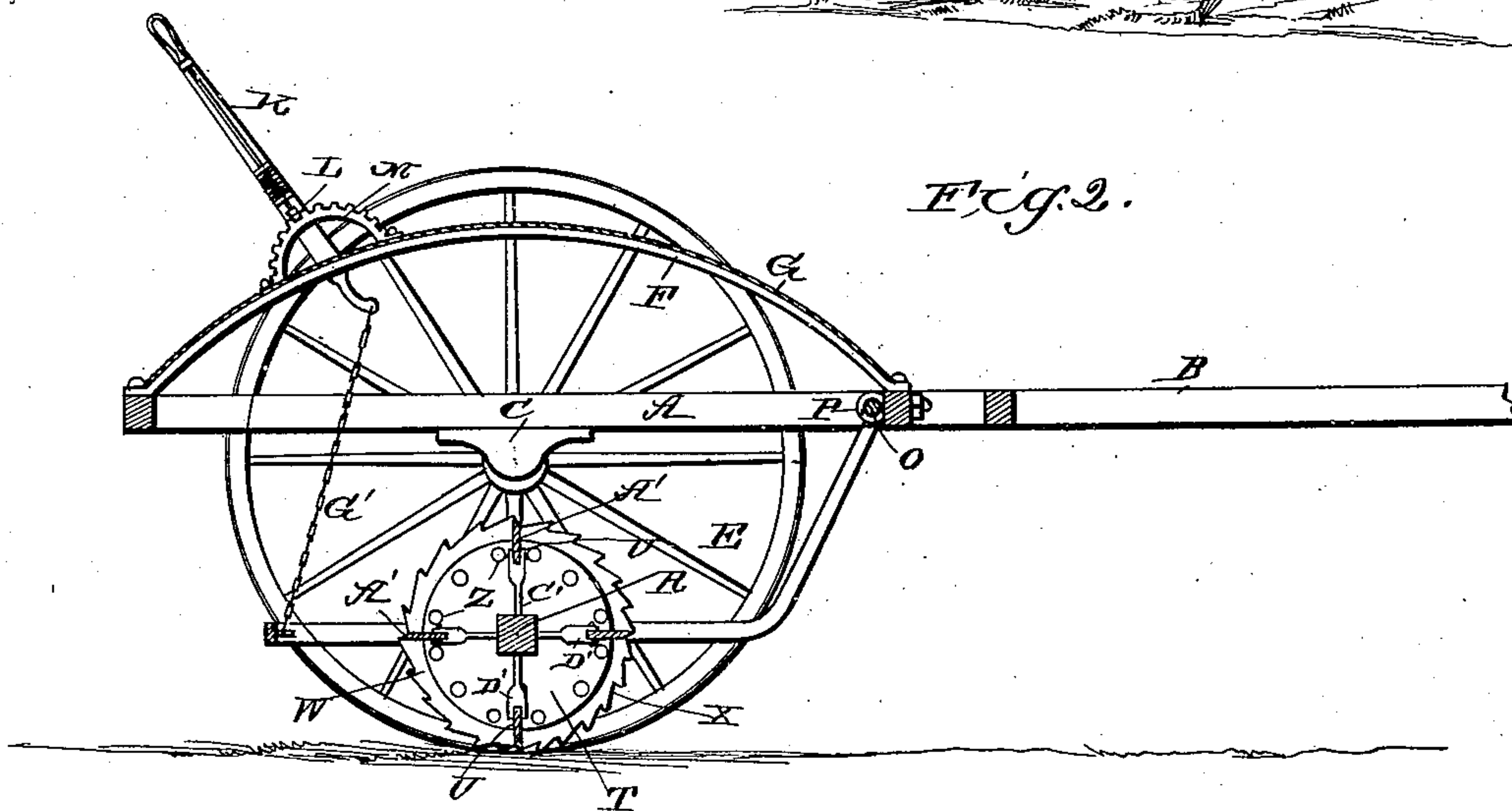
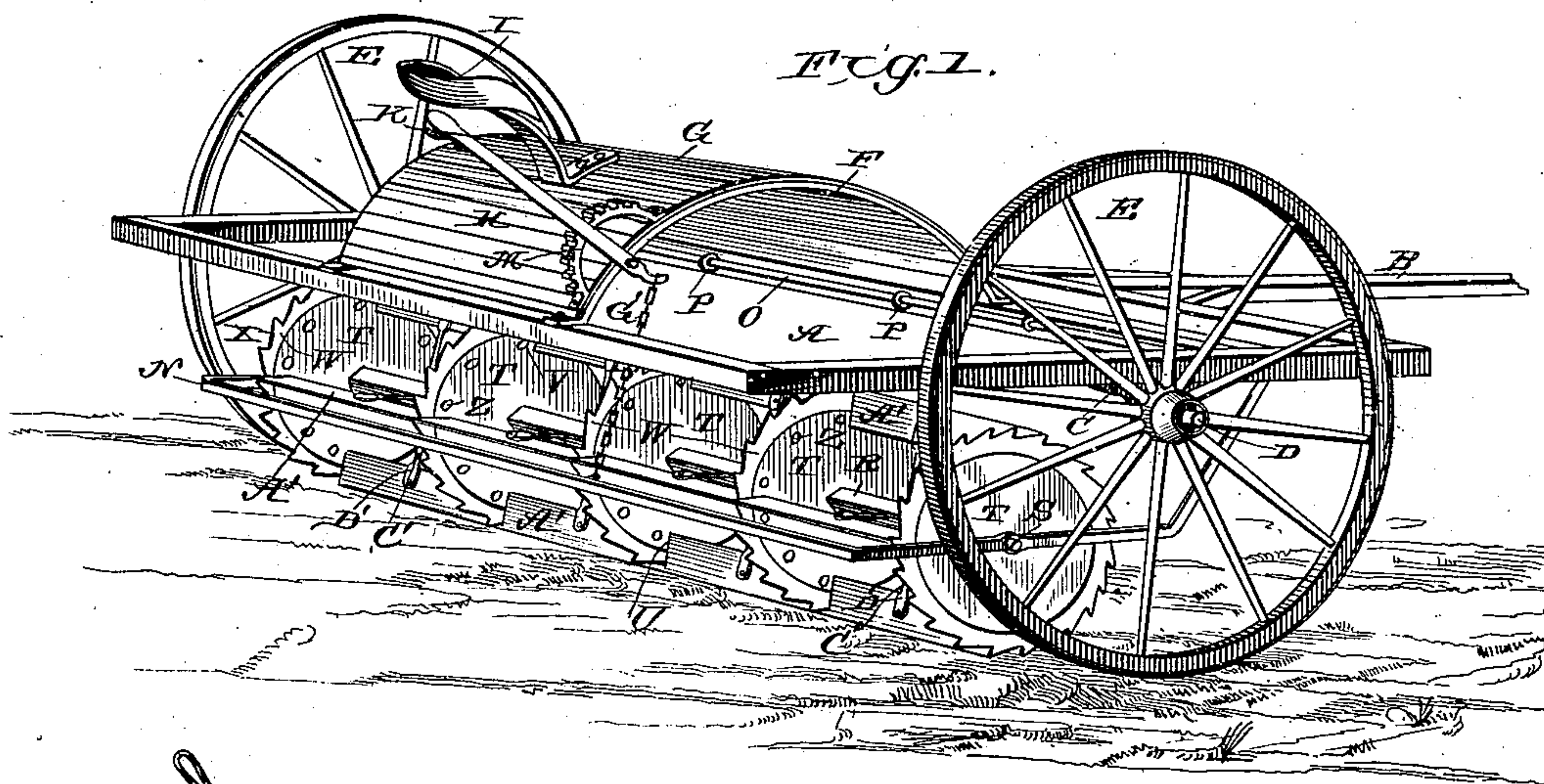
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. S. KENNETT.

STALK CUTTER.

No. 371,462.

Patented Oct. 11, 1887.



Witnesses

Jas. A. Ryan  
J. C. Garner

Inventor

Berryman S. Kennett.

By his Attorneys

C. A. Howland

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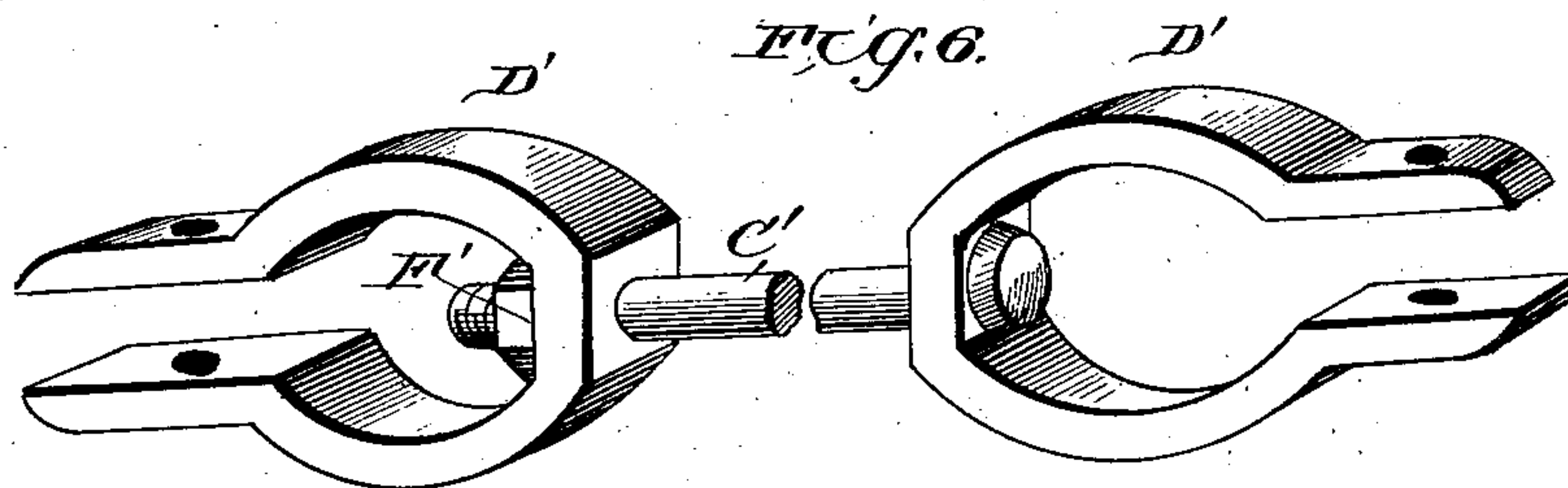
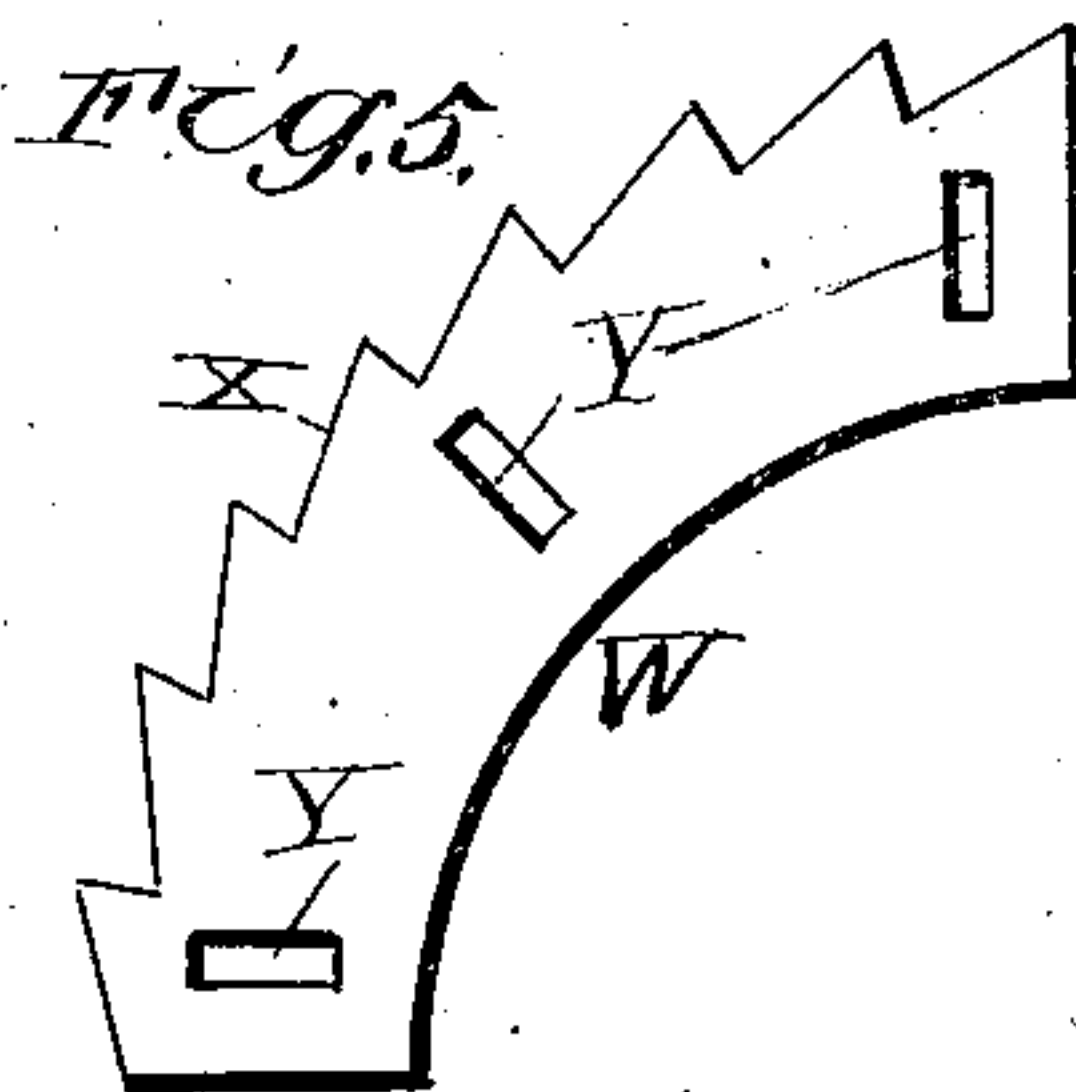
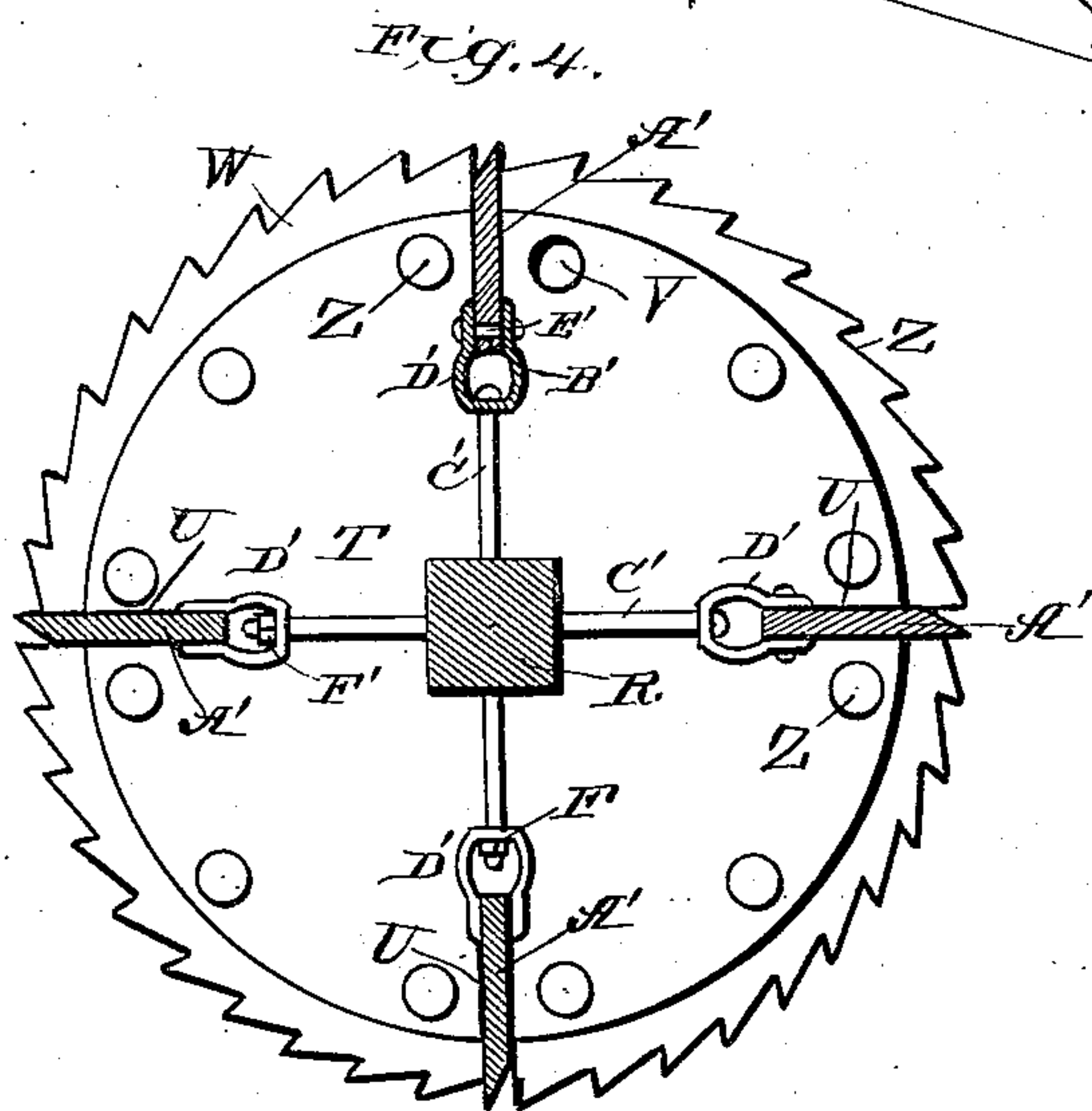
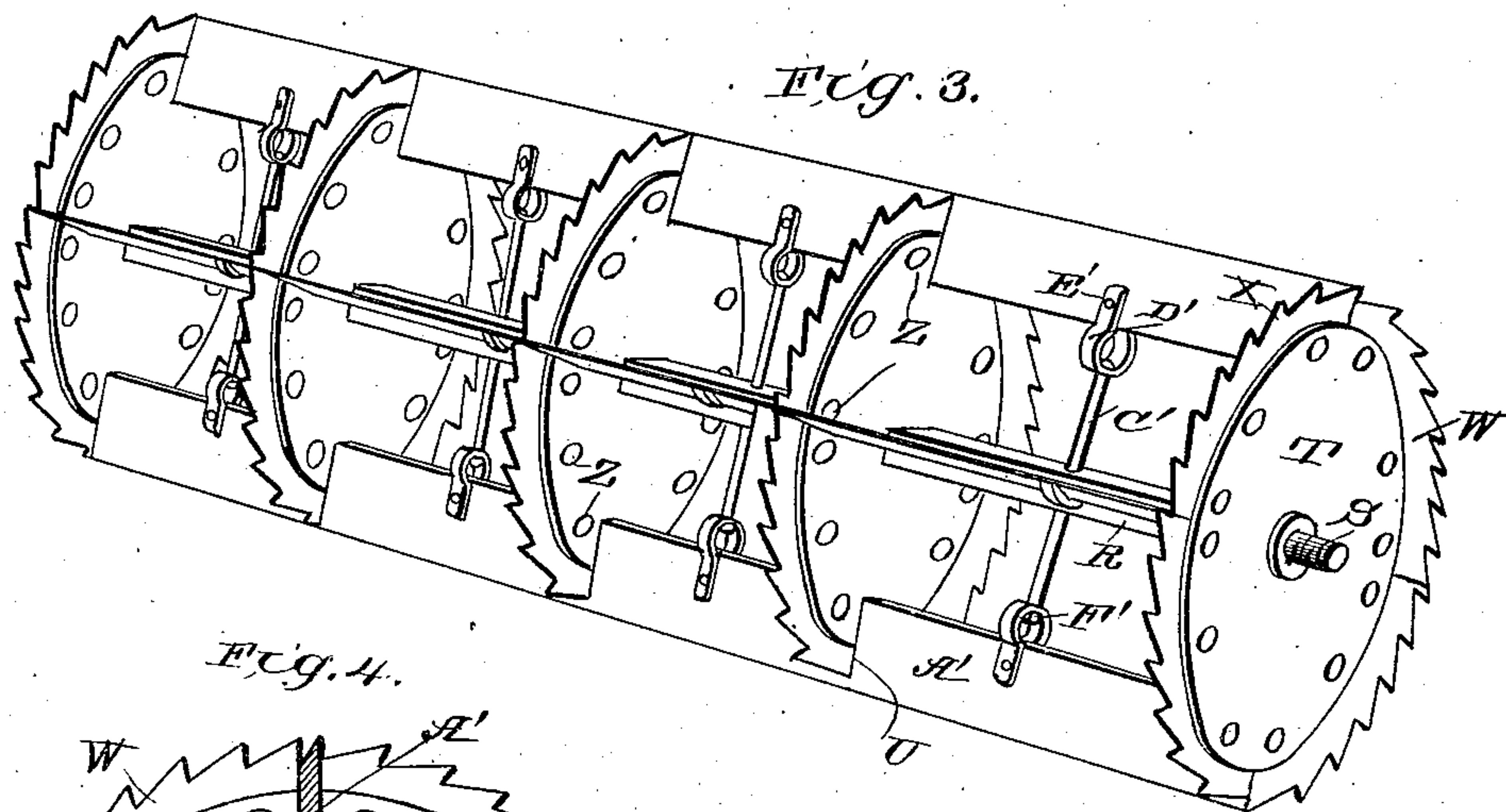
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERRYMAN SHELburn KENNETT, OF FREDONIA, KANSAS.

## STALK-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 371,462, dated October 11, 1887.

Application filed July 23, 1887. Serial No. 245,103. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BERRYMAN SHELburn KENNETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fredonia, in the county of Wilson and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stalk-Cutters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in stalk-cutters; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices, that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a stalk-cutter embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detached perspective view of the cutting-cylinder. Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view of the same, taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is an enlarged vertical longitudinal sectional view of the same, taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail view.

A represents a rectangular sulky-frame, which is provided with a tongue, B, for the attachment of the draft animals. Under the end bars of the sulky-frame, at a suitable distance from the rear side thereof, are secured blocks C, provided with outward-projecting spindles D, on which are journaled a pair of large supporting-wheels, E.

F represents a pair of curved standards, which are arranged on the cross-bars of the sulky-frame at suitable distances from the ends thereof and are bolted thereto, and the said standards are connected by a series of longitudinal slats, G, which are secured to their outer sides and form a semicircular cover, H, arranged over the open central portion of the sulky-frame. The seat I for the driver is attached to this cover. To one of the standards F is fulcrumed a hand-lever, K, provided with a spring-actuated locking-bolt, L, which is adapted to engage a segment-rack, M, and thereby lock the lever in any desired position.

N represents a rectangular open frame of suitable size, which has its front bar, O, connected to the front side of frame A by means of hinge-bolts P. The said frame N is thereby adapted to swing vertically. The central portions of the hand bars or frame N are provided with transverse aligned openings, in which are

journaled the ends of a bar, R, which bar is square in cross-section and has its extremities reduced and screw-threaded, as at S.

T represents a series of circular metallic plates, which are arranged in pairs on the bar R at suitable regular distances apart, and the said plates are each provided with a series, preferably four, of open radial slots U of suitable depth. Between the said slots are transverse openings V, which are arranged near the rims of the plates. The latter have square holes in their centers to receive the square bar R, and, consequently, the plates T are caused to rotate with the said bar when the latter is turned. The plates T, which are arranged at the ends of the bar R, are not provided with the open slots U. Between each pair of circular plates are arranged a series of segmental cutter-plates, W, which are adapted to fit in the spaces between the radial slots U, and have their outer edges provided with serrated teeth X. The said segmental cutter-plates are further provided with radial slots Y, which coincide with the openings V of the circular plates and transverse bolts Z, which pass through the said openings V and through the slots Y, and serve to secure the segmental cutters between the circular plates and permit the same to be radially adjusted therein.

A' represents a series of longitudinal cutters, which have their outer edges sharpened, as shown. The said cutters fit in the radial slots U, extend transversely across the entire series of circular plates, and are provided at their inner edges with openings B'.

C' represent bolts, which extend through transverse openings made in the bar R and through the opposing ends of swivels D', the outer ends of which are connected to the cutters A' by means of bolts or rivets E', which extend through the openings B' and through aligned openings in the ears of the swivels. Each bolt C' is provided with a clamping-nut, F', by means of which the cutter-bars A' may be firmly clamped in the slots U, as will be readily understood.

G' represents an elevating chain or rod, which extends from the inner end of lever K to the rear side of the frame N, and thereby adapts the latter to be raised or lowered by means of the hand-lever.

The operation of my device is as follows:



When the machine is in motion and is being drawn across a field of harvested corn or cane, the frame N is lowered, so as to cause the cutting-roller to roll upon the ground. The canes or stalks which lie longitudinally in the track of the machine will be cut into short pieces by the cutters A', and the canes or stalks which lie transversely or at angles in the path of the machine will be cut into pieces by the sharpened serrated teeth of the circular cutters. By thus providing the cutting roller or cylinder with both circular and straight longitudinal cutters I am enabled to dispense with the devices commonly employed in this class of machines to arrange the stalks or canes in advance of the cutting cylinder or roller, and consequently reduce the cost of the machine, and also greatly reduce the draft thereof.

It will be readily understood from the foregoing description that in the event that any portion of the rotating roller or cylinder becomes broken the same may be readily removed and replaced by a duplicate part. By enabling the cutting-segments W to be adjusted radially between the circular plates the same may be used for a long time, as they may be extended a little farther beyond the peripheries of the circular plates each time that their serrated teeth are sharpened.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination, in a stalk-cutter, of a transverse shaft, the plurality of circular cut-

ters mounted in said shaft, and a series of longitudinal cutters arranged below the circular cutters and embracing the latter, substantially as described. 35

2. The combination, in a stalk-cutter, of the rotating plates T, mounted on the common shaft, the serrated segment-cutters secured on each of said plates, and longitudinal cutters between said plates and guarded therein, as set forth. 40

3. The combination, in a stalk-cutter, of the shaft R and circular plates mounted therein and slotted as described, the segmental cutters secured to and radially adjustable relatively to said plates, and the longitudinal cutters having their ends extending into the slots of the plates, substantially as described. 45

4. The combination, in a stalk-cutter, of the bar R, the plates T, secured thereto and having the radial slots U, the segmental cutters secured to the said plates and arranged between said slots, the cutters A', arranged transversely on the plates and fitting in the slots U thereof, and the swivels and bolts connecting the inner edges of the said cutters A', substantially as described. 50

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses. 55

BERRYMAN SHELBURN KENNETT.

Witnesses:

DANIEL CLAIBOURN,  
JULIUS PETTIJOHNS.