

No. 687.757.

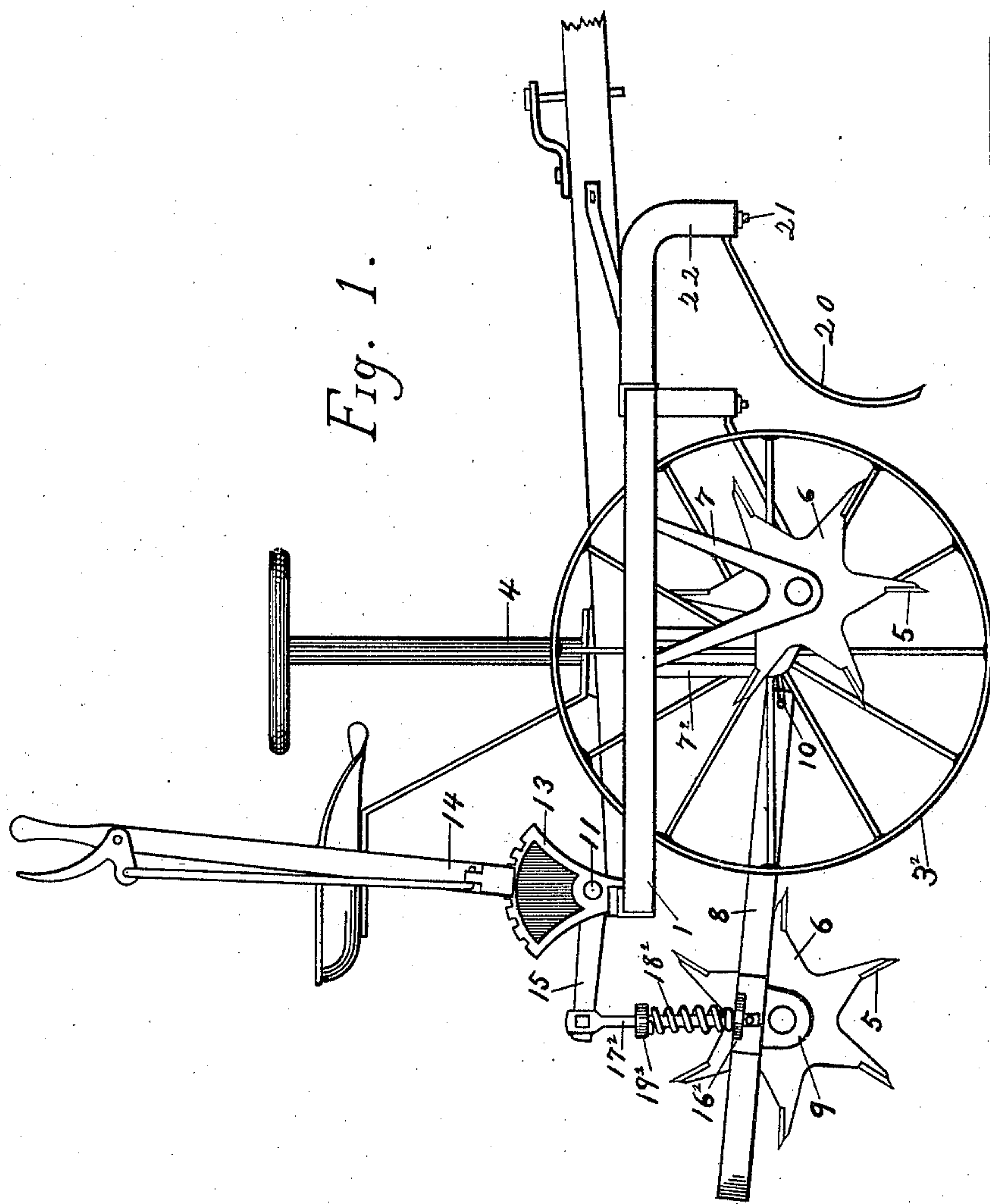
Patented Dec. 3, 1901.

F. B. KENDALL.
STALK CUTTER.

(Application filed Jan. 28, 1901.)

No Model.)

5 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES.

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By. C. J. Jones. Atty.

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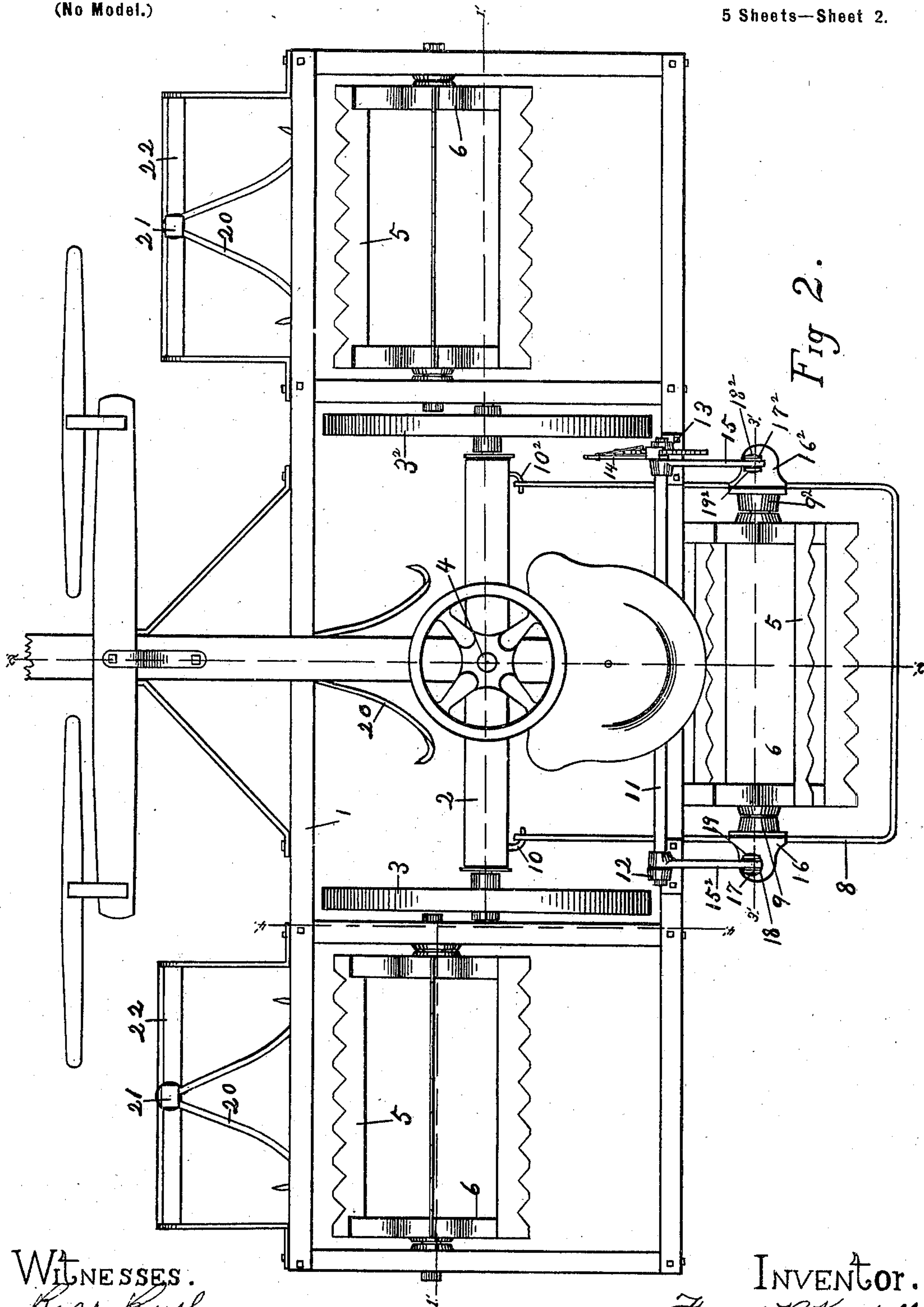


Fig 2.

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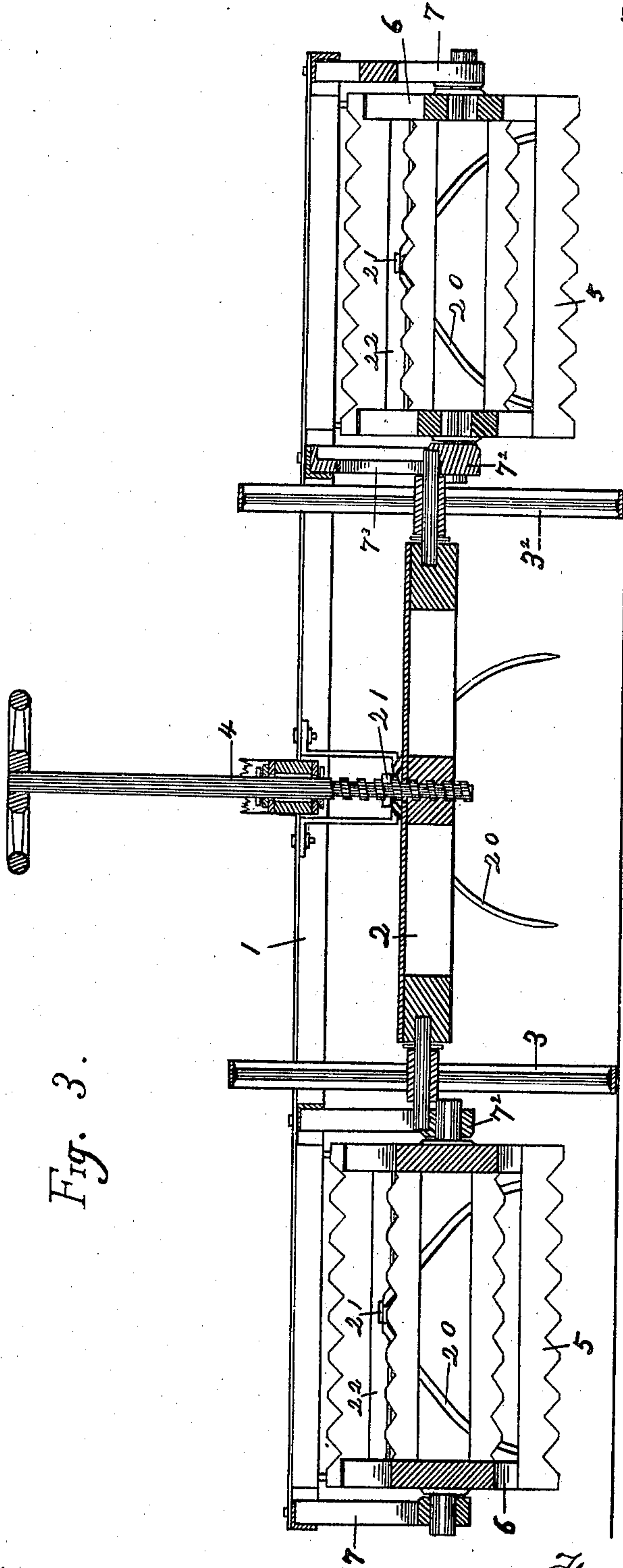


Fig. 3.

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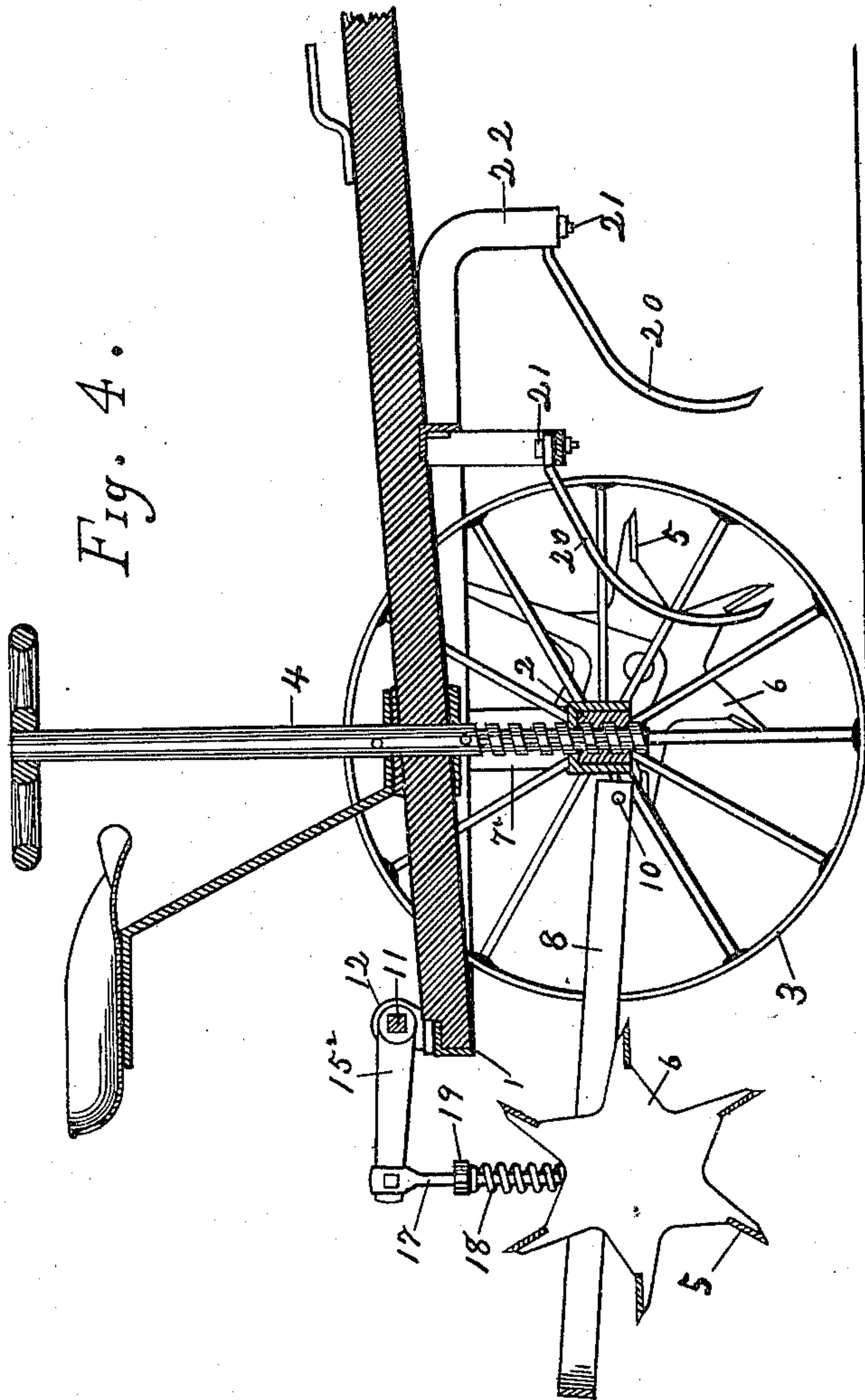
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Fig. 4.



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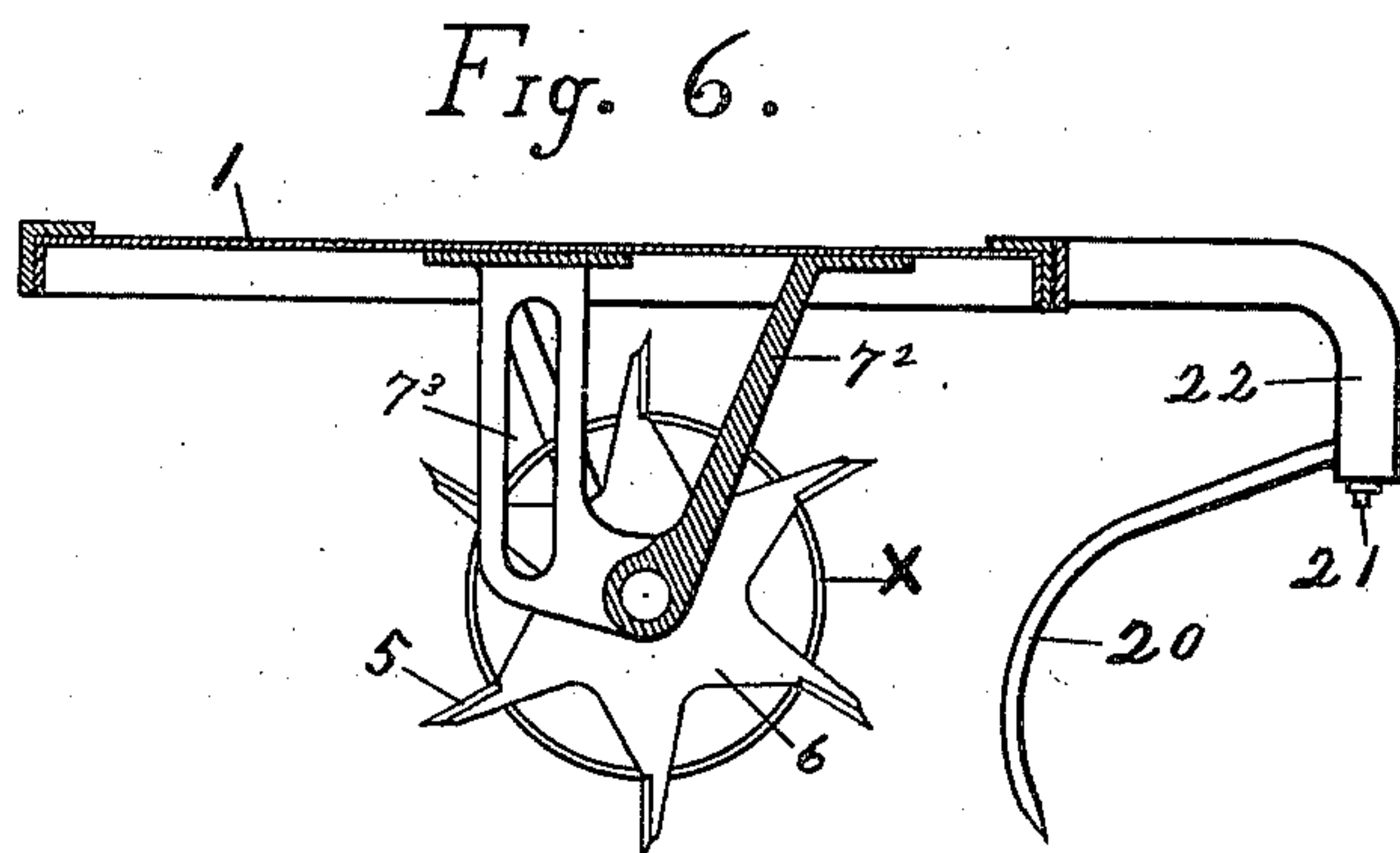
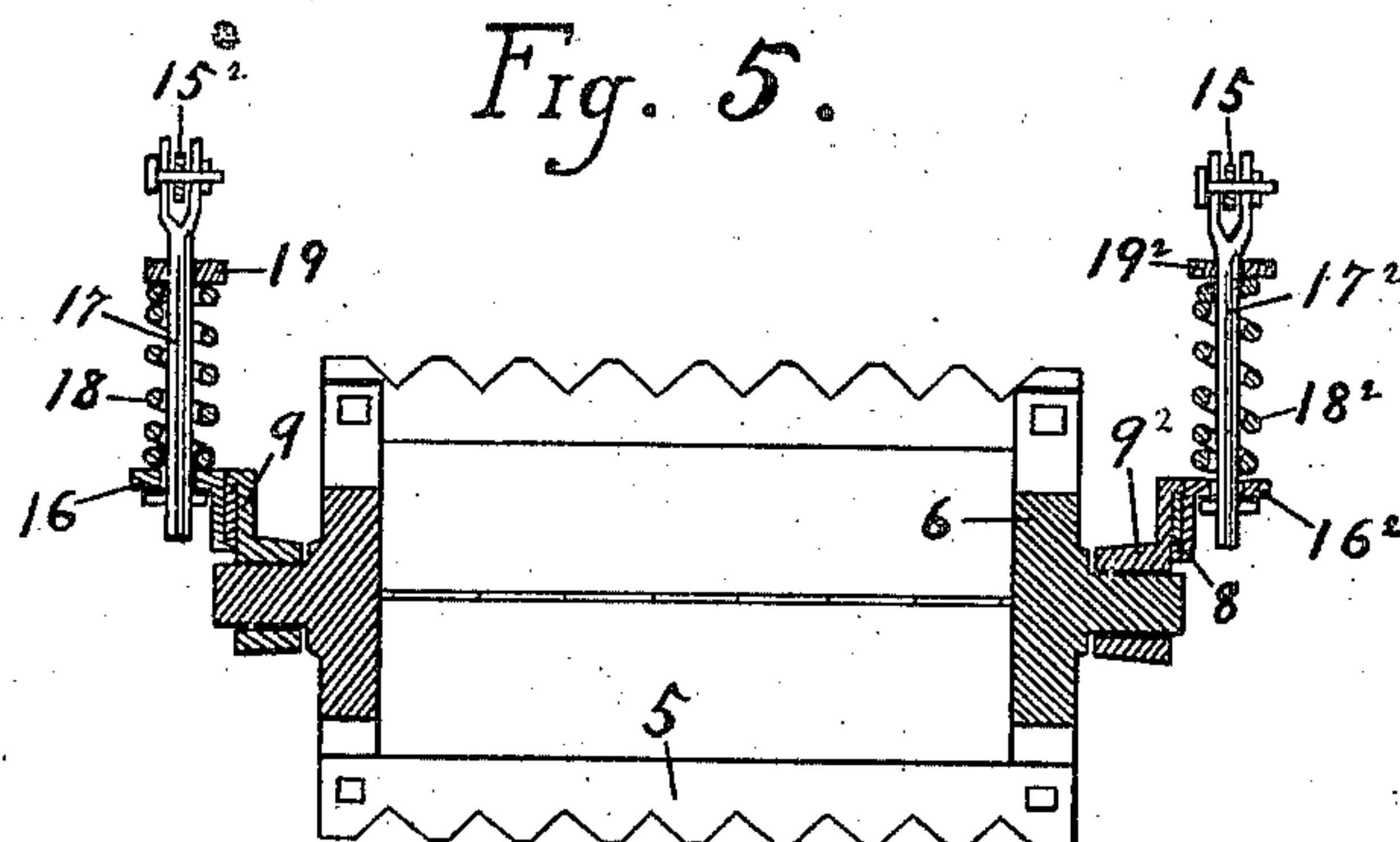
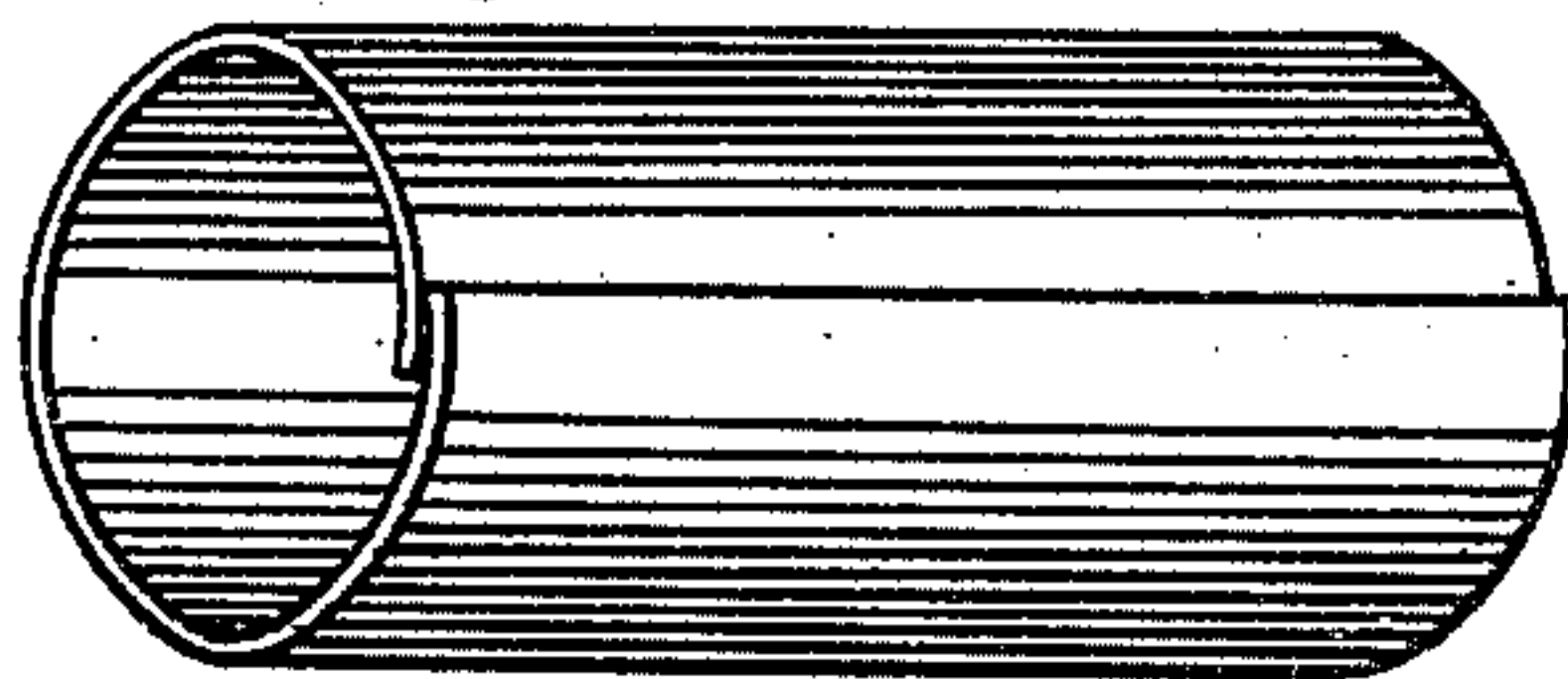


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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STALK CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 687,757, dated December 3, 1901.

Application filed January 28, 1901. Serial No. 45,158. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS B. KENDALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Monmouth, in the county of Warren and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stalk-Cutters; and I do 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 ap-
10 pertains to make and use the same.

The object in view is to provide a simple and effective machine that will cut three rows of stalks at the same time.

The novel construction and arrangement
15 of the several parts are hereinafter more fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, which form a part of this specification, like figures indicate like parts
20 throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a side view of the stalk-cutter. Fig. 2 is a top plan view showing the machine without any covering over the revolving cutting-knives. Fig. 3 is a vertical section view
25 on the line 1' 1' in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a vertical section view on the line 2' 2' in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a vertical section view of the center roller or revolving cutter on the line 3' 3' in Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a vertical section view on the line
30 4' 4' in Fig. 2. Fig. 7 represents a spring-steel cylinder or drum to be placed in each roller, filling the space in the central part of the roller in such a manner as to prevent cut stalks or trash from clogging the cutting-knives, the
35 drum being shown in its place in the roller at α in Fig. 6.

Reference now being had to the accompanying drawings by numerals, 1 represents the main frame of the stalk-cutter, which is made
40 of angle-steel.

2 is the axle, and 3 3² the two wheels which carry the weight of the machine, the axle and wheels being adjustable up or down by turning the screw 4, which regulates the depth
45 the cutting-knives go into the ground. The screw 4 being placed in the center of the ma-

chine, the one screw is all that is necessary to regulate the adjustment of the machine.

5 represents the rollers or revolving cutting-knives, the knives being secured to the cast-
50 iron heads 6, which are journaled in the cast-iron bearings 7 7², secured to the main frame, the center roller being journaled in bearings, which are secured to the steel bow or
55 draw-bar 8, as shown at 9 9², and the draw-bar 8 being attached to the hooks 10 10², which are secured to the axle.

11 is a square bar of iron, the ends of which are journaled in the bearings 12 13, which
60 are secured to the main frame.

14 is a lever, and 15 15² are lifting-arms, all secured to the bar 11 to raise or lower the center roller of cutting-knives. The bearing
65 13 also forms a ratchet for locking the lever.

16 16² are bearings secured to the draw-
bar 8.

17 17² are rods which connect the lifting-arms with the draw-bar 8, the two rods having a pin through their lower ends underneath the
70 bearings 16 16², which supports the weight of the draw-bar 8 and the center roller of revolving cutting-knives when raised up off of the ground.

18 18² are coil-springs attached to the rods 17 17² between the collars 19 19² and the bear-
75 ings 16 16², which when the lever is thrown back apply more weight or pressure on the cutting-knives. The springs also serve the purpose of breaking the jar and permitting
80 the roller or cutting-knives to rise up and take the strain off of the lever and ratchet in passing over uneven ground.

20 represents the drag-hooks for drawing the stalks of corn straight with the row, so the stalks all come under the cutting-knives.
85 The drag-hooks being attached loosely to the pivot 21 in the center of the bars 22, which are secured to the main frame, permits the hooks to swing around with the machine without bending the hooks in turning around at
90 the end of the rows, the hooks swinging back to their place straight with the row when the

machine is turned around square with the rows.

In operating the machine when the driver gets to the field the screw is turned to the right, which raises the wheels and axle and lets all of the cutting-knives down into the ground in position for cutting the stalks, it not being necessary to operate the screw any more until the entire field of stalks is cut, when the screw is turned to the left, which lets the wheels and axle down and raises the frame and cutting-knives clear of the ground in position to go on the road. When turning around at the end of the rows, the center roller is raised clear of the ground by throwing the lever forward, the machine then being easily turned with the two outside rollers on the ground. After the machine is turned around the lever is thrown back and the center roller let down to the ground again. It will readily be seen from the drawings that the two outside rollers are placed forward from the center of the main frame, which construction, with the arrangement of the center roller with the two coil-springs, balances the machine perfectly, and thus eliminates all neck draft from the horses' necks.

The two bearings 7² have a slot 7³ placed in a line with the center of the main frame, the points of the spindles passing through the slots in which the spindles work up or down as the screw is turned either to the right or to the left, the two wheels and axle being placed in the central part of the machine between the two bearings 7², the machine and all of the revolving cutters being protected with a suitable covering either of wood or heavy sheet-iron, the sheet-iron being preferred.

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

1. A stalk-cutter, comprising the main frame with bearings secured thereto and revolving cutters journaled in the said bearings, an adjustable axle and wheels attached to the axle, with the screw placed in the center of the main frame and working in a corresponding thread cut in the center of the axle, for adjusting the axle and wheels, with the points of the spindle of the axle passing through a slot in the bearings secured to the main frame, and working up or down in the said slot, as the screw is turned either to the right or to the left, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a stalk-cutter, the combination comprising the main frame, the adjustable axle and wheels, a screw placed at the center of the main frame, passing through the center of the axle, the draw-bar 8 attached to the said axle, bearings secured to the said draw-bar, and supporting the center roller of revolving cutting-knives at the rear of the main frame, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a three-row stalk-cutter, the combination comprising the main frame, bearings secured thereto, revolving cutters journaled in the said bearings, with the two outside revolving cutters placed forward from the center of the main frame, an adjustable axle and wheels attached to the axle, with a screw placed in the center of the main frame, a draw-bar attached to the said adjustable axle, and supporting the center revolving cutting-knives at the rear of the main frame, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS B. KENDALL.

Witnesses:

J. H. HANNA,
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