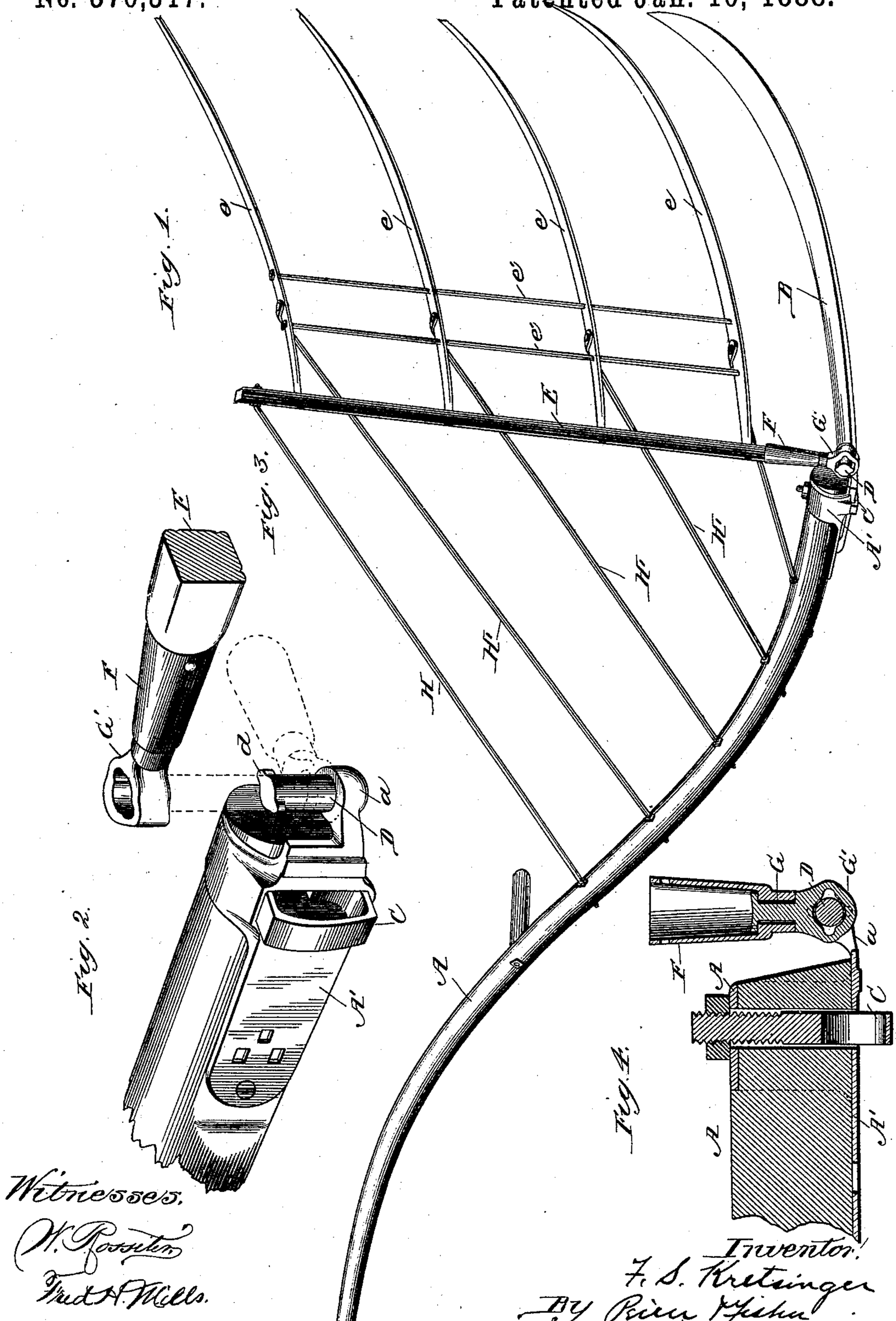
(No Model.)

F. S. KRETSINGER.

GRAIN CRADLE.

No. 376,317. Patented Jan. 10, 1888.



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FREDERICK S. KRETSINGER, OF FORT MADISON, IOWA.

GRAIN-CRADLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,317, dated January 10, 1888.

Application filed July 8, 1887. Serial No. 243,788. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK S. KRETSINGER, residing at Fort Madison, in the county of Lee, State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grain-Cradles, of which I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My present invention has relation to that class of grain-cradles wherein provision is made whereby the position of the cradle-body with respect to the scythe-blade and the snath can be adjusted; and the object of my invention is to provide improved means for attaching the standard of the cradle to the snath-plate in such manner that the body of the cradle can be placed at any angle with respect to the snath, and as well also can be shifted to fit any shaped scythe that may be employed.

To this end my invention consists in the several novel features of construction and combination of parts, hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly defined in the claims at the end of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a grain-cradle embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the end of the snath with the snath-plate in position thereon, the socket of the finger-bar being shown by dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of the standard of the cradle-body with its swivel-socket attached thereto. Fig. 4 is a view in vertical section through the end of the snath, the snath-plate, and the swivel-socket of the standard.

The snath A may be of any approved construction, and to its end will be attached the snath-plate A′, adapted to receive the heel or shank of the scythe B, which is held in position thereon by means of a suitable ring-bolt, C, in well-known manner. The lower portion of the snath-plate A′ is provided with the projecting end *a*, from which rises the stud or lug D, preferably formed integral therewith, and having at its upper end the lateral projections or lugs *d* (one or more in number.) The standard E of the cradle-body has its inner end fitted into the swivel-socket F, to which is attached, by means of the headed shank G, the eye G′, adapted to fit over the lug or stud D at the end of the snath-plate, the eye G′ having its perforation enlarged at proper points to admit the projections of this stud. By this means the shank G is hinged to the snath-plate in such manner as to permit a freedom of movement when required for adjustment or separation of parts, and at the same time guard against all danger of accidental separation of parts. To the standard E are joined the fingers *e* of the cradle-body, these fingers being braced by the ribs *e′*, and the upper end of the standard is joined to the snath by a suitable stay-rod, H, that is adjustably connected with the snath in any of the well-known ways. From the fingers *e* of the cradle-body extend the stay-rods H′, which are also adjustably attached in suitable manner to the snath.

From the foregoing construction it will be seen that by employing a swivel-socket for the inner end of the standard of the cradle-body the fingers of this body can be readily adjusted by means of the stay-rods H′, in order to hang the body in or out, so that it shall fit any shape of scythe, and it is apparent, also, that by connecting the inner end of the standard to the snath-plate by means of the eye G′ and the stud D, whereon this eye is held in a manner free to turn, I am enabled, through the medium of the stay-rod H, to adjust the cradle-body at any desired angle with respect to the snath. My improved means for connecting the cradle-body to the snath-plate thus permits a double movement which accommodates the cradle to any shape of scythe and enables it to be hung at any angle with relation to the snath that may best suit the operator. Moreover, it will be observed that when the cradle-body is to be attached to the snath-plate it is only necessary to place the eye G′ over the stud D in such manner that the projections *d* of the stud will pass through the expanded portions of the eye, and then turn the cradle-body quarter-way around, after which the cradle-body will be in proper position for use, and when so set the standard will be guarded against displacement from the snath-plate by reason of the projections *d* of the stud, as seen in Fig. 1; hence in my improved construction the necessity of employing pins, nails, bolts, or screws for attaching the standard to the snath-plate is avoided, and the simplicity

of my improved attachment permits the body to be quickly set for use without the exercise of skilled labor.

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

1. In a grain-cradle, the combination, with a snath-plate and standard, of a means for uniting the two, comprising a socket fixed to the end of the standard and a shank swiveled to said socket, said shank being hinged to the snath-plate, substantially as described.

2. In a grain-cradle, the combination, with the snath, a cradle-body, and the adjustable stay-rods connected to the standard, the fingers and the snath, of the snath-plate A′, provided with the stud D, extending at substantially right angles therefrom and having projections thereon, the swivel-socket F, the shank G, and the eye G′, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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