

No. 644,076.

Patented Feb. 27, 1900.

W. H. HODGES.  
CUTTER BAR.

(Application filed July 3, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

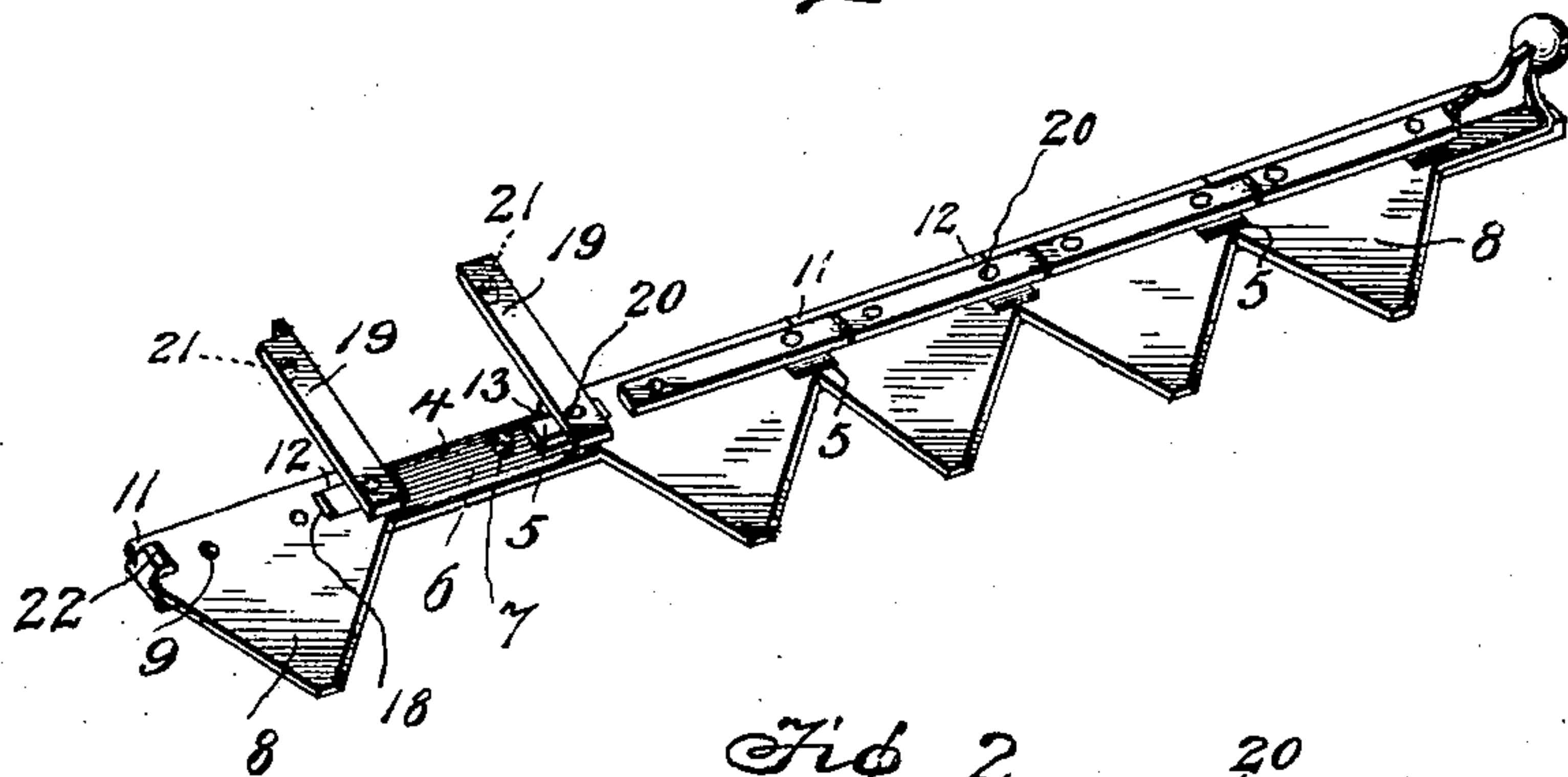


Fig. 2.

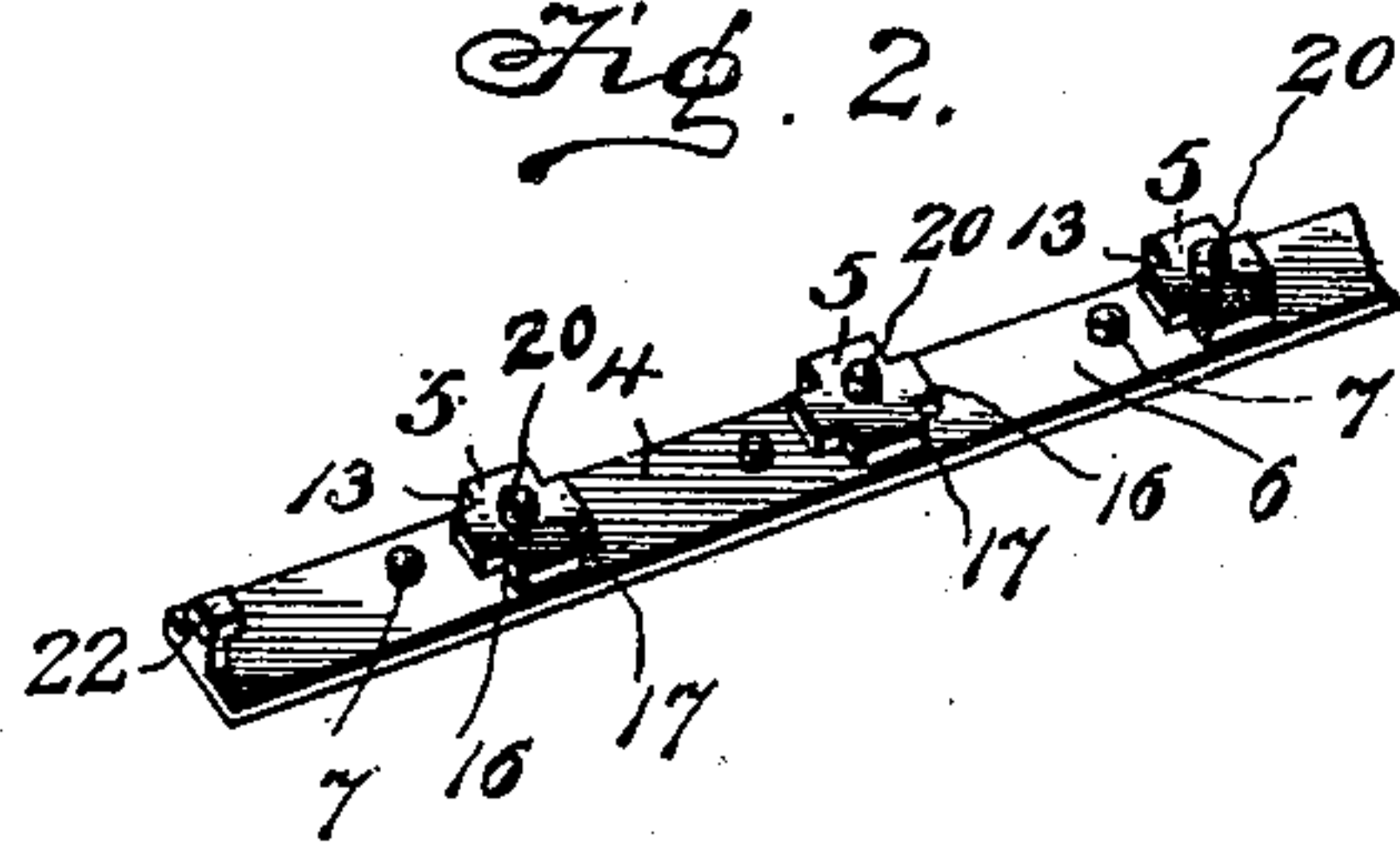


Fig. 3.

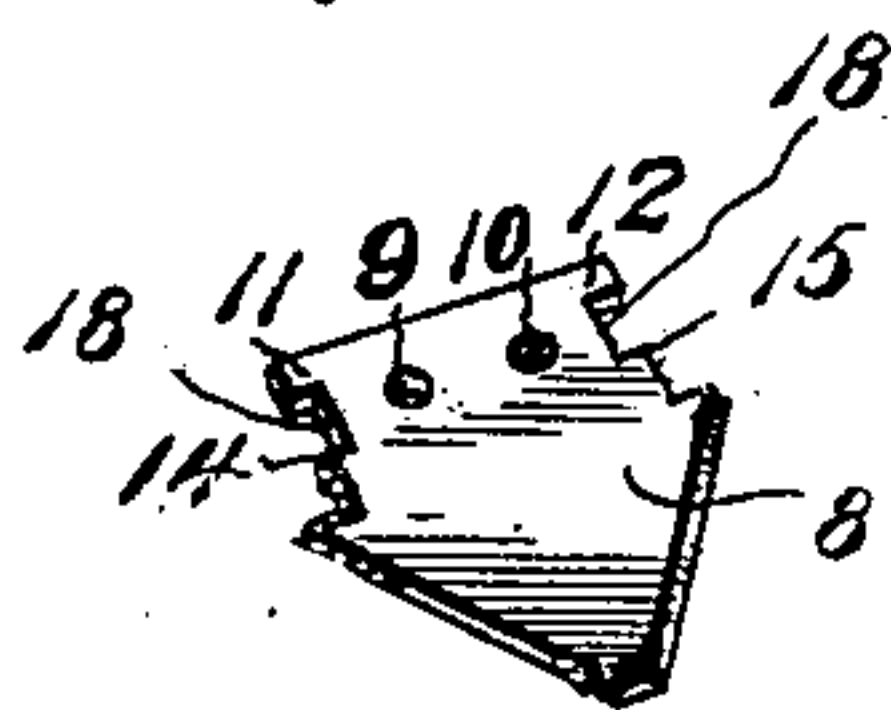
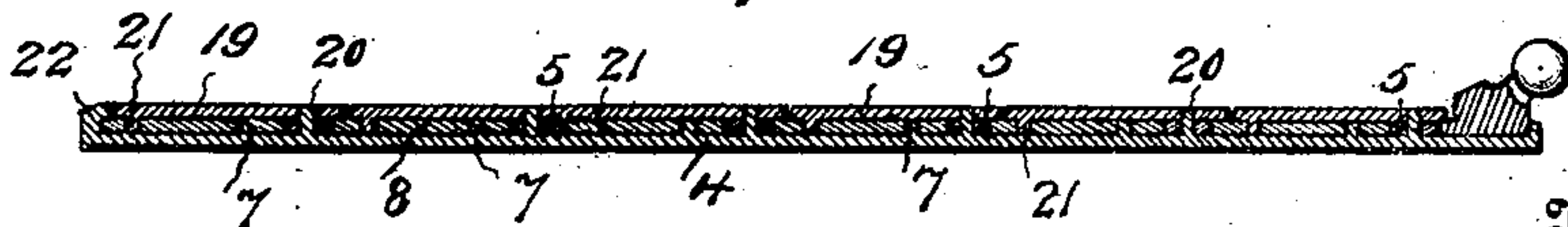


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

Clarence Shaw  
Charles E. Brock

Inventor  
W. H. Hodges

by *Thurston*  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY HODGES, OF UNION STAR, MISSOURI.

## CUTTER-BAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 644,076, dated February 27, 1900.

Application filed July 3, 1899. Serial No. 722,718. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY HODGES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Union Star, in the county of De Kalb and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Cutter-Bar, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the general class of mowing and reaping machines, but more particularly to the cutting apparatus thereof; and its object is to provide an improved means for attaching the knives or cutter-blades to the cutter-bar and removing the same in case they become broken and replacing the same by new ones while the machine is in use, replacing them without the use of tools or the need of skilled workmen.

My invention consists in certain details of construction hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cutter-bar constructed in accordance with my invention, showing one of the blades removed. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the cutter-bar, and Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of one of the cutter-blades. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings by reference numerals, 4 indicates the cutter-bar proper, provided at predetermined intervals with a series of raised portions 5, substantially cross-shaped in plan, forming recesses or sockets 6, the bar 4 having a pin 7 integral therewith a slight distance from the transverse center thereof.

8 is the cutting-blade, provided with the two perforations 9 and 10 near the rear portion of the shank. It will be noticed that the cutting-blade is provided with the outwardly-projecting lugs 11 and 12, extending from each side of the rear edge of the shank, which are designed to snugly engage the angles 13 of the raised portions 5, which prevents a transverse displacement of cutter-blade from the rear, while a similar displacement from the opposite direction is prevented by the shoulders 14 and 15, abutting against the walls of the angles 16 and 17 of the raised portion or block 5. To insure ri-

gidity and steadiness to each individual blade, a cut-out portion 18 is provided therein, which is engaged by the longitudinally-projecting tongues of the block 5, and the blade further engages the pin 7 by means of the perforations 10.

The securing bars or levers 19 are pivoted to the upwardly-projecting pins 20, arranged centrally of the blocks 5, and each carry engaging pins 21, which register with and are held in the recesses 9, whereby the bar is locked in a position covering the blade, which will prevent an upward displacement thereof. It will be noticed that each pivoted bar or lever projects a sufficient distance beyond the pivot-point to overlap the adjacent blade, thus making it necessary, as shown in Fig. 1, to swing out two of these levers before one of the blades can be removed. This can readily be accomplished by simply raising the free end of the lever until the lug carried thereby is withdrawn from engagement with the recess 9 and then swinging the lever on its pivot until it reaches the position shown in Fig. 1.

It will be noticed that the end of the cutter-bar has a return-lug or engaging portion 22 for securing the most distant blade in position instead of the overlapping ends of the levers, as in the remaining blades, and that the most distant lever is provided with a shoulder for engagement therewith. With this exception each blade and lever is a counterpart of the other.

From the foregoing it will readily be seen that I have invented a cutting apparatus whereby the blades can be removed almost instantly for the insertion of a new blade and without danger of sacrificing the rigidity of the blades with relation to the cutter-bar.

While I have described what to me appears to be the best means for accomplishing the result it is desired to attain, I do not wish to be understood as in any way departing from the spirit of my invention should I find it convenient to make such slight changes or alterations as would properly come within the scope thereof.

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



The combination with the cutter-bar, of the cross-shaped blocks arranged at intervals thereon, and a projecting pin adjacent to each block, the cutting-blades having their  
5 shanks recessed to fit the blocks and provided with openings to engage the pins, additional openings in said shanks, and pivoted levers

carrying lugs for engagement with the openings in the shanks of the cutting-blades, substantially as described.

WILLIAM HENRY HODGES.

Witnesses:

JOHN MCMORRAN,  
A. O. VARNER.