

No. 611,993.

Patented Oct. 4, 1898.

R. M. CLARK.
FINGER BAR FOR MOWING MACHINES.

(Application filed Nov. 3, 1897.)

(No Model.)

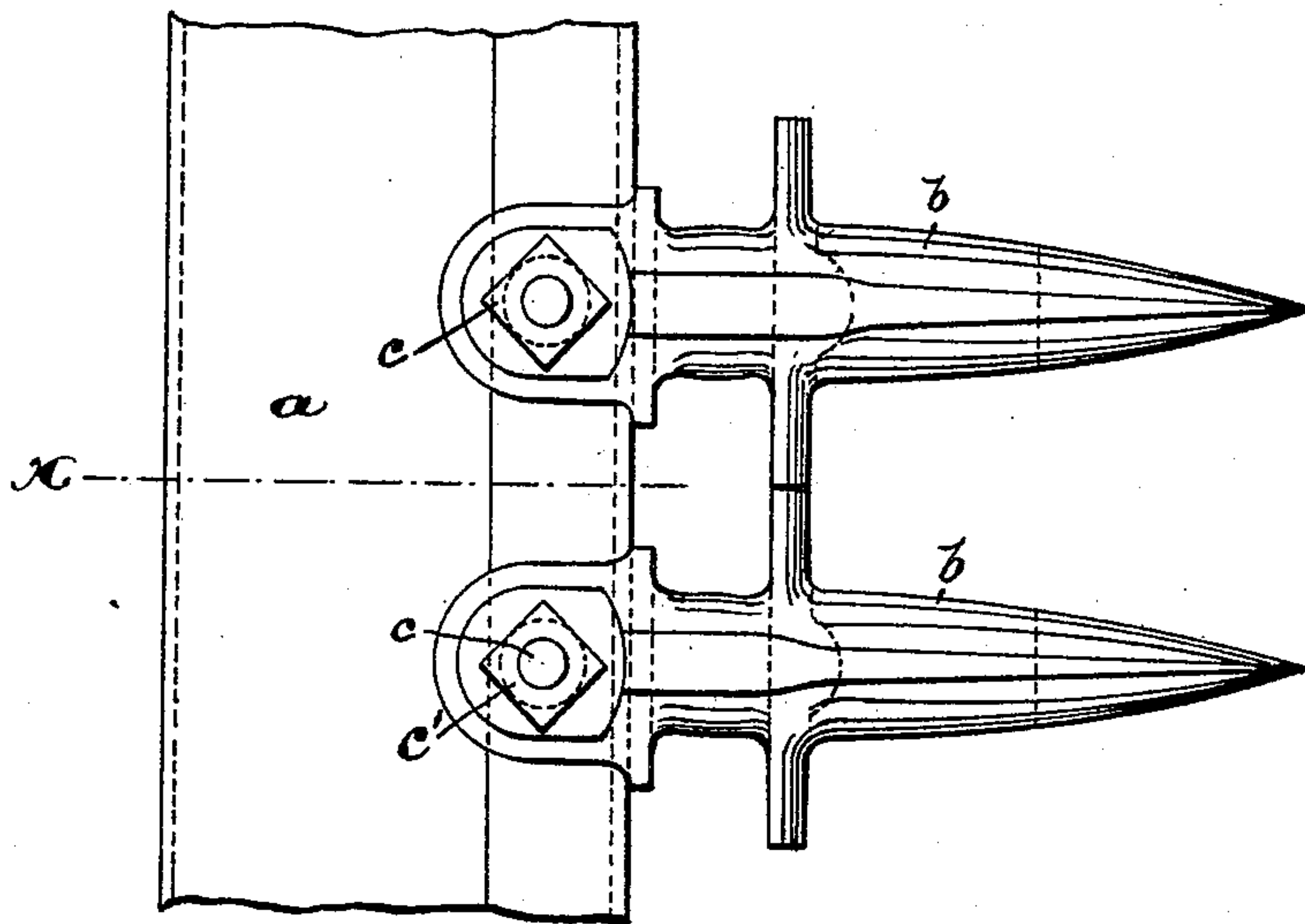


Fig. 1.

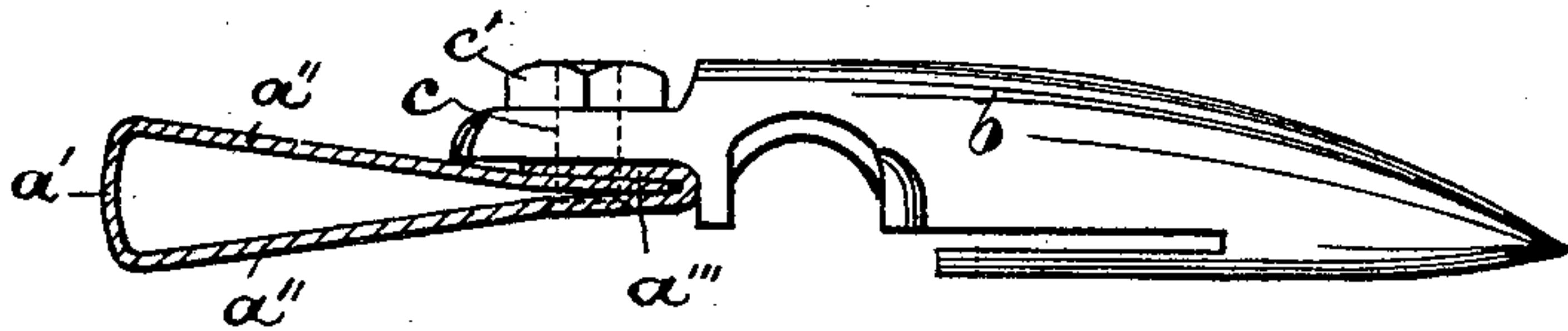


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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ROSWELL M. CLARK, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
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FINGER-BAR FOR MOWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 611,993, dated October 4, 1898.

Application filed November 3, 1897. Serial No. 657,231. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROSWELL M. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Finger-Bars for Mowing-Machines; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in the finger-bars of mowing-machines; and the object of my improvement is to secure increased lightness of weight without sacrificing strength, whereby the operator can perform his duties with greater ease and quickness.

Further objects are to reduce the cost of construction and to secure other advantages and results, some of which may be referred to hereinafter in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved finger-bar for mowing-machines and in the arrangements and combinations of parts thereof, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the views, Figure 1 is a reverse plan of a portion of the finger-bar, showing guard-fingers attached; and Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same on the line *x*.

In said drawings, *a* indicates the finger-bar, and *b* the guard-finger, secured to the under side of said finger-bar *a* in any usual manner by bolt *c* and nut *c'*. The reciprocating cutter-bar (not shown) slides upon the guard-fingers in the usual manner, said cutter-bar carrying the usual cutters, which coöperate with said guard-fingers in the operation of cutting. Deeming unnecessary further description of these parts which are in common use, I pass

to the construction of the finger-bar *a*. Instead of the solid and very heavy bar commonly employed I use a hollow bar, as shown in Fig. 2, which comprises a piece of sheet metal folded into a wedge shape, thereby combining minimum weight with great strength.

Because of the wedge shape of the hollow bar it presents great strength or resistance to obstructions against which it is or may be brought to bear as the mower moves forward. It also provides a flat seat, upon which the guard-fingers may be seated.

In forming the hollow bar I fold the sheet metal longitudinally, the fold being rounded to give a rounded and considerably wide back edge *a'* to said bar, whereby it is given adequate vertical rigidity and strength. The forward edges of the folds *a'' a''* are brought together flatwise, and one of the folds, preferably the upper one, is wider than the other and is turned over its edge and pressed down against the outer or opposite side, so that a rounded edge is formed, and a third ply *a'''* is formed at the forward edge, which conduces to vertical strength and great horizontal capacity to resist impacts due to engagements with obstructions—such as stones, heavy plants, woody stumps, &c.

The folds *a'' a'' a'''* are held firmly and securely together by the same bolts *c* which serve in holding the guard-fingers in position, the upper fold being countersunk to receive the heads of said bolts, so there will be no projections on which the cut grass can catch and be prevented from passing immediately over the bar.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The finger-bar for mowing-machines herein described comprising a sheet-metal piece bent longitudinally to form a wide back and having its opposite edges brought together and one turned upon the other and guard-fingers secured upon said bar, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of a hollow finger-bar wedge-shaped in cross-section and fingers overlapping the thin edge and secured thereto, substantially as set forth.

3. The improved hollow finger-bar for mow-
ing-machines, comprising a sheet-metal piece
bent longitudinally to form a thick back for
the finger-bar and having its opposite edges
5 folded together to form a thin front for the
finger-bar, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I

have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of
October, 1897.

ROSWELL M. CLARK.

Witnesses:

CHARLES S. MOREY,
R. ALGERNON CLARK.